



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



Report of the
Fifth BOBLME Project Steering Committee Meeting
2-3 April 2014 • Bandos Island, Maldives

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fifth meeting of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held on Bandos Island, Maldives from 2-3 April 2014. PSC members from the eight Project countries, FAO, Project donors and Project partners attended.

The PSC noted that the Project was on track and was likely to meet its LogFrame targets and endorsed the Regional Coordination Units (RCU) approach.

The PSC endorsed a revised timeline for the completion of the SAP, stressing the need for the next draft of the SAP to be available in May 2014 in order to allow as much time as possible for national consultations.

The PSC adopted the 2014/15 work plan which focuses on SAP completion, and national research and capacity development activities.

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1. Opening of the workshop

1. The fifth meeting of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held on Bandos Island, Maldives from 2 to 3 April 2014. PSC members from the eight Project countries, FAO, Project donors and Project partners attended. The list of participants is attached as **Appendix I**.
2. The outgoing PSC chairperson, Dr Raja Vundru (India) opened the meeting; and his opening remarks were followed by a one minute silence in remembrance of ICSF Executive Secretary and PSC colleague, Ms Chandrika Sharma, who is missing on flight MH 370.
3. Ms Beth Crawford, the FAO Representative to Sri Lanka and Maldives, welcomed the participants on behalf of FAO. And Dr Abdullah Naseer welcomed the PSC on behalf of the Government of Maldives.

1.1. Election of the new meeting chairperson

4. The PSC elected Mr Mohamed Musthafa (Maldives) as the new Chairperson; and thanked the outgoing Chair for his leadership and guidance over the year.

1.2. Adoption of the agenda

5. The PSC adopted the Agenda as presented in **Appendix II** to this report. The documents before the PSC are listed in **Appendix III**.

2. Project implementation and status

2.1. Country project implementation reports

6. A brief "project implementation" report, on BOBLME work and other relevant regional and national events and activities was presented by each country.

2.2. 2013 Annual report: progress and results

7. The Regional Coordinator presented an overview of the project (ppt-01) and described in detail the work that had been undertaken by the Project over the period January to December 2013 (Doc-2.1). The report covered progress and outputs (a summary for the year 2013; progress with respect to the Project LogFrame targets, the 2013 event diary; and progress within each Project sub-component), a risk assessment; and project finances.
8. The PSC noted that the Project was on track and was likely to meet its LogFrame targets. The PSC also noted the following specific matters relating to the work programme targets and endorsed the RCU approach to addressing them:
 - Target 11. The draft SAP currently contains proposed institutional and financial arrangements and is awaiting NAP inputs from the project countries. It is envisaged the SAP will go out for national consultations in Q3 2014 - at which time the institutional and financial arrangements will be reviewed.
 - Targets 16-18. National action plans were due back from countries in February 2013. NAPs from only 1 country is outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.

- Target 20. This target is derived for the integration of ICM activities from Subcomponent 2.1 (ICM) and other related subcomponents e.g. SC-2.4 (Critical habitats) and SC-3.2 (MPAs). While some national activities are being undertaken (and more may be undertaken in the future), ICM approaches are being implemented at the transboundary pilot sites in the Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago. This work is being undertaken as part of SC-2.4 (Critical habitats) - which did not have a budget allocated to it in the Prodoc. Similarly some countries are undertaking ICM objectives through their MPA work (SC-3.2). Furthermore, the 21 BOBLME participants in the Asian Institute of Technology, MFF, BOBLME Postgraduate Certificate Course in Integrated Coastal Management undertook supervised project assignments, implementing ICM practices.
 - Target 26. The approach to developing regional statistical protocols is multifaceted and includes strengthening the collection and reporting of data for FAO global fisheries statistics; activities relating to the improvements of statistics for hilsa and Indian mackerel, sharks and small pelagics more generally (including the use of rapid survey techniques). And verification of fisheries data using national statistics, catch reconstructions, FAO data and research data.
 - Target 28. The BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) delivered draft fisheries management plans/advisories for hilsa and Indian mackerel. The RCU is currently investigating the possibility of constituting a fisheries decision making forum (to consider the advisories) under the auspices of BOBP-IGO and SEAFDEC. This may or may not be possible in time left in the Project depending on the plans of both these organisations. Sharks are being addressed in a different way, such that national plans of action will be combined into a draft regional plan of action by the end of 2014.
 - Target 29. Progress has been made in both Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago, but activities mainly relate to supporting dialogue and collaborative activities involving research and trainings. The development of management plans will take many years and is beyond the achievements of the current Project.
 - Target 37. Action plans for addressing land-based sources of pollution are being developed as part of the SAP. National action plans were due back from countries in February 2013. NAPs from only 1 country is outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.
9. The PSC reflected on the risk assessment included in the report. The PSC noted the considerable disruption to the travel of the Regional Coordinator and the Chief Technical Advisor in 2013 as a result of limits introduced on senior officers by FAO. The Regional Coordinator indicated that he expected less disruption in 2014 due to early planning of travel schedules; and given this the PSC noted there were no major risk issues facing the Project at this stage.
10. The PSC noted that good progress has been made in the areas of capacity development, knowledge and in regional cooperation and greatly appreciated the new achievements brochure describing project outcomes. The PSC also noted that the Project has significantly raised awareness about the issues associated with fisheries, critical habitats and pollution both within the Bay of Bengal region and on the international stage.
11. Overall, the PSC endorsed the BOBLME Project Progress Report for the period January to December 2013. A summary of the report is provided in **Appendix IV**

2.3. The BOBLME website

12. The Regional Coordinator gave the PSC a brief 'tour' of the BOBLME website, with an emphasis on the search features.

2.4. Partners

13. Representatives BOBP-IGO, NOAA, SACEP, SIDA, WorldFish gave an update to the PSC about the activities of their respective organizations.
14. The PSC thanked the partners and observers attending the meeting for their willingness to continue to collaborate with the BOBLME Project, and play a role in SAP implementation.

2.5. Matters relating to project implementation

15. The PSC requested the RCU arrange for a letter from FAO (as the GEF Agency) to be sent to the BOBLME Project signatory in each country to provide official notification of the Project's no-cost extension to March 2015.
16. The Regional Coordinator described a range of matters and challenges that the RCU faced in implementing the Project and requested that the PSC members assist in whatever way possible to ensure the Project runs smoothly.

3. Consideration of SAP completion activities

3.1. Report on the draft SAP

17. The Regional Coordinator informed the PSC that the draft SAP from March 2013 had not been updated due to not all SAP/NAP questionnaires being received.
18. The PSC noted the draft SAP was behind schedule due to a delay in the SAP/NAP questionnaire compilation and analysis.

3.2. SAP completion timeline

19. The PSC endorsed a revised timeline for the completion of the SAP (**Appendix VI**), stressing the need for the next draft of the SAP to be available in May 2014 in order to allow as much time as possible for national consultations.
20. The PSC, in its role as the SAP Team, expressed its commitment, to assist with the completion of the NAP process, to provide the information listed below by the end April 2014, and to take an active role in the finalisation of the SAP and ongoing advocacy for the SAP within Government circles leading to its signing.
 - Identify which government agencies will be consulted on the SAP
 - Identify which government officer/s will 'sign off' on the SAP and sign any future SAP Implementation Project
 - Identify which government officer/s will 'sign off' on the PIF
 - Provide estimates of the current annual government budget allocated to fisheries, environment and pollution (by activity category if possible)
21. The PSC requested that the RCU provide estimates of the likely cost of the SAP Implementation project, for each GEF focal area (e.g. International Waters, Climate Change and Biodiversity), so countries, as part of their national GEF planning processes, can allocate GEF 6 funding to the proposed SAP Implementation project.

