

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

Marine Governance in Viet Nam

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Rich marine resources facilitate Viet Nam to develop marine economy, contribute to a great amount of GDP by various sectors such as fishery industry, tourism, shipping, mining of oil and minerals. There are various laws developed and agencies established to govern the exploitation and use of the sea. There are conflicts in benefits in the use of marine resources as a result of the rapid increasing of marine economic development of sectors. Consequently, the marine ecosystem has been degraded and destroyed; the marine environment is seriously polluted.

To deal with these issues, Viet Nam with the support of international and regional organizations has implemented the integrated management approach with successful demonstration from early 2000s. Policies and legislation has been developed to strengthen this approach. The Law on Natural Resources and Environment of Sea and Islands, which is marked as a milestone in the progress of the application of integrated management in Vietnam was approved on 25 June 2015 by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. This law regulates instruments for integrated management of marine natural resources and marine environmental protection. According to this law, instruments for integrated management such as Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Coastal Resources, Integrated Management Program of Coastal Resources, Coastal Setback Lines,... which are developed and implemented with a view to deal with benefit conflicts among sectors in the use of coastal resources, protect marine environment, conserve marine ecosystem to target sustainable development in the long term. Marine environmental protection is focused with periodically monitoring and assessing the status of water quality, sediments, ecosystems and biological diversity of marine areas and islands; preventing and controlling marine pollution from various sources: land-based sources, activities at sea, trans-boundary wastes...; investigating and evaluating load limit of marine environment; identifying marine environmentally high risk area; preparing and responding to pollution incidents at sea by oil, hazardous and noxious substances; permitting and managing of dumping activities at sea.



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