



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2015

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

16-21 November 2015 • Danang, Vietnam

Ocean Policy Development, Progress and Challenges in Malaysia

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Outline

- Introduction
 - Importance of the ocean sector to national well-being requires that the approaches that have been largely inherited from the past are revisited towards establishing anticipatory, coordinated, adaptive and directed responses to new challenges and opportunities at sea.
- Development of the National Ocean Policy to drive coastal and ocean governance.

Malaysia as a maritime nation



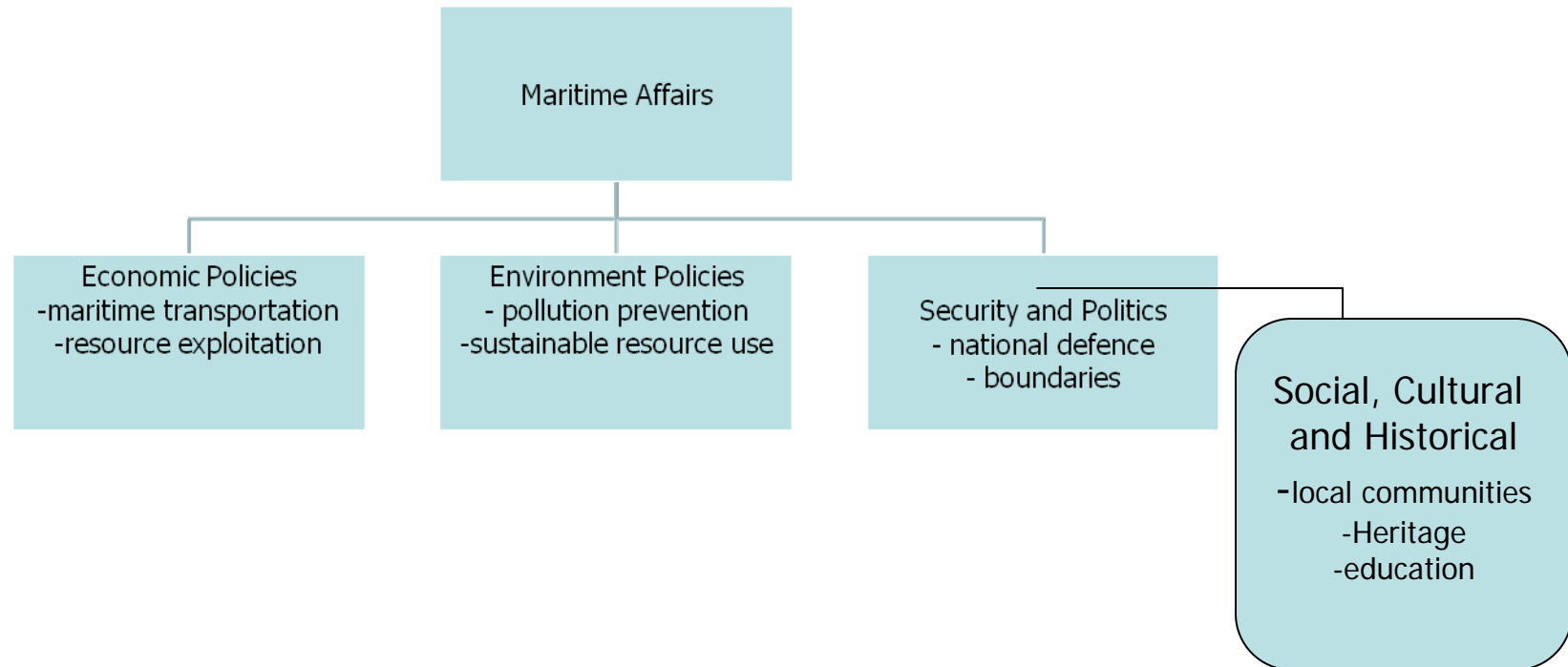
Introduction

- The sea now plays host to many more activities than before.
- Ocean and coastal management now involves a myriad of activities coexisting in a particular area.
- The increasingly complex use of the sea requires changes in sea management objectives and approaches.