3.3. The proposed ecosystem services valuation for the BOBLME

22. The 2014/15 work plan included a proposal to undertake ecosystem services valuation for the BOBLME region. Given the complexity of this work, the Regional Coordinator some background information on what this valuation would entail (ppt-01).

23. The Executive Secretary BOBP-IGO informed the PSC about his involvement in a similar evaluation being undertaken in India; and stressed that such work was a long term investment of time and resources and that BOBLME should not expect any reliable results of its valuation to be available in time for inclusion in the SAP.

3.4. Update on the GEF 6 strategy

24. The Regional Coordinator informed the PSC about the GEF-6 Strategy. The focal areas are biodiversity; climate change mitigation; international waters; chemicals and waste; land degradation and sustainable forest management. The first three are most relevant to the SAP Implementation Project; and the Project to be developed should address, to the extent possible: the drivers of the degradation, and agriculture and food security; with larger initiatives that provide multiple benefits and multi-focal area projects preferred.

4. Review of the 2014/15 work plan & budget

25. The Chief Technical Advisor presented the draft 2014/15 Annual Regional Work Plan (including outputs) and budget (Doc-4.1).
26. The PSC was informed that in February 2014, the BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors assembled in Phuket for a two day workshop to contribute to the drafting of this document.
27. The PSC reviewed in detail the activities proposed for each Project subcomponent and the proposed budget, noting that the overall budget for Project activities in 2014/15 is around \$USD3.3 million, a large component of 'in country' activities is included.
28. The PSC requested that the RCU contact the EAF Nansen coordination body and potential donors regarding the possibility of conducting an ecosystem survey in the broader Bay of Bengal region.
29. The PSC adopted the 2014/15 work plan and budget which was developed in the BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors planning meeting in February 2014 (Appendix V). The PSC noted additional proposals from Indonesia and Sri Lanka, and requested the RCU to work with these countries to determine, if there is budget available, to support these activities in 2014.

5. Any other business

5.1. Ocean acidification

30. Dr Rusty Brainard (NOAA) provided the PSC with a highly informative presentation entitled "what is acidification and why do we care?" He covered the fundamental chemistry of acidification, the current evidence for its existence; described who will be impacted, with special emphasis on coral reef habitats; and finally he informed the PSC about the Pacific Reef Assessment and Monitoring Programme and the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) and recommended that BOBLME might support Bay of Bengal countries to participate in this in the next phase of the Project.

5.2. Hilsa Fisheries in Bangladesh

31. The PSC watched the recently produced video on hilsa fisheries in Bangladesh produced by the BOBLME team at BFRI Bangladesh. The response from the PSC was highly congratulatory. The video can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WU7xqp2JO-c>

5.3. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management training course

32. The Chief Technical Advisor gave a presentation on the new Essential EAFM training course. The need to apply an ecosystem approach to capture fisheries management is now globally accepted and BOBLME and its partners have responded to the need for EAFM capacity development by writing a one week training course called Essential EAFM. The focus of Essential EAFM is the development of professional planning, analytical and interpersonal skills needed for structured and informed decision-making. The course will help current and future practitioners ensure that their approach to fisheries management is more ecologically sound and accounts for human needs as well as the governance realities within which they are operating.

6. Adoption of the report

33. The PSC adopted all substantial statements during the meeting, and agreed to adopt the remainder of the report by email.
34. The PSC congratulated the Chairman and thanked the host country, Maldives, for supporting the meeting.
35. Following a most generous offer from the Indonesian delegation, the 6th meeting of the PSC will be held in Indonesia, tentatively in February, 2015.

Appendix I List of participants



BANGLADESH	
<p>Environment Mr Aparup Chowdhury was unable to attend</p>	<p>Fisheries Alternate to Mr Md Anisur Rahman Mr A.K.M. Fazlul Haque Deputy Secretary Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock Dhaka haque5744@gmail.com</p>
INDIA	
<p>Environment Mr Shashi Shekhar was unable to attend</p>	<p>Fisheries Dr Raja Sekhar Vundru Joint Secretary (Fisheries) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture New Delhi jsfy@nic.in</p>
INDONESIA	
<p>Environment Alternate to Mr Nursiwan Taqim Mr Iksan Baedah Senior Staff Marine and Coastal Degradation Control Ministry of Environment of Indonesia Jakarta iksan64@gmail.com</p>	<p>Fisheries Alternate to Dr Toni Ruchimat Mrs Erni Widjanti Deputy Director Fisheries Resource Management in Indonesia - EEZ and High Seas Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jakarta erwijaya@yahoo.com</p>

MALAYSIA	
<p>Environment Alternate to Ms Dato' Halimah Binti Hassan Dr Zulkifli Bin Abdul Rahman Deputy Director General Department of Environment Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Putrajaya zar@doe.gov.my</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Dato' Ahamad Sabki Bin Mahmood Director-General Department of Fisheries Putrajaya ahamadsabki@dof.gov.my</p>
MALDIVES	
<p>Environment Alternate to Mr Ibrahim Naeem Mr Mohamed Musthafa Director Environmental Protection Agency Malé mohamed.musthafa@epa.gov.mv</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Ahmed Hafiz Deputy Minister Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture Malé ahmed.hafiz@fishagri.gov.mv</p>
MYANMAR	
<p>Environment U Win Hlaing unable to attend</p>	<p>Fisheries Alternate to U Khin Maung Maw U Mya Than Tun Deputy Director Department of Fisheries Ministry Of Livestock And Fisheries Yangon myathantundof@gmail.com</p>
SRI LANKA	
<p>Environment Mr Ajith Silva Director (Policy and Planning) Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Colombo koralage2001@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Fisheries Alternate to Dr D.M.R.B. Dissanayake Mr Rohana Rajapakse Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development Colombo secretary@fisheries.gov.lk</p>
THAILAND	
<p>Environment Dr Somkiat Khokiattiwong Senior Marine Biologist Department of Marine and Coastal Resources Phuket Marine Biological Centre Phuket skhokiattiwong@gmail.com</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Pongpat Boonchuwong Senior Expert on Fisheries Economics Department of Fisheries Bangkok boonchuwong@yahoo.com</p>
OBSERVERS	
<p>BOBP-IGO Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava Director BOBP-IGO Chennai, India yugraj.yadava@bobbigo.org</p> <p>FAO Ms Beth Crawford FAO Representative for Sri Lanka and Maldives Colombo, Sri Lanka FAO-LK@fao.org</p> <p>Indonesia Mr Aris Budiarto S.Pi Directorate of Fisheries Resources Management Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jakarta arisbudiarto@gmail.com</p> <p>Maldives</p>	<p>NOAA Dr Russell Brainard Division Chief rusty.brainard@noaa.gov</p> <p>SACEP Mr Anura Jayatilake Director General South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme Colombo, Sri Lanka sacepsec@eol.lk; dg_sacep@eol.lk</p> <p>SIDA Mr Göran Haag Program Manager Environment, Energy and Urban Development Embassy of Sweden Development Cooperation Section Bangkok Thailand goran.s.haag@gov.se</p>

