



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



Report of the
Fourth BOBLME Project Steering Committee Meeting
20-21 March 2013 • Chennai India

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fourth meeting of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held in Chennai, India from 20 to 21 March 2013. PSC members from 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 was informed that after the completion of the 2013/14 work programme (i.e. by the current project end date of 31 March 2014), it is projected that the BOBLME Project will have an unspent balance of GEF funds of around \$USD2.0 million (approximately 17% of the total GEF budget of \$USD12,100,082). Noting that there were projected savings in the budget, the PSC instructed the RCU to request a one year, no-cost extension from the GEF to extend the Project completion date to 31 March 2015. The PSC also provided guidance on the activities that would be undertaken in the extension year.

The PSC welcomed the latest draft SAP and endorsed the proposed institutional arrangements for SAP implementation which would consist of a Consortium of countries and partners. The PSC agreed that the SAP implementation phase may be supported through a dedicated new GEF SAP Implementation project and requested the RCU to develop a draft GEF Concept and Project Identification Form for the SAP Implementation Project.

The BOBLME has been working with several major partners operating in the Bay of Bengal in order to improve coordination of activities and enhance impacts. Partners were invited for the first time to attend the PSC meeting and expressed their willingness to play a role in the remaining BOBLME activities, and, in the future implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP).

The PSC adopted the 2013 work plan which focuses on SAP completion, and national research and capacity development activities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Opening of the workshop	1
1.1.	Election of the new meeting chairperson.....	1
1.2.	Adoption of the agenda	1
2.	Project implementation and status	1
2.1.	Country project implementation reports.....	1
2.2.	2012 Annual report: progress and results	1
2.3.	Matters of project implementation	2
3.	Consideration of SAP completion Activities	3
3.1.	Feedback on the National Action Plan development process	3
3.2.	Report on the draft SAP	3
3.3.	The approaches and institutional arrangements for SAP implementation	3
3.4.	BOBLME Partners	4
3.5.	Deliberations on the SAP completion timeline	6
3.6.	Introduction to GEF 6 International Waters Focal Area Strategy	6
4.	Review of the 2013 work plan & budget	6
5.	Any other business.....	6
5.1.	General.....	6
5.2.	Date and place of the 5th meeting of the Project Steering Committee	7
6.	Adoption of the report.....	7
Appendix I	List of participants	8
Appendix II	Agenda	12
Appendix III	List of documents.....	13
Appendix IV	CCR-BOBLME Institutional structure	14
Appendix V	SAP completion timeline.....	15
Appendix VI	2012 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PSC – Summary.....	16
Appendix VII	2013 Annual work plan and budget.....	21

ACRONYMS USED

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

1. Opening of the workshop

1. The fourth meeting of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held in Chennai, India from 20 to 21 March 2013. PSC members from eight Project countries, FAO, Project donors and Project partners attended. Apologies were received from Mr Ajith Silva (Sri Lanka), Dr Stephen Hall (WorldFish), Dr Rusty Brainard (NOAA); Mr Anura Jayatilake (SACEP), and Mr Chatri Moonstan (NORAD). The list of participants is attached as **Appendix I**.
2. The outgoing PSC chairperson, Mr Ajith de Silva (Sri Lanka), was unable to participate in the meeting so the Regional Coordinator opened the meeting.
3. Dr Peter Kenmore, the FAO Representative to India, welcomed the participants.

1.1. Election of the new meeting chairperson

4. The PSC elected Mr Tarun Shridhar (India) 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 verbal “project implementation” report, on BOBLME work and other relevant regional and national events and activities was presented by each country.

2.2. 2012 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 2012 (Doc-2.1). The report covered progress and outputs (a summary for the year 2012; progress with respect to the Project LogFrame targets, the 2012 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 issues 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 2013 - 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 2 countries are outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.
 - Target 19: 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 Project Document. (SC-2.4). Similarly some countries are undertaking ICM objectives through their MPA work (SC-3.2).

- Target 27: The BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) delivered draft fisheries management 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 2013.
 - Target 28: Progress has been made in both Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago; however, the development of management plans will take years and is beyond the achievements of the current Project.
9. The PSC reflected on the risk assessment included in the report and noted there were no major issues at this stage.
 10. The PSC requested that future reports include a section on progress towards achieving Project outcomes.
 11. Overall, the PSC endorsed the BOBLME Project Progress Report for the period January to December 2012. A summary of the report is provided in **Appendix VI**

2.3. Matters of project implementation

Observations on implementation

12. 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.

NORAD's Myanmar Support programme

13. The PSC was informed about a new programme of work in Myanmar to be funded by NORAD through the BOBLME Project. The work constitutes \$USD892,700 in cash cofinancing from NORAD for additional activities in Myanmar during 2013. The additional activities will contribute to improving the knowledge base, build capacity, and strengthen governance and are complementary to the current BOBLME work plan - details are provided in the 2013 work plan. A feature of the programme is a the major marine fisheries and biodiversity survey to be conducted by the RV. Nansen in Q4 2013.
14. The PSC noted that the marine fisheries and biodiversity survey should draw on the considerable research experience from the region.

Proposal for a one-year, no-cost extension of the BOBLME Project

15. The PSC was informed that after the completion of the 2013/14 work programme (i.e. by the current project end date of 31 March 2014), it is projected that the BOBLME Project will have an unspent balance of GEF funds of around \$USD2.0 million (approximately 17% of the total GEF budget of \$USD12,100,082) (Doc 2.2).
16. Noting that there were projected savings in the budget, the PSC instructed the RCU to request a one year, no-cost extension from the GEF to extend the Project completion date to 31 March 2015. The PSC agreed that a one year, no-cost extension would:

- Be valuable in enabling the project to continue to maintain and build project momentum and strengthen government and partner support between the current BOBLME Project and SAP implementation.
 - Enable the Project to consolidate and enhance the work and collaborative arrangements already underway and strengthen ongoing BOBLME processes such as regional fora and working groups.
 - Enable more comprehensive implementation of a range of national research activities and related training; and implement intensive capacity development in support of future SAP implementation at the country level.
17. The PSC underscored the importance of the RCU and member countries continuous internal analysis and reporting of the project activities and their tangible outcomes.
18. The PSC agreed that the National Coordinators, national technical advisors and the PSC would continue to carry out their activities in support of the Project over the requested extension period.
19. The PSC thanked Thailand for generously agreeing to continue to host the RCU during the period of the extension.

3. Consideration of SAP completion Activities

3.1. Feedback on the National Action Plan development process

20. The PSC was informed that the NAP development process had been completed by all but two countries and the RCU would be incorporating the NAP results into the SAP in the near future.
21. The PSC encouraged the countries that had not yet completed the task to do so as soon as possible as this was an essential element of the SAP and crucial for the timely completion of the SAP.