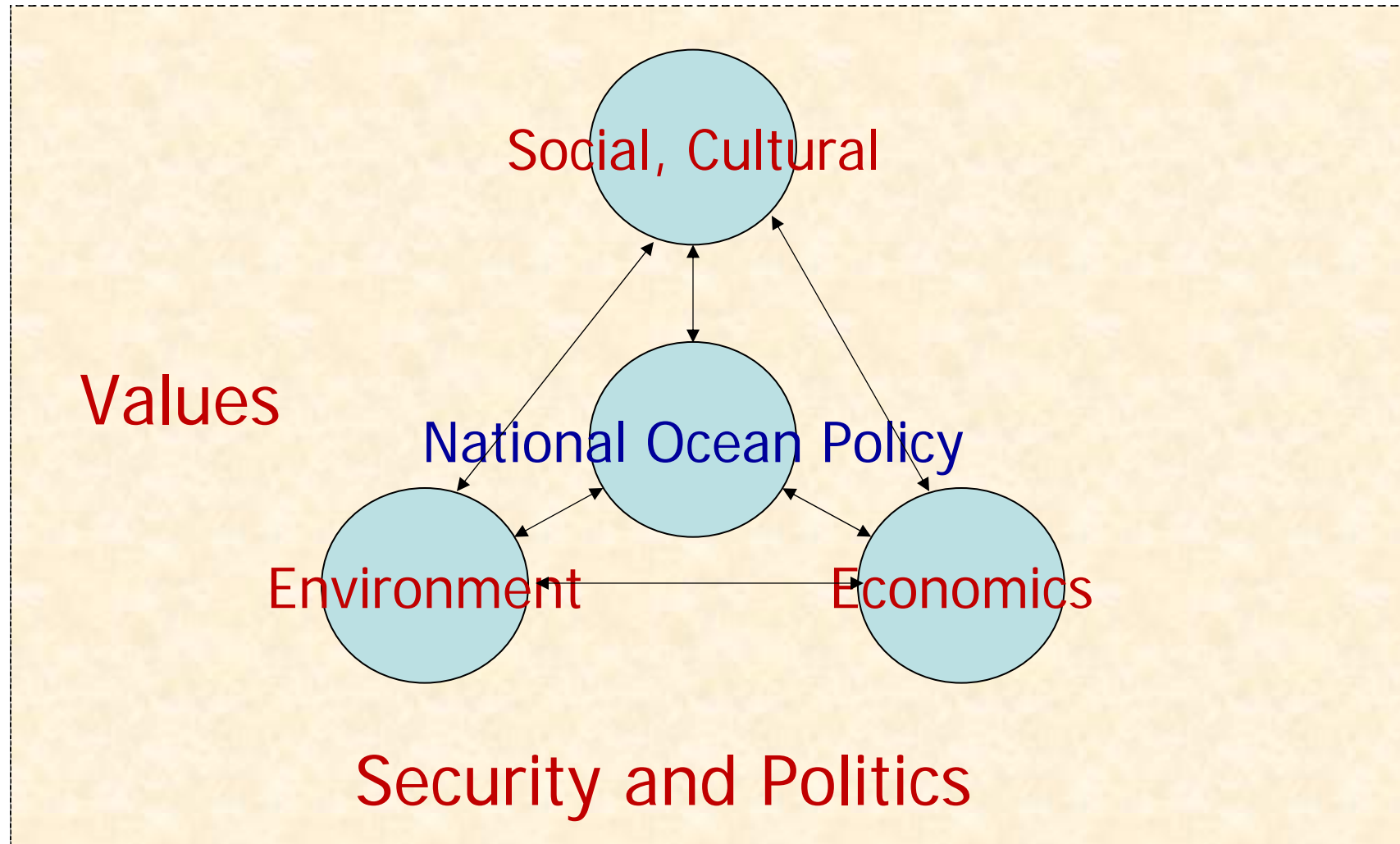
Approach for the National Ocean Policy

- The management of Malaysia's seas to be based on balancing the need to continue and perpetuate the provision of goods and services from the sea and for development and economic activities.
- This could not be achieved if the seas are continued to be managed in a fragmented manner because this creates conflicts between sectors. Ad-hoc policy-making would limit the potential for growth of the country's maritime economy.
- An overall policy on the other hand will promote economic growth and sustainable use of resources.

Present situation



The ideal situation



Components of the National Ocean Policy

- Clear objectives and priorities for the management and development of Malaysia's sea areas and resources i.e., economic, social, environmental, cultural, developmental and political objectives as well as Malaysia's interests in the global ocean.
- Identification of new economic opportunities to enhance the already significant contribution of the maritime sector to the national economy, and the means to achieve this.
- Identification of resource use conflicts between the stakeholders and identifying appropriate mechanisms to facilitate and enhance their contribution towards the management of Malaysia's ocean.

- Appropriate policy responses to resolve conflicts between different uses and users of the sea and to alleviate pressures on the marine environment and resources at the same time through integrated planning and management of the ocean.
- Examination of the present administrative arrangement in relation to changes in sea use structure for better management.
- Human resource development needs in the various fields of maritime endeavour with a view to improving the expertise and skills.