<p>Dr Abdullah Naseer Permanent Secretary Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture abdulla.naseer@fishagri.gov.mv</p> <p>Dr M. Shiham Adam Director General Marine Research Centre Ministry Of Fisheries and Agriculture Malé msadam64@gmail.com; msadam@mrc.gov.mv</p>	<p>WorldFish Dr Doug Beare Senior Scientist Natural Resource Management WorldFish Centre Penang, Malaysia d.beare@cgiar.org</p>
<p>REGIONAL COORDINATION UNIT</p>	
<p>Dr Chris O'Brien Regional Coordinator chris.obrien@boblme.org</p> <p>Dr Rudolf Hermes Chief Technical Advisor rudolf.hermes@boblme.org</p> <p>Ms Sucharat Tong-on Secretary sucharat.tongon@fao.org</p> <p>Mr Nishan Sugathadasa Technical Officer nishan.sugathadasa@boblme.org</p>	

Appendix II Agenda

Day 1	
	Registration 08.45-09.00 am, Orchid room
	1. Opening of the meeting
	1.1 Opening remarks from the PSC Chairperson (India) 1.2 Introductions 1.3 Welcome from Ms Beth Crawford, FAO Representative, Maldives 1.4 Welcome from Dr Abdulla Naseer, Government of Maldives 1.5 Election of the new meeting Chair (selection by the PSC) 1.6 Adoption of the agenda (Doc-1.1) 1.7 Brief introduction to the BOBLME Project 1.8 Group photograph
	2. Project implementation and status Actions: (i) Note the current status of the Project. (ii) Provide guidance on Project implementation.
	2.1 Country implementation reports - brief verbal updates from both the Fisheries and Environment PSC members on Project implementation 2.2 2013 Annual Report: progress and results (Doc-2.1, Doc-2.2, Doc-2.3) 2.3 The BOBLME website 2.4 Partners - a brief update from each partner on their activities in the BOBLME region 2.5 Matters relating to Project implementation - best practices, challenges etc
	3. Consideration of the SAP completion activities Actions: (i) Provide guidance on SAP completion. (ii) Provide information on national programmes and budget cycles. (iii) Endorse a timeline for the completion of the BOBLME SAP
	3.1 Report on the draft SAP 3.2 Deliberations on the SAP completion timeline 3.3 Information on the proposed Ecosystem Services Valuation for the BOBLME 3.4 Update on the GEF 6 International Waters Focal Area Strategy
Day 2	
	4. Review of the proposed 2014/15 work plan, milestones, outputs and budget Actions: (i) Adopt a BOBLME 2014 work plan and budget.
	4.1 Presentation of the 2014/15 work plan and budget (Doc-4.1)
	5. Any other business
	5.1 Ocean acidification 5.2 Hilsa fisheries in Bangladesh 5.3 EAFM Training Course - overview
	6. Outstanding items and adoption of meeting conclusions Actions: Confirm the endorsements and recommendations arising from the meeting.
	Wrap up and conclusions
	Closure of the Workshop
	Lunch

Appendix III List of documents

Reference	Title
<i>Session</i>	
BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-1.1	Agenda
BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-2.1	Annual report to the PSC on the year 2013
BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-2.2	Progress and Achievements brochure
BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-2.3	Essential EAFM brochure
BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-4.1	Draft 2014/15 annual work plan and budget
Folder inserts	BOBLME 2013 Newsletter
BOBLME-2014-PSC_ppt-01	BOBLME Project overview; Achievements and 2013 in photos; consideration of SAP completion activities; economic valuation of ecosystems; introduction to GEF 6

Appendix IV 2013 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PSC – Summary

1.1 Summary for the year 2013

Major achievements:

- PSC endorsed the institutional arrangements for SAP implementation
- The Essential EAFM training programme finalised and tested
- Delta vulnerability assessment completed for the Irrawaddy Delta
- Research Vessel Dr Fridtjof Nansen completed its ecosystem survey in Myanmar
- Major regional collaborative Indian mackerel genetics workshop held
- Oceanographic data sensors deployed in the Bay of Bengal
- Chilika Lake (India) ecosystem health card produced
- Science communications training replicated in Sri Lanka and India
- The 2013 BOBLME Newsletter was published
- The number of people supported to undertake training increased markedly
- Implementation of national projects overall increased markedly in 2013 (numbers of activities shown below)
 - Bangladesh - 6
 - India - 8
 - Indonesia - 5
 - Malaysia - 4
 - Maldives - 2
 - Myanmar - 7
 - Sri Lanka - 9
 - Thailand - 3

Training:

January to March

- Monitoring and Evaluation Training, Bangkok, Thailand - 8 participants (3 M, 5F)
- MMF-AIT-BOBLME 5 week Integrated Coastal Management training course, Bangkok, Thailand - 27 participants (19 M, 8F)

April to June

- Seagrass Monitoring Training in Myanmar - in collaboration with Flora and Fauna international (8 days) - 20 participants (18 M, 2F).
- Stock Assessment Training - regional - in collaboration with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and CSIRO (5 days) - 21 participants (14 M, 7F).
- Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Training (5 days) - 23 participants (11 M, 12F).
- SLAFAR Science Writing Training in Sri Lanka - in collaboration with SLAFAR (4 days) - 28 participants (15 M, 13 F)
- SLAFAR Science Presentation Training in Sri Lanka - in collaboration with SLAFAR (2 days)- 18 participants (11 M, 7 F)

July to September

- Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Training of Trainers — in collaboration with USAID CSTP, major BOBLME contribution — 4 days, 11 participants (6M, 5F)
- Training Workshop on the Large Pelagic Fishery Database, Colombo, Sri Lanka — run by IOTC, major contribution from BOBLME — 5 days, 12 participants (5M, 7F)
- Regional Training Course on Mangrove Restoration and Management. Sirindhorn International Environmental Park (SIEP), Cha-am, Thailand — a MFF initiative, minor contribution from BOBLME (support for 3 MYA participants) (8 days) - 25 participants (?M, ?F)

- BOBLME-training workshop on Indian mackerel genetics, Kochi, India — in collaboration with NBFGR under contract — 7 days, 16 participants (8M,8F)
- Training on Ocean Governance. Cape Town, South Africa — an International Ocean Institute initiative, BOBLME supported one participant (Mr. Adam Ziyad, a Senior Research Officer from the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture of the Maldives) — 26 days.
- BOBLME training on fisheries data processing, Colombo, Sri Lanka — in collaboration with IOTC, major contribution from BOBLME — (6 days) - 10 participants (5 M, 5 F)
- SLAFAR Science Writing Training in Sri Lanka - in collaboration with SLAFAR under contract — 4 days, 28 participants (14M, 16F) Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management Workshop, Pyapon — 2 days, 19 participants (18M, 1F)

October to December

- Myanmar - 2nd Ayeyarwaddy Regional Fishery Development Workshop, Patheingyi — 3 day, 85 participants (76M, 8F)

