



**Partners' meeting for resource project and portfolio managers
working in the Bay of Bengal**

28 February 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand

Amari Watergate Hotel, starting 9 am

The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project is a five year, \$31 million collaboration involving Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand. These eight countries are working together to develop a plan of action to improve the lives of the coastal populations through improved regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries. The BOBLME Project is principally supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA (NOAA), and the World Bank. FAO is the executing agency. More information can be found on www.boblme.org.

Over the past three years, the BOBLME Project has initiated an extensive programme of studies, reviews, workshops and trainings that have established baseline information in the Project's theme areas of fisheries, pollution and critical habitats. During the next two years, the Project will continue to assist countries implement the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management for the transboundary or shared fish stocks of hilsa shad and Indian mackerel, and strengthen natural resource management and policy development capabilities in general.

The major output for this, the first phase of the BOBLME Project is a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) which will be the blue print to address and mitigate priority environmental issues affecting the health of the Bay of Bengal and its resources.

The implementation of the SAP will require collaboration of the countries with multiple partners. The BOBLME Project is convening this meeting with project and portfolio managers working in fisheries, ecosystems, coastal management, pollution and habitat protection in order to improve understanding of the resource management activities in the Bay of Bengal - and lay the foundations for collaborative actions.

DRAFT Agenda

1. Welcome and workshop purpose
2. Introduction to the BOBLME Project
3. BOBLME National Coordinators provide an overview of major national initiatives that are compatible with BOBLME objectives (5-10 minutes each)
4. Partner organizations attending the meeting provide an overview of their activities in the Bay of Bengal region (5-10 minutes each)
5. Findings of a (web based) review of the activities of organisations operating in the Bay of Bengal in order to better understand the linkages, complementarities and overlaps
6. General discussions on opportunities for collaboration