

Abstract

SESSION 1:

A Decade of Partnerships in Sustainable Development of the Seas of East Asia: Synergies and Achievements

WORKSHOP 1.3:

Coastal and Ocean Governance in the Seas of East Asia: from Nation to Region

Case Study: Latest Developments in Basic Ocean Policy and Law at National Level

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Thailand locates in the Southeast Asia, bordering the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand in the south. The length of its coast is 3,148 km. covering 24 provinces. The sea areas covers 323,489 sq. km. from baselines to EEZ.

Marine and coastal issues still challenge to be solved, namely, exploitation of marine resources, marine pollution, coastal erosion, degradation of marine ecosystem, etc. Recently Thailand developed a new legislation of law "Promotion of Marine and Coastal Resource Management Act, B.E. 2558 (2015). This new law authorizes the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) the responsibility on conservation, restoration, protection and management of marine and coastal resources while would not over rule the former laws. The important point is focusing on the participation of coastal communities passing through the channel of the Marine and Coastal Resources Provincial Committee on developing action plans and participating in the process of the promulgation the marine protected area and management of marine and coastal resources inhabited in and nearby the community.

Presently DMCR has developed a 5-year plan from 2016-2021 and roadmap for processing the promulgation the protected areas under this law. In the year 2016, DMCR plans to process 2 marine protected areas namely 1) Sea turtle breeding ground at Ko Kra in Nakorn Si Thammarat Province and 2) Dugong habitat and its home-range off Trang Province's coast. Regarding to the marine and coastal issues, the DMCR expects that the new Act can be a key of success in marine and coastal resources management and sustainable development in Thai's waters.



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Global Targets Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

About Bamroongsak Chatananthawej:

Mr. Bamroongsak Chatananthawej was born in 1956 at Nonthaburi Province, Thailand. He received the B.Sc. on marine science in 1978 and the M.Sc. and on natural resources management in 1993 from Kasetsart University, Bangkok. He started his career in position of fisheries biologist at Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives for many years. During that period of time, shrimp culture dominated the coastal areas and in mangrove forest. He was recognized that drained water of high organic enrichment from shrimp ponds caused low quality of seawater and shrimp disease dispersion into environment nearby. He designed to do research on environmental impact assessment by using living marine benthic invertebrate, the polychaetes, as bio-indicator. In 2001 he finished his dissertation for doctoral degree on marine science from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. At present, he works at Marine and Coastal Resources Protected Area Unit, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.