Contributed to by the following village consultation-training events

- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, Phoe Shan Gyi — 1 day, 20 participants (18M, 12F)
- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, AutKyone Da Min — 1 day, 69 participants (14M, 55F)
- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, NyiNuang — 1 day, 25 participants (10M, 15F)
- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, ThaKyarHinOe — 1 day, 46 participants (30M, 16F)
- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, Mingalar Thuang Tan — 1 day, 47 participants (9M, 38F)
- Myanmar - Fishery Co-Management consultation, GwayKone and Kan Su Villages — 1 day, 23 participants (11M, 12F)
- Bangladesh - Training on enhancing capacities of fishing communities I, Cox's Bazar — 1 day, 30 participants (30M, 0F)
- Bangladesh - Training on enhancing capacities of fishing communities II, Cox's Bazar — 1 day, 30 participants (25M, 5F)
- India - enhancing capacities of fishing communities for resource management workshop - Pamban, Gulf of Mannar — 2 day, 81 participants (?M, ?F)
- India - enhancing capacities of fishing communities for resource management workshop - Ramnad, Gulf of Mannar — 2 day, 79 participants (?M, ?F)
- India - fishers as participants in the Sundarbans Eco-Region: resources, rights, responsibilities and problems workshop, Rajat Jubilee Village, Satjelia Island — 1 day, 40 participants (?M, ?F)
- India - fishers as participants in the Sundarbans Eco-Region: resources, rights, responsibilities and problems workshop, Saterkona — 1 day, 81 participants (?M, ?F)
- India - fishers as participants in the Sundarbans Eco-Region: resources, rights, responsibilities and problems workshop, Canning — 1 day, 46 participants (?M, ?F)
- Indonesia - Capacity improvement of small-scale fishermen on fishery resource management workshop, Calang — 3 days, 30 participants (?M, ?F)
- BOBLME Science Writing Training in India - in collaboration with MBAI under contract — 4 days, 20 participants (10M, 10F)
- BOBLME Science Presentation Training in India - in collaboration with MBAI under contract — 4 days, 20 participants (10M, 10F)
- Malaysia - National Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Training Course, Negeri Sembilan
- Myanmar - Marine Ecosystem Survey by the RV Dr. Fridtjof Nansen - training of Myanmar scientists — 4 days, 14 participants (12M, 2F)
- BOBLME Science Presentation Workshop in support of the MFF Regional Symposium — 4 days, 13 participants (?M, ?F)

Meetings:

- BOBLME Regional: 4
- BOBLME National: 41
- BOBLME participation in other relevant regional meetings: 22

Outputs:

- Reports: 10 reports (workshops, meetings, theme reports) produced in 2013
- Monitoring Reports: 7 (Progress Reports - 3 monthly (4), 6 monthly (2), annual report to GEF (1))
- Administrative documents: 87 (52 new contracts and 35 travel reports etc)

Overall Project Progress - by subcomponent:

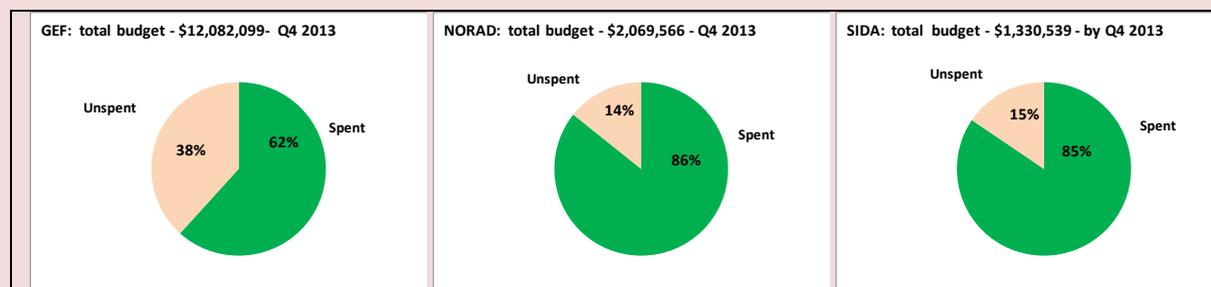
Component 1: Strategic Action Programme	
Subcomponent 1.1 TDA Preparation:	Completed
Subcomponent 1.2 BOBLME Institutional Arrangements	On track
Subcomponent 1.3 Financial Sustainability	
Subcomponent 1.4 SAP Preparation	On track
Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use	
Subcomponent 2.1: Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (regional)	On track
Subcomponent 2.2: Improved Policy Harmonization (regional)	On track
Subcomponent 2.3: Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans	On track
Subcomponent 2.4 Collaborative Critical Habitat Management:	On track
Component 3: Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment	
Subcomponent 3.1 Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics affecting the BOBLME	On track
Subcomponent 3.2 Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks	On track
Subcomponent 3.3 Improved Regional Collaboration	On track
Component 4: Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution	
Subcomponent 4.1 Establishment of an Agreed to Ecosystem Indicator Framework	On track
Subcomponent 4.2 Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria	On track
Component 5: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Management	
Subcomponent 5.1 Establishment of the RCU	Completed
Subcomponent 5.2 Monitoring and Evaluation System	On track
Subcomponent 5.3 Project Information Dissemination System	On track

Project Risks:

In the Q3, it was noted that the FAO travel limits placed on the Regional Coordinator and the CTA were beginning to disrupt the flow, productivity and output delivery of the Project. In particular, the uncertainty, lack of response, and ultimately the delays in receiving decisions/permission on applications for travel was having a damaging effect on the RCU's ability to meet with country counterparts and partners, plan BOBLME meetings and participate in the meetings of partners. As a result, the project was set back by 4-6 months. The travel limits also resulted in these officers not being permitted to travel after mid November for the rest of 2013. This resulted in the project not being represented at a range of important partner events; several strategically important meeting for the Project relating to SAP implementation; and, two major BOBLME events. See section 2 - risk management

Expenditures at the end of 2013 (57 months)

The % of the total budgets spent (and committed) for each donor for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 December 2013 are as follows.



Country cofinancing

BOBLME Project: Country Co-financing.																
For the period April 2009 - December 2013																
	Bangladesh		India		Indonesia		Malaysia		Maldives		Myanmar		Sri Lanka		Thailand	
	Cash	In-kind														
2009	41,780	11,154	40,830	12,179	37,980	7,974	37,980	8,709	42,830	9,324	37,980	10,639	41,830	11,274	39,880	12,199
2010	55,430	76,020	122,580	96,585	53,930	61,295	53,930	59,805	55,930	70,993	54,930	84,765	54,930	70,690	72,441	75,585
2011	57,526	84,426	93,526	221,451	57,526	111,766	57,526	82,826	57,526	72,541	59,526	89,056	57,526	116,651	62,026	122,316
2012	57,526	86,236	87,526	139,686	57,526	68,536	57,526	81,736	58,526	76,286	58,526	69,966	58,526	91,136	62,526	83,106
2013	53,930	84,400	89,081	286,330	55,930	111,790	58,230	99,580	53,930	69,660	55,930	197,535	53,930	147,980	53,930	147,980
TOTAL Co-financing	\$266,192	\$342,236	\$433,543	\$756,231	\$262,892	\$361,361	\$265,192	\$332,656	\$268,742	\$298,804	\$266,892	\$451,961	\$266,742	\$437,731	\$290,803	\$441,186
Commitment	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500	\$277,500	\$437,500
% achieved after 57/72 months	96%	78%	156%	173%	95%	83%	96%	76%	97%	68%	96%	103%	96%	100%	105%	101%

After 57 months - with 15 months remaining in the Project, India and Thailand have achieved their cash and in-kind co-financing targets; and the other countries are poised to do so within the time remaining.

