

Abstract

SESSION 2:

Accelerating Actions for Sustainable Development and Climate Change

WORKSHOP 2.1:

Scaling up ICM: Innovations and Impacts at Local, National and Regional Levels

Integrated Coastal Management Programme in the Mekong Delta: Accelerating Practical Solutions in Managing and Protecting Coastal Ecosystem

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The coasts of the southern Mekong Delta, Vietnam, are eroding at alarmingly high rates. The mangrove belt around the Mekong Delta is in decline and the sea-dyke system is not strong enough to cope with the impact of the rising sea level. Intensive land use of the coastal area is squeezing the mangrove protection forest from the land-side. The Integrated Coastal Management Programme (ICMP, 2012-2018) is a development programme funded by the Governments of Viet Nam, Germany and Australia and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Its objective is to support the Vietnamese authorities in preparing the coastal area of the Mekong Delta for the changing environment and to lay the foundation for sustainable growth by conserving ecosystem services. The focus is laid on integrated, science-based coastal protection planning, technical guidance and respective capacity development at local and institutional level. Tidal mudflat restoration, rehabilitation of a resilient mangrove belt, coastal spatial planning and integrated management (co-management) are considered as essential instruments. Several practical tools for coastal protection were tested and locally applied including hydrological survey, modelling of coastal processes, coastal classification, historical erosion mapping, wave-breaker designing, sea-dyke inspection and mangrove planting in exposed areas. Finally, the target is to provide bankable investment plans for feasible and most efficient coastal protection measures.



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About Stefan Groenewold:

Stefan A. Groenewold is a Technical Adviser for ICMP, GIZ, and responsible for coastal protection planning, mangrove forest rehabilitation and policy. He studied Biological Oceanography and Fishery Science at the University of Hamburg. He worked as a scientist at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) in several international projects on impact of large-scaled artificial islands at sea and fishery impacts on marine productivity. Different projects on environmental impact assessment, bio-monitoring, modelling of interactions between physical and biological oceanographic processes and GIS enabled sensitivity mapping led him to the United States of America, South Africa, and several European countries. Since 2005, he is working in different functions for the German development Cooperation (GIZ) in the Philippines and Vietnam as an expert for Integrated Coastal Management.