3.2. Report on the draft SAP

22. The PSC welcomed the latest draft (March 2013) of the SAP (Doc 3.1).

3.3. The approaches and institutional arrangements for SAP implementation

23. The PSC endorsed the proposed institutional arrangements for SAP implementation which would consist of a consortium of countries and partners (**Appendix IV**).
24. The PSC agreed that the SAP implementation phase may be supported through a dedicated new GEF SAP Implementation project. The PSC agreed that this project would include the following approaches:
- supporting or augmenting a range of existing country and partner activities
 - implementing new activities relating to the transboundary actions and the most common national actions derived from the national action plan consultations
 - supporting partner capacity development
 - actively promoting the development of additional projects in support of the SAP implementation.
 - coordinating and monitoring SAP implementation
 - creating , fostering, coordinating and strengthening partnerships

25. The PSC requested the RCU to develop a draft GEF Concept and Project Identification Form for the SAP Implementation Project.
26. The PSC noted the close collaboration between the BOBLME Project and UNEP-GPA, and the collaboration between the member countries and other related international organisations, in order to meet the Project objectives under subcomponent 4.2. The PSC further noted that UNEP-GPA has recently prioritised its work plan to focus on nutrients, sewage and marine litter, and recommended that the BOBLME SAP activities on the Pollution and Water Quality theme should also focus on these areas to the extent possible.
27. The PSC recommended that the SAP should focus on conservation and management activities. With respect to MCS and IUU issues, the BOBLME should support the initiatives and efforts of member countries and other fisheries bodies engaged in these matters.
28. The PSC noted that the member countries were meeting their international obligations in matters related to management and conservation in the marine environment and these obligations and commitments should get reflected in the SAP.

3.4. BOBLME Partners

29. There are many regional bodies and organisations and partnerships working towards shared environmental goals in the Bay of Bengal. The BOBLME Project, when undertaking TDA and SAP development, and a range of supporting measures, worked with more than 15 institutions, bodies and agencies. This has contributed to an improved understanding of the resource and habitat status and related management activities in the Bay of Bengal; fostered collaborative actions; as well as assisted partners make their funding go further and avoid duplication of work.
30. The BOBLME Project approach is to work with the agencies and bodies already operating in the Bay of Bengal with a view to them playing an important role in SAP implementation; this includes strengthening existing initiatives and building capacity if required.
31. The SAP contains a broad range of activities that relate to a diverse range of topics, sectoral interests and span a wider geographical area, and currently no single body has a complete mandate to cover all aspects of the SAP in its entire geographical range. Therefore the institutional arrangement for the implementation of the BOBLME SAP will include partners that work in the areas of fisheries, habitats and pollution and water quality.
32. The partners informed the PSC about their respective organizations; including their medium term objectives, and potential for collaboration in SAP implementation. 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.

The Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organization (BOBP-IGO)

33. BOBP-IGO evolved from the Bay of Bengal Programme of the FAO. The BOBP-IGO Agreement was formally signed by the Governments of Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka in 2003. The BOBP-IGO is mandated to enhance cooperation among member countries, other countries and organisations in the region and provide technical and management advisory services for sustainable coastal fisheries development and management in the Bay of Bengal region.
34. The BOBP-IGO has a long-standing, productive working relationship with FAO in many areas of common interest, including: its Regional Program on Safety at Sea for Artisanal and Small-Scale Fishermen; a regional program for fish stock assessments; capacity building and information services for fisheries development and management: taking the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to the grassroots level; and setting up of a regional information network.

35. BOBLME and BOBP-IGO have collaborated on a range of activities including: TDA development, hilsa, sharks, CCRF training, and Gulf of Mannar consultations.

International Collective in support of Fish-workers (ICSF)

36. The International Collective in Support of Fish-workers (ICSF) is an international non-governmental organization that works towards the establishment of equitable, gender-just, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries, particularly in the small-scale, artisanal sector.
37. ICSF supports fishing communities and fish-worker organizations, and empowers them to participate in fisheries from a perspective of decent work, equity, gender-justice, self-reliance and sustainability". In this endeavour, ICSF works in collaboration with organizations of fish-workers and other like-minded groups, including the BOBLME Project.
38. BOBLME and ICSF will implement a collaborative project in 2013 to enhance capacities of fishing communities in resource management.

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

39. IUCN is the world's largest global environmental network, consisting of governments, non-government organizations, and individual scientists. One of the focal areas of the IUCN Global Marine Programme is Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) monitoring, assessment, management, and biodiversity conservation, through capacity building and socioeconomic studies.
40. BOBLME and IUCN have collaborated on a range of activities including: ICM best practices, ICM training, Gulf of Mannar awareness and capacity development; and scientific writing and presentation training.

The United Nations Environment Programme of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (UNEP-GPA)

41. UNEP-GPA is the only global inter-governmental initiative directly addressing the link between watersheds, coastal waters and the open ocean as it relates to devising and implementing sustained action to prevent, reduce, control and/or eliminate marine degradation from land-based activities.
42. The guiding principle for this collaboration between the BOBLME Project and UNEP-GPA has been to build on the work of the GPA, as the foremost competent body working on land-based pollution and align BOBLME activities with GPA objectives, and using GPA's expertise and networks to enhance the work on land-based sources of pollution being undertaken in the BOBLME countries; in particular, relating to the development and implementation of their, respective National Plans of Action.

South East Asia Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

43. SEAFDEC is an intergovernmental organization established in December 1967 for the purpose of promoting sustainable fisheries development. Its current Member Countries are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The SEAFDEC Program Framework, aims "to develop and manage the fisheries potential of the region by rational utilization of the resources for providing food security and safety to the people and alleviating poverty through transfer of new technologies, research and information dissemination activities". SEAFDEC has four Departments: training; marine fisheries research; aquaculture; and marine fisheries resources development and management.
44. SEAFDEC and Sida recently reached the new agreement for 5-year supports from Sida to the project entitled "Fisheries and Habitat Management, Climate Change and Social Well-being in Southeast Asia", covering the period of 2013-2017. BOBLME and SEAFDEC have collaborated on

a range of activities including: strengthening resource management in the Myeik Archipelago (Andaman Sea). fisheries statistics, and Indian mackerel genetics.

3.5. Deliberations on the SAP completion timeline

45. The PSC endorsed the timeline for the completion of the BOBLME SAP (**Appendix V**) and expressed its commitment, in its role as the SAP Team, to assist with the completion of the NAP process, finalisation of the SAP, and ongoing advocacy for the SAP within Government circles leading to its signing.

3.6. Introduction to GEF 6 International Waters Focal Area Strategy

46. Barbara Cooney informed the PSC about the draft GEF-6 International Waters Results Framework. The draft contains three objectives, with Objective 3 - *catalyses investments to rebuild marine fisheries, restore and protect coastal habitats, reduce pollution of coasts and LMEs and enhance multi-state cooperation* being the most relevant to BOBLME. This objective would effectively cover the BOBLME SAP implementation; and cover work on climate change, aquaculture, and implementation of EAFM - including rights based management, IUU and effective MCS.