One year no cost extension

At its meeting in March 2013, the PSC recommended a no-cost extension for the BOBLME project by one year (to March 2015). As of December 2013, the GEF extension is now officially in place. NORAD and SIDA agreements have been extended to match.

1.2 Progress with respect to the Project LogFrame targets in Project year 5 (to March 2014)

Due to the one year extension of the Project, most project year 5 targets have been re-phased to project year 6.

There are 43 targets overall, with some extending over two or more years. One target (Management plans in Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago), will not be achieved in this Project, but activities laying the ground work to achieve this target in the future are ongoing. Six targets have been given further definition (see comments below the table), based on the realities of the project, in order to clarify expectations.

Key

✓	Completed
(✓)	Completion imminent
→/•	To be completed

	PY 1	PY 2	PY 3	PY 4	PY 5	PY 6
Global Environment Objective:						
A healthy ecosystem and sustainability of living resources for the benefit of the coastal populations of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME).						
Project Development Objective:						
To support a series of strategic interventions that would result in and provide critical inputs into the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), whose implementation will lead to enhanced food security and reduced poverty for coastal communities						
A regional level transboundary diagnostic analysis completed.			✓			
A SAP developed and endorsed by governments.					→	•
Stakeholder consultations undertaken over the life of the Project.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Institutional and financial mechanisms spelled out in the SAP (end of PY5) to ensure Programme sustainability beyond the life of the Project.					→	•
Outcome 1 (Component 1): The institutional and programmatic basis for implementing the SAP has been developed.						
Updating TDA incorporating post-tsunami environmental studies.		✓				
Gap analysis of existing TDA.	✓					
National technical consultation processes on updated TDA.		✓				
National inter-ministry and stakeholder consultations on updated TDA.			✓			
Finalized and approved TDA.			✓			
Regional institutional and financial analysis completed.			→	→	→	•
Regional institutional and financial options consulted Nationally and options for input to the SAP completed.				See 1	→	•
Regional institutional and financial options input to the SAP.				→	→	•
First draft of Regional SAP.			✓			
Regional SAP team formed.			✓			
SAP consultations commence.				✓		
SAP finalized.				See 2	→	•
National Action Plans drafted.			→	See 2	→	•
National Action Plans consultations.				See 2	→	•
Full size Phase II BOBLME project proposal.					→	•

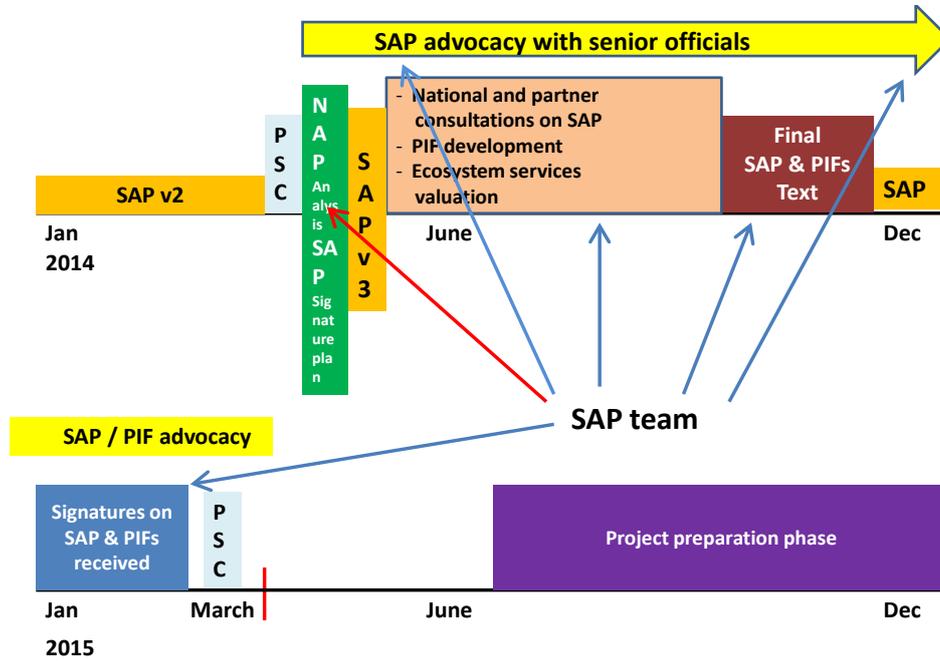
	PY 1	PY 2	PY 3	PY 4	PY 5	PY 6
Outcome 2 (Component 2): Regional and sub-Regional collaborative management approaches applied to priority issues, and barriers affecting coastal/marine living natural resources in the BOBLME, and the livelihoods of dependent coastal communities are removed.						
National pilot areas for disseminating best practices identified.		•	✓			ongoing - see 3
Policy analysis and work plan to guide strengthening of national policy formulation.		•		✓		ongoing
Lessons learned report on uptake of pilot areas completed and available				✓		
Policy formulation capacity component ongoing.		•	✓	✓		
Final report on policy formulation capacity building for community based ICM completed.			•	✓		
Regional statistical working group formed and operational		✓				
Regional statistical protocols developed and available.			✓			ongoing - see 4
Reports on fisheries data and information produced - ongoing.	✓	✓	✓	✓	•	
Three fishery management plans developed and submitted to governments for their consideration.			See 5			ongoing
Two bi-national management plans for critical transboundary habitats submitted to respective governments.				See 6		ongoing
Outcome 3 (Component 3): Increased understanding of large-scale processes and ecological dynamics and interdependencies characteristic of the BOBLME.						
Agreed work plan to address key data and information gaps completed.		✓				
Regional MPA/fish refugia action plan completed.		✓				
Creation of partnerships and collaborative work implemented – ongoing.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Outcome 4 (Component 4): Institutional arrangements and processes established to support a collaborative approach to ascertain and monitor ecosystem health of the BOBLME						
Regional report on LME wide environmental health indicators available.		✓				
National consultations on environmental indicators report.			✓			
Final draft of report describing LME wide environmental health indicators available.			•	✓		ongoing
Regional work group on pollution monitoring created		✓				
Action plan for addressing land-based sources of pollution forwarded to governments			See 7			ongoing
Outcome 5 (Component 5): Sufficient institutional capacity established to coordinate regional interventions, monitor project impacts, and disseminate and exchange information						
Initial RCU established and functioning	✓					
Final decision on location of RCU by start of PY2		✓				
Recommendations for ensuring an effective and efficient RCU ongoing PY1-5.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Project monitoring programme reviewed and approved by the PSC and under implementation – ongoing.		✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Project communications plan reviewed and approved by the PSC and under implementation – ongoing.		✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Project results and lessons learned disseminated on ongoing basis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•

Notes:

1. The draft SAP currently contains proposed institutional and financial arrangements and is awaiting NAP inputs from the project countries. It is envisaged the SAP will go out for national consultations in Q3 2014 - at which time the institutional and financial arrangements will be reviewed.
2. National action plans were due back from countries in February 2013. NAPs from only 1 country is outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.