The Big Picture: *What do we want to achieve?*

A healthy ocean sector for a high-income nation

- Transforming the ocean economy
- Developing and retaining a first-world marine talent base
- Building a coastal and marine environment that enhances quality of life
- Transforming governance of the ocean sector

Policy Statement

“Transform the ocean sector by embracing inclusivity and sustainability, to propel Malaysia to become a high-income developed nation, through good governance, science, technology and innovation”

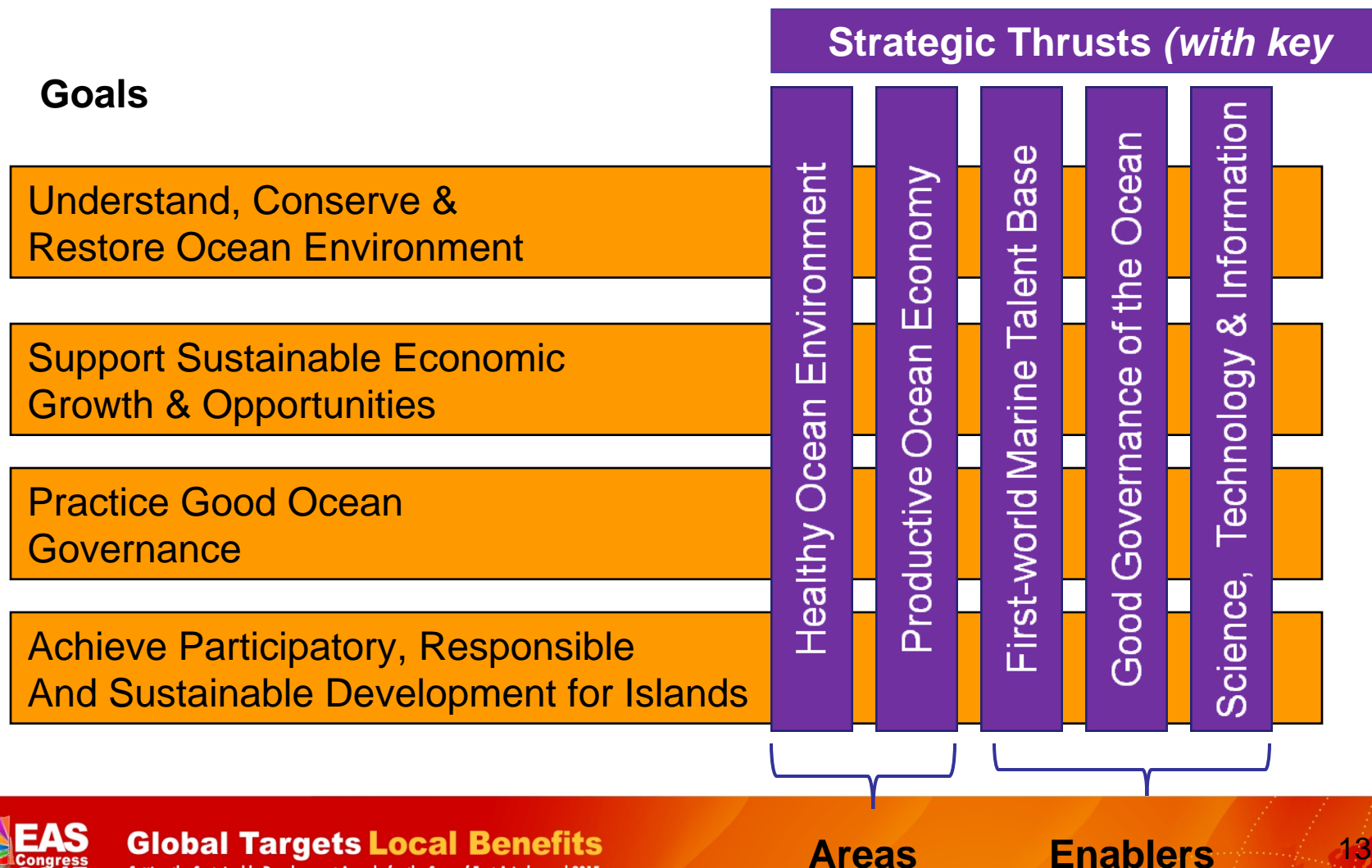
Vision

“A healthy and productive ocean, rich in biodiversity and heritage, wisely managed, safe and secure, and economically developed for the equitable benefit of all, now and in the future”

Rationale

- To assist decision-makers, sectoral agencies and key non-government policy actors to address gaps and harmonise initiatives towards agreed vision and common goals.
- To provide guidance in determining financial allocation, incentives, technology deployment and human capacity development in key priority areas.
- Provide anticipatory, coordinated, adaptive and directed responses to new challenges and opportunities at sea using integrated and holistic approach and ecosystem-based management where future development is anchored on principles of high income, inclusiveness and sustainability.

Goals and strategic thrust framework



Challenges

- Thorough adoption and implementation at the national level.
- Drafting of a strategic *Implementation Plan* that incorporates suggestions on the draft, including key support for capacity raising, and the development of more and better information related to the ocean conditions.



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Conclusion

- The marine domain is crucial to Malaysia's economic and strategic interests.
- Malaysia is committed to abide by international commitments and standards in ocean governance.
- Much efforts have been and are being made by various agencies and parties to manage and use Malaysia's oceans and its resources efficiently and sustainably – some room for improvement.
- How Malaysia uses, manages and conserves its oceans and resources will have a bearing on the nation's well-being, security and prosperity.

Thank you

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