4. Review of the 2013 work plan & budget

47. The Chief Technical Advisor presented the draft 2013 Annual Regional Work Plan (including outputs) and budget (Doc-4.1).
48. The PSC was informed that in February 2013, 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.
49. The PSC examined in detail the activities proposed for each Project subcomponent and the proposed budget, noting that the overall budget for Project activities in 2013 is around \$USD4 million, a large component of 'in country' activities is included.
50. The PSC noted that the Myanmar support programme activities (new funding from NORAD) had been integrated in the work plan.
51. The PSC emphasized the need for pilot projects and capacity building in identified priority areas.
52. To assist SAP development, PSC members described their current short-term / long-term national strategies / plans relating to fisheries and environment, and the budget cycles that support them (original Agenda item 3.5)
53. The PSC adopted the 2013 work plan and budget developed in collaboration with BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors (**Appendix VII**).

5. Any other business

5.1. General

54. The PSC congratulated the Chairman and thanked the host country, India, for supporting the meeting.

5.2. Date and place of the 5th meeting of the Project Steering Committee

55. The 5th meeting of the PSC will be held in <country to be confirmed>, tentatively on 2-3 April, 2014.

6. Adoption of the report

56. The PSC adopted all substantial statements during the meeting, and agreed to adopt the remainder of the report by email.

Appendix I List of participants



BANGLADESH	
<p>Environment <i>Alternate to Mr Aparup Chowdhury</i> Mr Mohamed Shahnawaz Chowdhury Deputy Secretary Ministry of Environment and Forests Dhaka nawazbd2008@gmail.com</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Md Anisur Rahman Joint Secretary (Fisheries) Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Dhaka anisur3112@yahoo.com</p>
INDIA	
<p>Environment <i>Alternate to Mr Hem Pande</i> Dr Jaivardhan Ramanwaw Bhatt Director Ministry of Environment and Forests New Delhi jrbhatt@nic.in</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Tarun Shridhar Joint Secretary (Fisheries) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture New Delhi tshridhar@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Alternate for Mr Shridhar during Chairman duties</i> Dr Vijayakumaran Director General Fisheries Survey of India Mumbai vijayettan@yahoo.com</p>

INDONESIA	
<p>Environment <i>Alternate to Mr Nursiwan Taqim</i> Ms Aditya Yuniarti Senior Officer Marine and Coastal Degradation Control Ministry of Environment of Indonesia Jakarta widodari@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Fisheries Mr Agus Apun Budhiman Director Directorate of Fisheries Resource Management Directorate General of Capture Fisheries Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jakarta budhiman2004@yahoo.com; budhiman.aab@gmail.com</p>
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MALDIVES	
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MYANMAR	
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SRI LANKA	
<p>Environment <i>Mr Ajith De Siva unable to attend</i></p>	<p>Fisheries Mr A. G. P. Kitsiri Acting Secretary 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 Center 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@bobpigo.org</p> <p>ICSF Ms Chandrika Sharma Executive Secretary International Collective in Support of Fishworkers Chennai, India chandmegh@gmail.com</p> <p>IUCN Dr (Ms) Meenakshidatta Ghosh Country Representative, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) New Delhi, India meenakshidatta.ghosh@iucn.org</p> <p>SEAFDEC Dr Magnus Per Torell Senior Advisor SEAFDEC Bangkok, Thailand magnus@seafdec.org</p> <p>WorldFish Apologies received</p> <p>UNEP-GPA Mr Vincent David Sweeney Coordinator Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (GPA) Nairobi, Kenya vincent.sweeney@unep.org</p>	<p>FAO Dr Simon FungeSmith Senior Fishery Officer Bangkok, Thailand simon.fungesmith@fao.org</p> <p>Dr Peter Kenmore FAO Representative New Delhi Peter.Kenmore@fao.org</p> <p>Ms Barbara Cooney FAO-GEF Coordinator Investment Centre Division Rome, Italy barbara.cooney@fao.org</p> <p>NOAA Apologies received</p> <p>NORAD Apologies received</p> <p>SACEP Apologies received</p> <p>Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) Mr Ola Möller Senior Regional Advisor SIDA, Embassy of Sweden Bangkok, Thailand ola.moller@foreign.ministry.se</p> <p>Mr Peter Bengt Gustaf Funegård Senior Analyst International Coordination Unit Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management Sweden peter.funegard@havochvatten.se</p>

<p><i>Chennai-based observers</i> <i>National Institute of Ocean Technology</i> R. Venkasesan</p> <p><i>Ministry of Earth Sciences</i> Mr Loverson Kuruvila Mr A Shivaji</p> <p><i>Fisheries Survey of India</i> Mr K Vijayakumaran</p> <p><i>Indian Coast Guard</i> Mr Y K Singh</p> <p><i>Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute</i> Mr E Vivekanandan</p> <p><i>Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board</i> Mr V Palani</p> <p><i>Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute</i> Dr J K Pattersen Edward</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>	