3. This target is derived for the integration of ICM activities from Subcomponent 2.1 (ICM) and other related subcomponents e.g. SC-2.4 (Critical habitats) and SC-3.2 (MPAs). While some national activities are being undertaken (and more may be undertaken in the future), ICM approaches are being implemented at the transboundary pilot sites in the Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago. This work is being undertaken as part of SC-2.4 (Critical habitats) - which did not have a budget allocated to it in the Prodoc. Similarly some countries are undertaking ICM objectives through their MPA work (SC-3.2). Furthermore, the 21 BOBLME participants in the Asian Institute of Technology, MFF, BOBLME Postgraduate Certificate Course in Integrated Coastal Management undertook supervised project assignments, implementing ICM practices.
4. The approach to developing regional statistical protocols is multifaceted and includes strengthening the collection and reporting of data for FAO global fisheries statistics; activities relating to the improvements of statistics for hilsa and Indian mackerel, sharks and small pelagics more generally (including the use of rapid survey techniques). And verification of fisheries data using national statistics, catch reconstructions, FAO data and research data.
5. The BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) delivered draft fisheries management plans/advisories for hilsa and Indian mackerel. The RCU is currently investigating the possibility of constituting a fisheries decision making forum (to consider the advisories) under the auspices of BOBP-IGO and SEAFDEC. This may or may not be possible in time left in the Project depending on the plans of both these organisations. Sharks are being addressed in a different way, such that national plans of action will be combined into a draft regional plan of action by the end of 2014.
6. Progress has been made in both Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago, but activities mainly relate to supporting dialogue and collaborative activities involving research and trainings. The development of management plans will take many years and is beyond the achievements of the current Project.
7. Action plans for addressing land-based sources of pollution are being developed as part of the SAP. National action plans were due back from countries in February 2013. NAPs from only 1 country is outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.

Appendix V SAP completion timeline



SAP completion timeline

NAP = National Action Plan; PSC = Project Steering Committee; SAP = Strategic Action Programme; the SAP Team comprises the PSC country members.

Appendix VI 2014/15 Annual work plan and budget

BOBLME-2014-PSC_Doc-4.1

2014/15 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

PREPARED BY THE RCU

In February 2014, the BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors held a two day workshop to draft the 2014/15 work plan that included a range of studies, training, consultations, research meetings, and the forthcoming responsibilities for each member country participating in the Project. The below work plan has been developed on the basis of this workshop, and additional input from partners. It contains activity descriptions and outputs, and an indicative budget for each Project subcomponent.

Proposed budget in summary:

Component 1: Strategic Action Programme		Budget
1.1	TDA Preparation:	\$0
1.2	BOBLME Institutional Arrangements	\$0
1.3	Financial Sustainability	
1.4	SAP Preparation	\$221,250
Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use		
2.1	Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (regional)	\$358,400
2.2	Improved Policy Harmonization (regional)	\$198,400
2.3	Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans	\$1,041,347
2.4	Collaborative Critical Habitat Management	\$173,500
Component 3: Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment		
3.1	Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics	\$117,250
3.2	Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks	\$95,800
3.3	Improved Regional Collaboration	\$80,000
Component 4: Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution		
4.1	Establishment of an Agreed to Ecosystem Indicator Framework	\$32,000
4.2	Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria	\$99,250
Component 5: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Management		
5.1	Establishment of the RCU	\$60,000
5.2	Monitoring and Evaluation System	\$107,000
5.3	Project Information Dissemination System	\$71,250
TOTAL for 2013		\$3,340,098

Component 1. Strategic Action Programme (SAP)	
Preparation of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) whose implementation will ensure the long-term institutional and financial sustainability of the BOBLME Programme	
1.1. TDA Preparation - Build on the BOBLME's existing draft Framework Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (FTDA) and complete the Programme's TDA	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>Activities completed</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Activities completed	
1.2. BOBLME Institutional Arrangements - Identify and establish agreed to permanent institutional arrangements ensuring the long-term management of the BOBLME	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>Activities completed</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Activities completed	
1.3. Sustainable Financing Strategy and Recommendations - Identify a possible financing mechanism(s) to fund BOBLME management structure and assist BOBLME countries to mobilize financial resources/mechanisms to implement SAP	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>RCU engages with partners to confirm agreement on financial arrangements, including co-financing, of the PIF.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Partners participate in SAP finalisation meeting in Q4 2. Focused RCU-partner meetings in support of the development of the PIF 3. Identification of national cofinancing in support of SAP implementation Output 1: Agreed co-financing commitments for the PIF	

1.4. SAP Formulation and Adoption - Process for formulation of an agreed Strategic Action Programme (SAP)	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<p><i>The draft SAP will be completed and edited and formatted. National Action Plans, prioritized through in-country processes, will be incorporated in the SAP. National SAP consultations will be held, guided by the SAP team. Consultations will also be held with SAP implementation partner organisations. A special SAP Team meeting (with partners) will be held in 4th quarter of 2014 to finalise the text after the first round of consultations. A project concept (project identification form) for SAP implementation will be drafted. The final, reviewed and edited SAP will be printed for further dissemination and ultimately for adoption in Q1 2015.</i></p>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p>1. Draft SAP produced and disseminated Output 1: Draft SAP</p> <p>2. Countries provide information on national spending on fisheries and environment management and research in the Bay of Bengal area; and provide SAP signature plans Output 2: Information on national co-finance and SAP endorsement and signing process</p> <p>3. Country and partner consultations, and peer review Output 3: Reports on SAP consultations, documenting requested modifications and / or agreement with SAP content</p> <p>4. Synthesis of recommendations Output 4: Report on the synthesis of SAP consultations</p> <p>5. SAP Team and partners meet to finalise the text of the SAP Output 5: Report on SAP Team Meeting and Final SAP</p> <p>6. SAP advocacy and adoption process Output 6: Endorsed SAP</p> <p>7. Project concept (precursor to Project Identification Form) document development Output 7: Project concept / draft PIF</p> <p>8. Economic services valuation study and validation workshop completed Output 8: Report on ecosystem services values</p> <p>9. Review of the shipping sector in the BOBLME</p>	

Output 9: Report on the nature and extent of the shipping sector operating in the BOBLME	
Component 2. Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use	
Development and implementation of regional and sub-regional collaborative approaches to common/shared issues affecting the health and status of BOBLME	
2.1. Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (stocktaking) - Stock-taking/lesson learning of information and experience for promotion of community-based, fisheries and habitat management; co-management; and alternative livelihoods among fisher communities. in the region	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>The objectives for this subcomponent are met through the integration of ICM pursuits from Subcomponent 2.1 (ICM), SC-2.4 (Critical habitats) and SC-3.2 (MPAs). Some National activities will continue. ICM training will be continued through the AIT-MFF-BOBLME partnership (5 week Postgraduate course); and two additional sub-regional training providers. A stock-taking review of the uptake of ICM best practices will be undertaken.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p>1. Support to national activities in selected sites: Thailand - Co management of seagrass Satun Province India - Awareness and education, Pondy cherry Maldives - Awareness on bait fisheries management Myanmar - coastal planning and vulnerability assessment Sri Lanka - awareness and capacity development Output 1: Reports on national activities</p> <p>2. ICM Training courses (3) Output 2: Report on training undertaken at AIT, including case study reports Output 3: Report on training undertaken in South Asia Output 4: Report on training undertaken in South East Asia</p> <p>3. A stock-taking review of the uptake of ICM best practices Output 5: Report on the uptake of ICM best practices</p> <p>4. Design, production and dissemination of ICM information material Output 6: Progress reports on production of national ICM materials</p>	