Appendix II Agenda

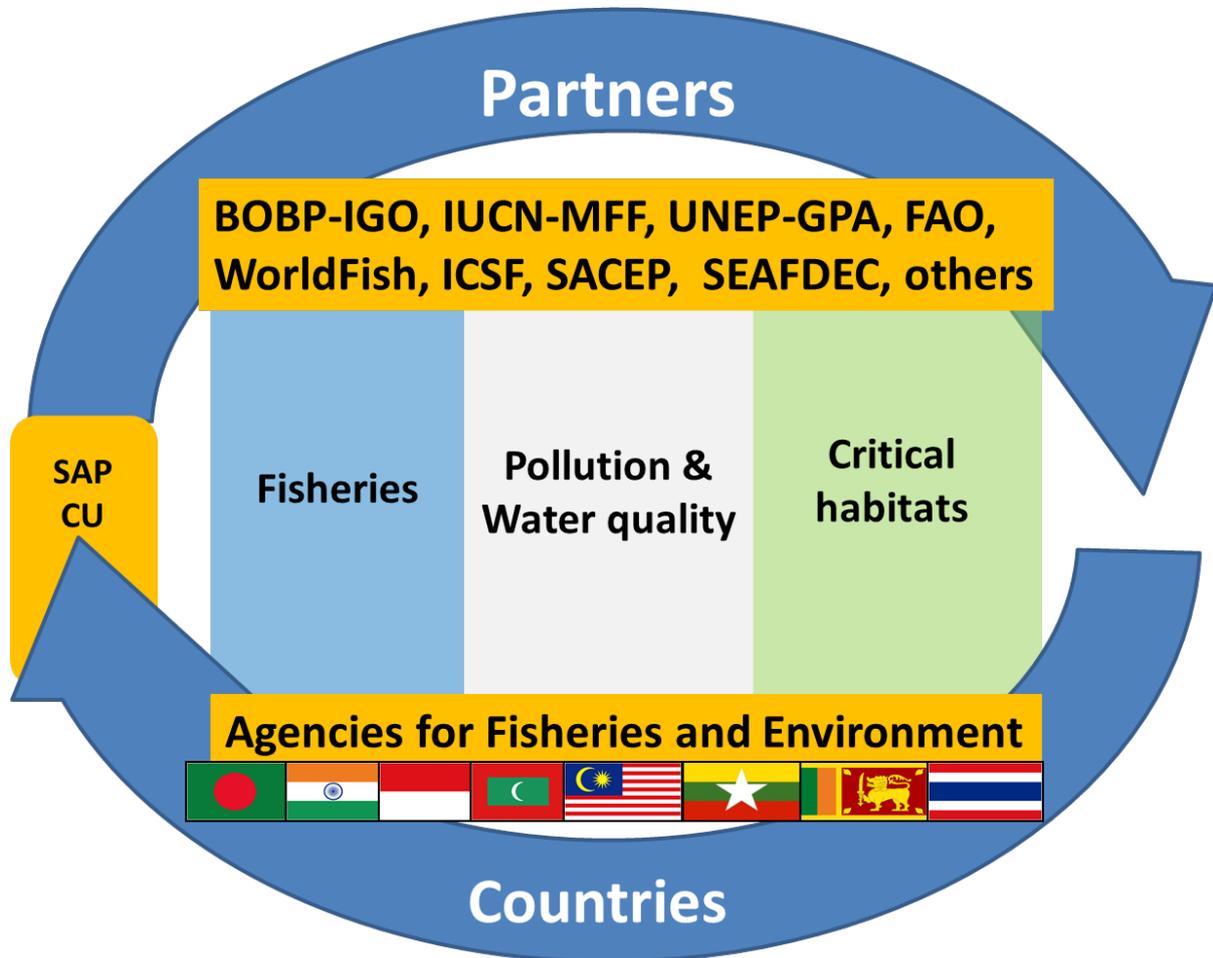
Day 1	
08.30-09.00	Registration - St Mary's Hall
	1. Opening of the meeting
	1.1 Opening remarks on behalf of the PSC Chairperson (Mr Silva) by the Regional Coordinator 1.2 Introductions 1.3 Welcome from Dr Peter Kenmore (FAO Representative, India) 1.4 Election of the new meeting Chair (selection by the PSC) 1.5 Adoption of the agenda (Doc-1.1) 1.6 Brief introduction to the BOBLME Project (ppt-1) 1.7 Group photograph
	2. Project implementation and status
	Actions: (i) Note the current status of the Project. (ii) Provide guidance on Project implementation. (iii) Make a decision whether to request a one year, no cost extension.
	2.1 Country implementation reports - brief verbal updates from both the Fisheries and Environment PSC members on Project implementation 2.2. 2012 Annual Report: progress and results (Doc-2.1) 2.3 Matters relating to Project implementation - best practices, challenges etc - Observations on implementation (ppt-2) - NORAD: Myanmar support programme (ppt-3) - Proposal for a one year, no cost extension (Doc-2.2)
	3. Consideration of the SAP completion activities
	Actions: (i) Provide guidance on SAP completion. (ii) Make a decision on whether the RCU should develop a PIF for a BOBLME SAP implementation Project (3.3) (iii) Provide information on national programmes and budget cycles. (iv) Endorse a timeline for the completion of the BOBLME SAP (3.6) - partners to consider to agree in principle to collaboration in the SAP.
	3.1 Feedback on the National Action Plan development process (ppt-4) 3.2 Report on the draft SAP (Doc-3.1) 3.3 Discussions on approaches and institutional arrangements for SAP implementation (ppt-5) 3.4 Partners - a brief introduction from each partner on their organization; including their medium term objectives, and potential for collaboration in SAP implementation 3.5 Deliberations on the SAP completion timeline (ppt-6) 3.6 Introduction to GEF 6 International Waters Focal Area Strategy (FAO)
Day 2	
	4. Review of the proposed 2013 work plan, milestones, outputs and budget
	Actions: (i) Adopt a BOBLME 2013 work plan and budget.
	4.1 Presentation of the 2013 Regional work plan and budget (Doc-4.1) 4.2 Discussions including PSC members to describe their current short-term / long term national strategies/plans relating to fisheries and environment, and the budget cycles that support them
	5. Any other business
	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

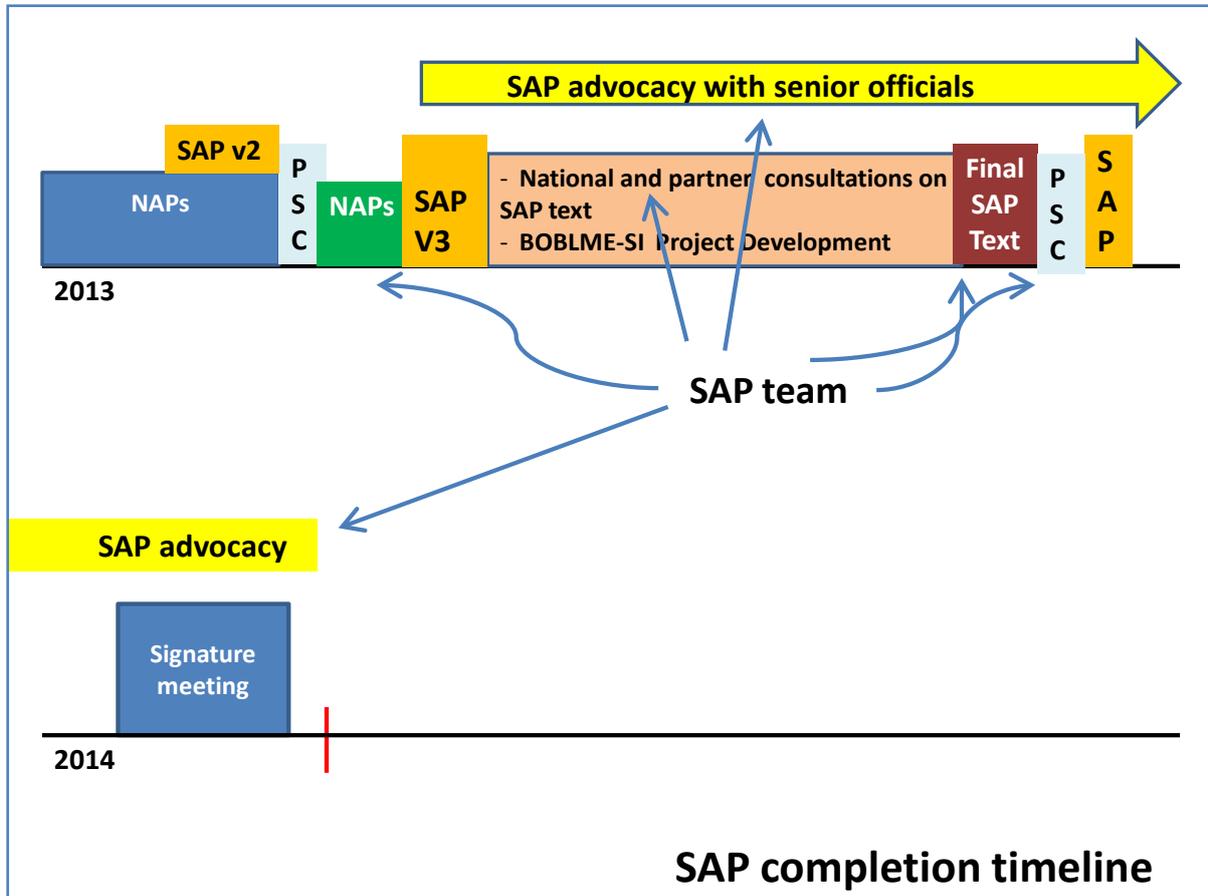
Reference	Title
<i>Session</i>	
BOBLME-2013-PSC_Doc-1.1	Agenda
BOBLME-2013-PSC_Doc-2.1	Annual report to the PSC on the year 2012
BOBLME-2013-PSC_Doc-2.2	Proposed one year no-cost extension to the BOBLME Project
BOBLME-2013-PSC_Doc-3.1	Draft Strategic Action Programme (March 2013)
BOBLME-2012-PSC_Doc-4.1	Draft 2013 annual work plan and budget
Folder inserts	Final TDA: volume 2, volume 1 and executive summary
Folder insert	'What's next' brochure
Folder inserts	Regional fisheries Management Advisory committee advisories on hilsa and Indian mackerel
Folder inserts	BOBLME Newsletters: July and December 2012
BOBLME-2013-PSC_ppt-01	BOBLME Project overview
	Challenges
	NORAD Myanmar support programme
	Progress on developing National Action Plans (NAPs)
	The draft Strategic Action Programme - SAP implementation project approach; proposed institutional structure; SAP completion timeline

Appendix IV CCR-BOBLME Institutional structure

Consortium for the Conservation and Restoration of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem



Appendix V 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 2012 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PSC – Summary

1.1 Summary for the year 2012

Major achievements (by project sub-component):

- The BOBLME TDA was adopted by the PSC (1.1)
- Major reviews on *Mainstreaming Gender, Transboundary Fishing and Transboundary Aquatic Animal Health issues in the Bay of Bengal* (1.4)
- SAP objectives actions, targets and indicators identified in three regional workshops (1.4)
- The draft SAP almost ready for consultations (1.4)
- ICM Training (2.1)
- Regional policy workshop held and regional review completed (2.2)
- A draft EAFM training programme produced by a consortium of regional partners is now ready for pilot testing (2.3)
- The BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee met and produced regional advisories for hilsa and Indian mackerel (2.3)
- Major regional collaborative Indian mackerel genetics study implemented (2.3)
- Second bi-national stakeholder meeting between India and Sri Lanka on the critical habitat of Gulf of Mannar was held (2.4)
- The first bi-national Planning and Management Committee for the critical habitat of Myeik Archipelago (Thailand and Myanmar) was held (2.4)
- The Regional MPA workshop and BOBLME MPA Working Group meeting (3.2)
- Pollution (Nutrient management) pilot project in Chilika Lake India launched (4.2)
- Two editions of the BOBLME Newsletter were published (5.3)

Project targets achieved - as of end of project year 4 (March 2013)

- 7 of 7 PY 1 targets completed
- 18 of 18 PY 2 targets completed
- 21 of 21 PY 3 targets completed
- 13 of 15 PY 4 targets completed
-

Training:

- BOBLME-MFF communications workshop on scientific writing.
- BOBLME-MFF communications workshop on scientific presentation.
- BOBLME-MFF communications workshop on scientific presentation for MFF Colloquium in India.
- BOBLME communications workshop on scientific presentation for SLAFAR in Sri Lanka.
- Stock Assessment Training - Maldives, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, India (2).
- MPA best practices
- IOC/WESTPAC - BOBLME Summer School on Monsoon Onset Monitoring and its Social & Ecosystem Impacts (MOMSEI).

Meetings:

- BOBLME Regional: 22
- BOBLME National: 11
- BOBLME participation in other relevant regional meetings: 23

Outputs:

- Reports: 40 reports (workshops, meetings, theme reports) produced in 2012
- Monitoring Reports: 7 (Progress Reports - 3 monthly (4), 6 monthly (2), annual report to GEF (1))
- Administrative documents: 87 (58 new contracts and 29 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	Completed
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

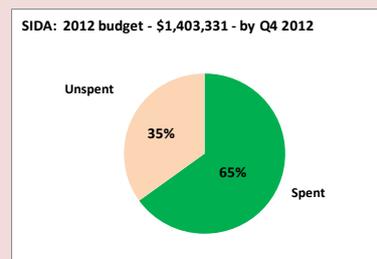
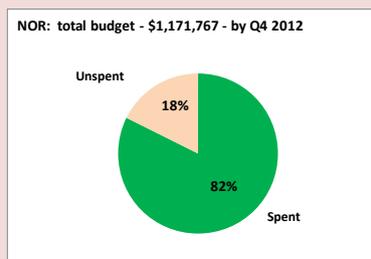
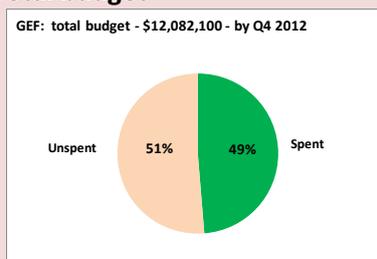
Project Risks:

No major risks apparent.

Expenditures at the end of 2012 (45 months).

The % of the total budgets spent (and committed) for each donor for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 December 2012 are as follows.

Total budget



1.2 Progress with respect to the Project LogFrame targets in Project year 4 (to March 2013)

Of the 15 Project targets for 2012:

- 13 have been completed (green-with tick)
- 1 target (national consultations on the institutional and financial options for the SAP) re-phased expected to be completed by end of Q3 2013
- 1 target (Management plans in Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago, will not be achieved in this Project, but activities underpinning this target are ongoing.