2.2. Improved Policy Harmonization (mainstreaming) - Better understanding of the policy processes and enhanced capacity in the formulation of policy, regional exchange of information on policy and legislation (inputs to SAP)	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>The Regional Policy Workshop has identified awareness raising on international laws, conventions and agreements as priority regional actions. A capacity development programme on policy information exchange is designed and implemented as a series of seminars / workshops. National activities for policy harmonization are implemented in India. Some policy related topics pertaining to Project work areas of interest (e.g. sharks, hilsa or Indian mackerel fisheries resources, MPAs, EIA, waste management) are addressed under the relevant subcomponents.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p>1. Design of 'course' materials on international laws, conventions and agreements Output 1: Lecture and information materials</p> <p>2. Capacity development on international laws, conventions and agreements Output 2: Progress Reports on training conducted</p> <p>3. Review on fisheries legislation in Myanmar Output 3: Report on fisheries legislation in Myanmar</p> <p>4. Review of the impacts of IUU fishing Output 4: Report on the impacts of IUU fishing</p> <p>5. Support to national activities in selected sites: India - State level / National Policy workshops Output 5: Report on policy harmonization workshops in India</p>	
2.3. Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans - Development of regional and sub-regional management plans and harmonization of data collection and standardization to promote collaborative fisheries management approaches	
<u>Fisheries Statistics</u>	
<i>Training and national activities to improve fisheries statistics collection and reporting. Fisheries Statistics Working Group meets to review country activities and validate catch statistics. Conduct training in Myanmar and three other BOBLME countries to build capacity for monitoring and evaluation and ultimately obtain baseline socio-economic information.</i>	
<u>Hilsa</u>	
<i>Stock assessment updated and working group meeting held. National activities - targeted research for the improvement of data and knowledge on stock status implemented (e.g. life history</i>	

parameters, stock structure, genetics, morphometrics, interaction of different fisheries sub-sectors, critical habitats for life-history stages) through country institutions.

Indian mackerel

Indian mackerel genetics working group meets to finalise the regional work on stock structure. Training on (data poor) stock assessment implemented. National activities - targeted research for the improvement of data and knowledge on stock status implemented in particular on genetics (but also life history parameters, stock structure, morphometrics, interaction of different fisheries sub-sectors, critical habitats for life-history stages) through country institutions.

Sharks

Studies are undertaken to address knowledge gaps (taxonomy, catches, life cycle and reproduction information, information from small-scale fisheries, monitoring of effectiveness of conservation measures, and alternative livelihoods). Work is undertaken in support of strengthening NPOA's and a regional synthesis to produce a framework for a Regional Plan of Action.

Ecosystem

Disseminate the results of the marine ecosystem survey in Myanmar in 2013. A workshop of modelling experts will technically review the results of the ecosim/ecopath ecosystem model developed for the BOBLME.

Fisheries management

Provide a training workshop on estimating fishing capacity. Hold the second Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) meeting and update the management advisories for hilsa and Indian mackerel and sharks - this will also include EAFM plan development. Enhancing capacities of fishing communities to contribute to resource management in five countries. Roll out the EAFM training course (3 trainings).

PY6: January 2014 – March 2015

Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p><u>Fisheries statistics</u></p> <p>1. Support to national activities to improve data collection and harmonize fisheries statistics: Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Myanmar Output 1: Completion Reports</p> <p>2. Fisheries Statistics Working Group held Output 2: Report on the Fisheries Statistics WG</p> <p>3. Comparisons of catch data derived from national sources and catch reconstructions Output 3: Report on catch statistics for the Bay of Bengal fisheries</p> <p>4. Socio-economic monitoring trainings conducted Output 4: Report on trainings conducted</p>	

<p><u>Hilsa</u> 5. National activities on hilsa Output 5: Completion reports</p> <p>6. Hilsa Assessment Working Group meeting Output 6: Meeting Report and updated stock status advisory</p>	
<p><u>Indian mackerel</u> 7. National activities on Indian mackerel Output 7: Completion reports</p> <p>8. Stock Assessment Training Output 8: Report on Stock Assessment Training</p> <p>9. Indian mackerel Working Group meeting on genetics Output 9: Meeting Report</p>	
<p><u>Sharks</u> 10. Countries undertake national activities on sharks in support of their NPOAs Output 10: Completion reports</p> <p>11. Synthesis of the NPOA's undertaken as the basis of a Bay wide RPOA framework Output 11: Framework for a RPOA-sharks for the Bay of Bengal</p>	
<p><u>Ecosystem</u> 12. Workshop on the results of the 2013 ecosystem survey in Myanmar Output 12: Workshop report</p> <p>13. Ecosystem modelling workshop held Output 13: Report on the ecosystem modelling results and findings</p>	

<p><u>Fisheries management</u></p> <p>14. Fishing capacity training conducted Output 14: Report on training conducted</p> <p>15. Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) meeting held Output 15: Report on RFMAC Meeting, including updated management advisories and EAFM plans for hilsa, Indian mackerel and sharks</p> <p>16. Capacity development for fishing communities Output 16: Report on activities</p> <p>17. EAFM training course promoted through translations, and support to a regional coordinating body Output 17: Translated course materials Output 18: Coordination unit functioning</p> <p>18. Three EAFM training courses conducted Output 19: Reports on training conducted</p>	
<p>2.4. Collaborative Critical Habitat Management - Promote multi-national approaches to manage and address issues affecting transboundary coastal/marine eco-systems within the broader BOBLME region</p>	
<p align="center">PY6: January 2014 – March 2015</p>	
<p><u>Merqui/Myeik Archipelago</u></p> <p><i>Implement a work programme on resources, habitat and socio-economic monitoring and assessment, capacity development and enhancing management.</i></p> <p><u>Gulf of Mannar:</u></p> <p><i>Promote and support measures leading to improved conservation of resources and transboundary management.</i></p> <p><u>Ecologically or biologically significant areas:</u></p> <p><i>An initial investigation to identify ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs) in the BOBLME.</i></p>	
<p align="center">Activities and outputs</p>	<p align="center">Indicative costs</p>
<p><u>Merqui/Myeik Archipelago:</u></p> <p>1. Undertake programmes activities on resources, habitat and socio-economic monitoring and assessment, capacity development and enhancing management Output 1: Reports on Myeik Archipelago programme of work</p>	

<p>2. Conduct seagrass conservation and monitoring training Output 2: Report on training</p> <p><i>Gulf of Mannar:</i></p> <p>3. Support to sub-regional initiatives relating to strengthening conservation of resources and transboundary management Output 3: Reports on activities</p> <p><i>Ecologically or biologically significant areas:</i></p> <p>4. An initial investigation to identify ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs) in the BOBLME Output 4: Reports on-potential EBSAs in the Bay of Bengal</p>	
<p>Component 3. Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment Share information with other regional and global environmental monitoring programmes for improved understanding of the BOBLME ecological functions and processes</p>	
<p>3.1. Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics affecting the BOBLME - Improved understanding of large-scale oceanographic and ecological processes controlling BOBLME living resources</p>	
<p>PY6: January 2014 – March 2015</p>	
<p><i>BOBLME supports the SIBER (Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research) Programme of work including generation of data, information and knowledge. Support to capacity development to enable BOBLME countries to participate actively in SIBER, IOGOOS, and associated projects (monsoon forecasting, primary productivity, hypoxic zones, climate change etc.). Support to the generation of (physical) environment and ecosystem information for stock assessment and fisheries management advice through implementation of studies on effects of climate change on fisheries resources (especially hilsa and Indian mackerel), monsoon onset, and Indian Ocean Dipole, building on information from partners (e.g. NOAA, WorldFish, PACFA). Participate in training events conducted by SEAGOOS and IOGOOS and partners to build capacity in oceanography, including opportunities for instrumentation and seaboard training, if possible. Characterisation of the BOBLME to enable broad understanding for transboundary issues and to provide systematic planning information for local managers, industry and other stakeholders. Produce a reader friendly publication describing the major features of the BOBLME.</i></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>
<p>1. Support to initiatives relating to understanding large-scale processes and training Output 1: Reports on activities</p> <p>2. Examine the structure and functioning of the BOBLME Output 2: BOBLME characterisation Report</p>	