Key

✓	Completed
(✓)	Completion imminent - expected to be completed in Q1 2013 (PY4)
see	See comments below the table

	PY 1	PY 2	PY 3	PY 4	PY 5
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
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.			•	✓	
	PY 1	PY 2	PY 3	PY 4	PY 5
Regional statistical working group formed and operational		✓			
Regional statistical protocols developed and available.			✓	ongoing	
Reports on fisheries data and information produced - ongoing.	✓	✓	✓	✓	•
Three fishery management plans developed and submitted to governments for their consideration.				✓ See 4	
Two bi-national management plans for critical transboundary habitats submitted to respective governments.				ongoing See 5	
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.			•	✓	
Regional work group on pollution monitoring created		✓			
Action plan for addressing land-based sources of pollution forwarded to governments			•	✓	
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 2013 - 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 2 countries are outstanding. Once the NAPs are complete, the SAP will be finalised and made ready for national consultations.
3. The integration of ICM pursuits 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. (SC-2.4). 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; resulting in ICM activities being undertaken in each of the BOBLME countries - at several sites.
4. The BOBLME Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) delivered draft fisheries management plans 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 2013.
5. Progress has been made in both Gulf of Mannar and Myeik Archipelago; however, the development of management plans will take years and is beyond the achievements of the current Project.

Appendix VII 2013 Annual work plan and budget

BOBLME-2013-PSC_Doc-4.1

2013 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

PREPARED BY THE RCU

In February 2013, the BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisors held a two day workshop to draft the 2013 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. It contains activity descriptions and outputs, and an indicative budget for each Project subcomponent in 2013.

Budget in summary:

Component 1: Strategic Action Programme		Budget
1.1	TDA Preparation:	\$1 000
1.2	BOBLME Institutional Arrangements	\$0
1.3	Financial Sustainability	
1.4	SAP Preparation	\$207 000
Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use		
2.1	Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (regional)	\$294 000
2.2	Improved Policy Harmonization (regional)	\$93 600
2.3	Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans	\$2 081 000
2.4	Collaborative Critical Habitat Management	\$324 000
Component 3: Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment		
3.1	Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics	\$30 000
3.2	Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks	\$140 000
3.3	Improved Regional Collaboration	\$25 000
Component 4: Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution		
4.1	Establishment of an Agreed to Ecosystem Indicator Framework	\$150 000
4.2	Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria	\$124 000
Component 5: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Management		
5.1	Establishment of the RCU	\$145 000
5.2	Monitoring and Evaluation System	\$126 000
5.3	Project Information Dissemination System	\$256 000
TOTAL for 2013		\$3 996 600

2013 Activities summary (with approximate timing of meetings, workshops and trainings indicated)

Component 1: Strategic Action Programme				
2013				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Subcomponent 1.1 TDA Preparation: Build on the BOBLME's existing draft TDA and complete the Programme's TDA				
TDA Vol. 1 and 2 and TDA Executive Summary mailed out to recipients				
Subcomponent 1.2 BOBLME Institutional Arrangements				
Subcomponent 1.3 Financial Sustainability				
No further activities				
Subcomponent 1.4 SAP Preparation				
Draft SAP produced and disseminated				
Country and partner consultations		X	X	
Synthesis of recommendations				
SAP Team and partners meet to finalise the text of the SAP			X	
SAP advocacy and adoption process			X	X
Project concept (precursor to Project Identification Form) document development				
Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use				
Subcomponent 2.1: Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (regional)				
Support to national activities in selected sites				
ICM 5 week training course (5 weeks)			X	
Design, production and dissemination of ICM information material				
Subcomponent 2.2: Improved Policy Harmonization (regional)				
Design of 'course' materials on international laws, conventions and agreements				
Capacity development on international laws, conventions and agreements			X	X
Support to national activities in selected sites				
Subcomponent 2.3: Collaborative Regional Fishery Assessments and Management Plans				
Support to national activities to improve data collection and harmonize fisheries statistics				
Fisheries Statistics Working Group held				X
Fisheries catch reconstructions for Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand				
National activities on hilsa				
Hilsa Assessment Working Group meeting		X		
National activities on Indian mackerel				
Stock Assessment Training		X		
Sub-regional activities on longtail tuna				
Indian mackerel Working Group meetings - 2x		X		X
National activities on sharks				
Sub-regional activities on sharks (RPOA)				
Countries undertake national activities on sharks in support of their NPOAs				
Synthesis of the two sub-regional RPOA's undertaken as the basis of a Bay wide RPOA				
Regional workshop on whale shark management				X
Design and undertake an ecosystem survey in Myanmar				X
Examine the structure and functioning of the BOBLME				
Production of the BOBLME overview publication				

Ecosystem modelling workshop held			X	
Fishing capacity training conducted				X
Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) meeting held				X
Science-policy training conducted		X		
Socio-economic monitoring training conducted		X	X	
Capacity development for fishing communities		X	X	X
Support to regional initiatives relating to strengthening fisheries management				
EAFM training course designed and tested		X		
EAFM training courses conducted			X	X
Subcomponent 2.4 Collaborative Critical Habitat Management				
Myeik / Mergui Archipelago: Undertake programmes activities on resources, habitat and socio-economic monitoring and assessment, capacity development and enhancing management				
Myeik / Mergui Archipelago: Conduct seagrass conservation and monitoring training		X		
Myeik / Mergui Archipelago: Conduct Irrawaddy Delta vulnerability assessment			X	
Gulf of Mannar: Bi-national Stakeholder consultation held			X	
Gulf of Mannar: Support to initiatives relating to strengthening transboundary management				
Other areas: Support to activities to promote transboundary management				
Component 3: Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment				
Subcomponent 3.1 Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics affecting the BOBLME				
Activities relating to deployment of data array			X	
Support to initiatives relating to understanding large-scale processes and training				
Subcomponent 3.2 Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks				
National activities on MPAs				
MPA data portal / internet node established				
MPA brochure and policy advisories produced and disseminated				
BOBLME MPA Working Group meeting held			X	
Subcomponent 3.3 Improved Regional Collaboration				
Ongoing collaborations relevant to the Project				
Component 4: Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution				
Subcomponent 4.1 Establishment of an Agreed to Ecosystem Indicator Framework				
Assessment of ecosystem indicators				
Subcomponent 4.2 Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria				
Implement programme of work strengthening National Plans of Actions or their implementation; and pilot activities of GPNM implemented in Chilika Lake.				
Implement programme of work on nutrient pollution management in the western Bay of Bengal		X		
Capacity development in water quality monitoring in Myanmar				
Component 5: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Management				
Subcomponent 5.1 Establishment of the RCU				
Effective and efficient RCU operations supported				
Subcomponent 5.2 Monitoring and Evaluation System				
The Quarterly Progress Reports submitted	X	X	X	X
The (six monthly) Project Progress Reports submitted	X		X	
4th PSC meeting held	X			
National Task Force in each country meets to endorse the national activities				

The Project Implementation Review Report (July 2012-Jun 2013) submitted			X	
M&E training plan developed and implemented as required				
Annual Work Plan Development meeting held (Q1)	X			
Subcomponent 5.3 Project Information Dissemination System				
Newsletter compilation and preparation				
Website management				
Regional training on science writing and presentation			X	X
National trainings on science writing and presentation		X		
National communications activities supported				
Photographs held in the BOBP-IGO library are digitised and stored				
Outreach material produced as needed				

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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>Printed TDA (Vol. 1 and 2), and TDA Executive Summary disseminated.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. TDA Vol. 1 and 2 and TDA Executive Summary mailed out to recipients Output 1: Published TDA disseminated	<i>Details not provided for commercial reasons</i>
1.2. BOBLME Institutional Arrangements - Identify and establish agreed to permanent institutional arrangements ensuring the long-term management of the BOBLME	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>An analysis of institutional and financing options has been undertaken, and its key findings and recommendations have been incorporated into the draft SAP. Consultations on institutional and financial options will be held in conjunction with those being undertaken for the SAP, as the SAP is expected to influence the nature and extent of those options.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. No further activities	
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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
See 1.2 above.	
1.4. SAP Formulation and Adoption - Process for formulation of an agreed Strategic Action Programme (SAP)	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<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 2013 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 2014.</i>	

Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p>1. Draft SAP produced and disseminated Output 1: Draft SAP</p> <p>2. Country and partner consultations Output 2: Reports on SAP consultations, documenting requested modifications and / or agreement with SAP content</p> <p>3. Synthesis of recommendations Output 3: Report on the synthesis of SAP consultations</p> <p>4. SAP Team and partners meet to finalise the text of the SAP Output 4: Report on SAP Team Meeting and Final SAP</p> <p>5. SAP advocacy and adoption process Output 5: Endorsed SAP</p> <p>6. Project concept (precursor to Project Identification Form) document development Output 6: Project concept / draft PIF</p>	

<p>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</p>	
<p>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</p>	
<p>PY5: January – December 2013</p>	
<p><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 in Thailand and newly resumed in India and Maldives. Based on the outputs of the two sub-regional and one regional ICM workshops already held, develop and disseminate outreach materials on best practices – as requested by project countries. Participation in the AIT -MFF-BOBLME Postgraduate ICM training course (tentatively Q3 2013).</i></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>
<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 Output 1: Reports on national ICM activities</p> <p>2. ICM Training course (5 weeks) Output 2: Report on training undertaken, including case study reports</p> <p>3. Design, production and dissemination of ICM information material Output 3: Progress reports on production of national ICM materials</p>	
<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)</p>	
<p>PY5: January – December 2013</p>	
<p><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></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>

<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. Support to national activities in selected sites: India - State level / National Policy workshops Output 3: Report on policy harmonization workshops in India</p>	
<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</p>	
<p><u>Fisheries Statistics</u></p> <p><i>Fisheries Statistics Working Group meets to review country activities and reassess capacity development needs. Training and national activities to improve fisheries statistics undertaken. Catch reconstructions for three countries ongoing.</i></p> <p><u>Hilsa</u></p> <p><i>Stock assessment updated and working group meeting held. Training on stock assessment implemented. National activities - targeted research for the improvement of data and knowledge on stock status implemented (e.g. life history parameters, stock structure, genetics, morphometrics, interaction of different fisheries sub-sectors, critical habitats for life-history stages) through country institutions.</i></p> <p><u>Indian mackerel</u></p> <p><i>Stock assessment updated and working group meeting held. Training on 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. Work on shared stocks of longtail tuna (Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia) is to be confirmed.</i></p> <p><u>Sharks</u></p> <p><i>Targeted research (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. Partnerships developed with BOBP-IGO and SEAFDEC for the development of the RPOA.</i></p> <p><u>Ecosystem</u></p> <p><i>Design and undertake a marine biodiversity survey and fisheries assessment in Myanmar (using the RV Nansen). Characterisation of the BOBLME to enable broad</i></p>	

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. 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. Provide capacity development on the science-policy interface. Conduct training in Myanmar and another BOBLME country to build capacity for monitoring and evaluation and ultimately obtain base-line socio-economics information. Enhancing capacities of fishing communities to contribute to resource management in five countries. Support partner initiatives related to fisheries management and biodiversity conservation. Finalise EAFM training course development and begin implementation (three countries in 2013).

PY5: January – December 2013

Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p><u><i>Fisheries statistics</i></u></p> <p>1. Support to national activities to improve data collection and harmonize fisheries statistics: Sri Lanka - improving pelagic fisheries statistics Maldives - rapid survey techniques for reef fish Myanmar - improving fisheries statistics Other countries: as requested Output 1: Progress Reports</p> <p>2. Fisheries Statistics Working Group held Output 2: Report on the Fisheries Statistics WG</p> <p>3. Fisheries catch reconstructions for Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand Output 3: Report on catch reconstructions</p> <p><u><i>Hilsa</i></u></p> <p>4. National activities on hilsa Output 4: Reports on activities</p> <p>5. Hilsa Assessment Working Group meeting Output 5: Meeting Report and stock status advisory</p> <p><u><i>Indian mackerel</i></u></p> <p>6. National activities on Indian mackerel</p>	

<p>Output 6: Reports on activities</p> <p>7. Stock Assessment Training Output 7: Report on Stock Assessment Training</p> <p>8. Sub-regional activities on longtail tuna Output 8: Reports on activities</p> <p>9. Indian mackerel Working Group meetings - 2x Output 9: Meeting Reports</p> <p><u>Sharks</u></p> <p>10. National activities on sharks Output 10: Reports on activities</p> <p>11. Sub-regional activities on sharks (RPOA) Output 11: Draft RPOA-sharks for Eastern and Western Bay of Bengal, respectively</p> <p>12. Countries undertake national activities on sharks in support of their NPOAs Output 12: Progress Reports on work undertaken - ongoing</p> <p>13. Synthesis of the two sub-regional RPOA's undertaken as the basis of a Bay wide RPOA Output 13: Framework for a RPOA-sharks for the Bay of Bengal</p> <p>14. Regional workshop on whale shark management Output 14: Report on the workshop</p> <p><u>Ecosystem</u></p> <p>15. Design and undertake an ecosystem survey in Myanmar Output 15: Survey design and cruise report</p> <p>16. Examine the structure and functioning of the BOBLME Output 16: BOBLME characterisation Report</p>	
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<p>17. Production of the BOBLME overview publication Output 17: BOBLME overview</p> <p>18. Ecosystem modelling workshop held Output 18: Report on the ecosystem modelling results and findings</p> <p><i>Fisheries management</i></p> <p>19. Fishing capacity training conducted Output 19: Report on training conducted</p> <p>20. Regional Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (RFMAC) meeting held Output 20: Report on RFMAC Meeting, including updated management advisories for hilsa and Indian mackerel</p> <p>21. Science-policy training conducted Output 21: Report on training conducted</p> <p>22. Socio-economic monitoring training conducted Output 22: Report on training conducted</p> <p>23. Capacity development for fishing communities Output 23: Report on activities</p> <p>24. Support to regional initiatives relating to strengthening fisheries management Output 24: Reports on activities</p> <p>25. EAFM training course designed and tested Output 25: EAFM training course manual and report on pilot training</p> <p>26. EAFM training courses conducted Output 26: Reports on training conducted</p>	
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<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>PY5: January – December 2013</p>	
<p><u>Merqui/Myeik Archipelago</u> <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> <i>Hold the third bi-national workshop of stakeholders in the Gulf of Mannar. Promote and support measures leading to improved conservation of resources and joint management (including formation of joint management mechanism or institutions).</i></p> <p><u>Other areas: e.g. Sundarbans, small Islands, Malacca Straits:</u> <i>NCs/NTAs make a joint proposal for possible work. Support / implement work as required, e.g. on policy harmonization, promotion or dissemination of lessons learnt and best practices, assist in transboundary or bilateral management approaches.</i></p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>
<p><u>Merqui/Myeik Archipelago:</u> 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>3. Conduct Irrawaddy Delta vulnerability assessment Output 3: Report on the assessment</p> <p><u>Gulf of Mannar:</u> 4. Bi-national Stakeholder consultation held Output 4: Report with recommendations, work plan and a proposal for a framework for ongoing bi-lateral processes</p> <p>5. Support to sub-regional initiatives relating to strengthening transboundary management Output 5: Reports on activities</p>	