3. Production of the BOBLME overview publication Output 3: BOBLME overview	
3.2. Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks - Consensus on approaches to the establishment and management of marine protected areas and fish refugia for sustainable fish management and biodiversity conservation objectives	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>MPA activities implemented (learning, best practices) and information material on MPAs produced. BOBLME maintains its MPA node. BOBLME MPA Working Group meets.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. National activities on MPAs Output 1: Completion reports 2. MPA data portal / internet node maintained Output 2: Functioning MPA node 3. MPA brochure and policy advisories produced and disseminated Output 3: MPA brochure, and 8 country policy advisories produced 4. Project concept (precursor to Project Identification Form) document development Output 4: Project concept / draft PIF for transboundary MPA project 5. BOBLME MPA Working Group meeting held Output 5: Report on MPA working group meeting	
3.3. Improved Regional Collaboration - <i>Establishment of effective partnerships with other regional and global environmental assessment and monitoring programmes</i>	
<i>The RCU has an ongoing commitment of engagement with a wide range of regional bodies and organisations that are working in the BOB area. New partners will be engaged as appropriate. BOBLME will continue to engage with other LME and International Waters Projects through IW Learn activities. Support partner initiatives related to fisheries management and biodiversity conservation.</i>	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Ongoing collaborations relevant to the Project	

<p>Output 1: Reports on activities</p> <p>2. Support partner initiatives related to fisheries management and biodiversity conservation</p> <p>Output 2: Reports on activities</p>	
<p>Component 4. Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution</p>	
<p>Development of agreed set of environmental indicators to measure the health of the BOBLME regional collaborative approach to identifying/ remediating important coastal water pollution issues</p>	
<p>4.1. Establishment of an Effective Ecosystem Indicator Framework - Agreed ecosystem indicator framework designed to measure progress toward sustaining BOBLME</p>	
<p>PY6: January 2014 – March 2015</p>	
<p><i>A second level assessment collaboration with the Transboundary Waters Assessment Project pilot assessment of ecosystem indicators (including nutrient pollution and governance) in the Bay of Bengal. A review will be undertaken to synthesise and recommend the ecosystem health indicators suitable for the SAP. Given the linkages between water systems (aquifers, lakes, rivers, LME's and open oceans), conduct a desk top review to explore the physical, ecological and governance connectivity of the Bay of Bengal and its watershed.</i></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>
<p>1. Modelling of nutrient pollution and associate ecosystem indicators Output 1: Report on the modelling</p> <p>2. Assessment of governance indicators Output 2: Report on the assessment</p> <p>3. Desk top review on the physical, ecological and governance connectivity of the Bay of Bengal and its water shed water system connectivity Output 3: Report on the water system connectivity</p>	
<p>4.2. Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria - Development of a regional collaborative approach to identifying important coastal water pollution issues and to develop remedial strategies</p>	
<p>PY6: January 2014 – March 2015</p>	
<p><i>Collaboration with UNEP-GPA is continued. Sub-regional nutrient pollution management (in the western Bay of Bengal) addressed in collaboration with SACEP through a scoping study and workshop. National activities in Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.</i></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>

<p>1. Collaborative activities is support of GPA. Output 1: Reports on activities</p> <p>2. Implement programme of work on sub-regional nutrient pollution management in the western Bay of Bengal Output 2: Completion report</p> <p>3. Capacity development in water quality monitoring in Myanmar Output 3: Reports on activities</p> <p>4. National activities in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka Output 4: Completion reports</p>	
Component 5. Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Management	
Establishment of cost effective management, of project operations, M&E, and information dissemination capacity	
5.1. Establishment of the RCU - Establish a Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) for coordination of BOBLME supported activities leading to the finalization of the Strategic Action Programme	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>Effective operation of Regional Coordination Unit maintained.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Effective and efficient RCU operations supported	
5.2. Monitoring and Evaluation System - Establish a cost-effective monitoring and evaluation system in conformity with existing FAO and World Bank (GEF) policies and procedures	
PY6: January 2014 – March 2015	
<i>Monitoring reports are completed in a timely manner. A Project Steering Committee Meeting is prepared and held in Qtr 1, 2014 and 2015.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. The Quarterly Progress Reports submitted	
2. The (six monthly) Project Progress Reports submitted	
3. The Project Implementation Review Report (July 2013-Jun 2014) submitted	

<p>4. Annual Work Plan Development meeting held (Q1 2014)</p> <p>5. 5th PSC meeting held (2014)</p> <p>6. 6th PSC meeting held (2015)</p> <p>7. National Task Force in each country meets to endorse the national activities</p> <p>8. Terminal Evaluation undertaken</p> <p>Output 1: Quarterly Progress Reports (Oct-Dec 2013, Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Jul-Sep, Oct-Dec 2014, Jan-Mar 2015)</p> <p>Output 2: Semi-annual PPR (Jul-Dec 2013, Jan-Jun 2014 and Jul-Dec 2014)</p> <p>Output 3: Project Implementation Review Report (Jul 2013-Jun 2014)</p> <p>Output 4: Report on Annual WP Development meeting - including draft work plan</p> <p>Output 5: Final PSC-V Report</p> <p>Output 6: Final PSC-VI Report</p> <p>Output 7: Report on NTF meeting held</p> <p>Output 8: Terminal evaluation report</p>	
<p>5.3. Project Information Dissemination System - Disseminate information to regional and global stakeholders relevant to the BOBLME and the BOBLME Programme</p>	
<p><i>Ongoing maintenance and (limited) development of the BOBLME website. BOBLME newsletter published. National communication hubs supported. Design, production and distribution of BOBLME promotion materials. Capacity development provided on “communicating science” (training of trainers) – 2 workshops, plus other national activities on a case by case basis. Awareness activities implemented based on the BOBLME Project outputs.</i></p>	
<p align="center">PY6: January 2014 – March 2015</p>	
<p align="center">Activities and outputs</p>	<p align="center">Indicative costs</p>
<p>1. Newsletter compilation and preparation</p> <p>2. Website management</p> <p>3. National trainings on science writing and presentation</p> <p>4. National communications activities supported</p> <p>5. Outreach material produced as needed</p> <p>Output 1: Newsletter published – ca. October 2014 and March 2015</p> <p>Output 2: Website containing up-to-date information and documents – Ongoing</p> <p>Output 3: Reports on national training events</p> <p>Output 4: Reports and products from national communication activities</p> <p>Output 5: Outreach materials produced - ongoing</p>	



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.

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For more information, please visit www.boblme.org



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