Other areas eg. Sundarbans, small islands, Malacca Straits:

6. Support to activities to promote transboundary management

Output 6: Reports on-activities

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	
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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>BOBLME supports the SIBER (Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research) Programme of work including generation of data, information and knowledge by providing biogeochemical sensors for the RAMA mooring array in BOB in cooperation with IOGOOS, NOAA and NIO, India. 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, IOGOOS, SACEP, SEAFDEC and partners to build capacity in oceanography, including opportunities for instrumentation and seaboard training, if possible.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Activities relating to deployment of data array Output 1: Reports on activities	
2. Support to initiatives relating to understanding large-scale processes and training Output 2: Reports on activities	
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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>MPA activities implemented (learning, best practices) and information material on MPAs produced. BOBLME establishes a MPA node. BOBLME MPA Working Group meets.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. National activities on MPAs Output 1: Reports on activities	
2. MPA data portal / internet node established Output 2: Functioning MPA node	

<p>3. MPA brochure and policy advisories produced and disseminated Output 3: MPA brochure, and 8 country policy advisories</p> <p>4. BOBLME MPA Working Group meeting held Output 4: Report on MPA working group meeting</p>	
<p>3.3. Improved Regional Collaboration - Establishment of effective partnerships with other regional and global environmental assessment and monitoring programmes</p>	
<p><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. A second coordination meeting with key partners will be held in order to improve coordination of activities and enhance impacts. BOBLME will continue to engage with other LME and International Waters Projects through IW Learn activities.</i></p>	
<p>PY5: January – December 2013</p>	
<p>Activities and outputs</p>	<p>Indicative costs</p>
<p>1. Ongoing collaborations relevant to the Project</p>	

Component 4. Maintenance of Ecosystem Health and Management of Pollution	
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	
4.1. Establishment of an Effective Ecosystem Indicator Framework - <i>Agreed ecosystem indicator framework designed to measure progress toward sustaining BOBLME</i>	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>This work has been completed under Subcomponent 1.4. Regional technical working groups on fisheries, habitats, pollution have been convened to identify targets indicators, and actions for the BOBLME themes and EcoQO's. A second level assessment collaboration with the Transboundary Waters Assessment Project- pilot assessment of ecosystem Indicators (including socio-economics and governance) in the Bay of Bengal.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
1. Assessment of ecosystem indicators Output 1: Report on the assessment	
4.2. Coastal Pollution Loading and Water Quality Criteria - <i>Development of a regional collaborative approach to identifying important coastal water pollution issues and to develop remedial strategies</i>	

PY5: January – December 2013	
<p><i>Collaboration with UNEP-GPA is continued with a focus on strengthening National Plans of Actions or their implementation; and pilot activities of GPNM implemented in Chilika Lake. Sub-regional nutrient pollution management (in the western Bay of Bengal) addressed in collaboration with SACEP through a scoping study and workshop. Capacity development in water quality monitoring to be undertaken in Myanmar, in collaboration with the University of Yangon and the Norwegian Institute of Water Research.</i></p>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<p>1. Implement programme of work strengthening National Plans of Actions or their implementation; and pilot activities of GPNM implemented in Chilika Lake. 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: Reports on activities</p> <p>3. Capacity development in water quality monitoring in Myanmar Output 3: Reports on activities</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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<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	
PY5: January – December 2013	
<i>Monitoring reports are completed in a timely manner. A Project Steering Committee Meeting is prepared and held in Qtr 1, 2013. M&E capacity development needs are identified and addressed. Project cycle management training is provided as required.</i>	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Quarterly Progress Reports submitted 2. The (six monthly) Project Progress Reports submitted 3. 4th PSC meeting held 4. National Task Force in each country meets to endorse the national activities 5. The Project Implementation Review Report (July 2012-Jun 2013) submitted 6. M&E training plan developed and implemented as required 7. Annual Work Plan Development meeting held (Q1) <p>Output 1: Quarterly Progress Reports (Oct-Dec 2012, and Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Jul-Sep 2013) Output 2: Semi-annual PPR (Jul-Dec 2012 and Jan-Jun 2013) Output 3: Project Implementation Review Report (Jul 2012-Jun 2013) Output 4: A 2013 Annual Regional Work Plan Output 5: Final PSC-IV Report Output 6: Report on M&E training implemented Output 7: Report on Annual WP Development meeting - including draft work plan</p>	

5.3. Project Information Dissemination System - Disseminate information to regional and global stakeholders relevant to the BOBLME and the BOBLME Programme	
<i>Ongoing maintenance and (limited) development of the BOBLME website. BOBLME newsletter published. TDA Document published and disseminated. 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. Activities implemented based on the BOBLME Project outputs.</i>	
PY5: January – December 2013	
Activities and outputs	Indicative costs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newsletter compilation and preparation 2. Website management 3. Regional training on science writing and presentation 4. National trainings on science writing and presentation 5. National communications activities supported 6. Photographs held in the BOBP-IGO library are digitised and stored 7. Outreach material produced as needed <p>Output 1: Newsletter published – April, November Output 2: Website containing up-to-date information and documents – Ongoing Output 3: Reports on regional training events Output 4: Reports on national training events Output 5: Reports and products from national communication activities Output 6: Photographs available on DVD and accessible on the web Output 7: 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.

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



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