



Towards Good Regional Ocean Governance – Status, Gaps and Policy Recommendations

with a focus on East Asian Seas Large Marine
Ecosystem initiatives

East Asian Seas Congress

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GIZ





Outline

- Brief introduction to GIZ & SSME project
- Coastal and marine issues of concern in the EAS
- Results of the analysis of EAS initiatives
- Suggestions and recommendations



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Support to the Implementation of the Tri-National Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME) Comprehensive Action Plan

Implemented in:	Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines
Duration:	October 2012 – June 2018 (tbd)
Volume:	€ 7 M (BMUB)
Objective:	Improved transboundary and climate-relevant management of marine ecosystems, biodiversity and livelihoods.
Partners:	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (Indonesia) Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Malaysia) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Philippines)





“Policy analysis and lessons learned from the Ocean Governance Initiatives Operating in the East Asian Seas”

With the aim to...

- ...contribute to discussions among regional seas mechanisms and initiatives in the EAS
- ...strengthen coordination and synergies of EAS initiatives

Hypothesis

Regional seas mechanisms are effectively coordinated in information and knowledge sharing, programming, capacity development, legislation and enforcement, and implementation of their respective strategic action programs or strategies.



Primary marine and coastal issues of concern to **all** countries of the EAS

- Land-based pollution
- Habitat destruction
- Overfishing and destructive fishing
- Impacts of climate change

(ADB 2009; Tengberg and Cabanban 2011)





Primary marine and coastal issues of concern to **selected** countries of EAS

Northern areas

- Water quality issues, mostly industrial and urban area effluents and inland land use problems
- Overfishing from over-capacity in commercial fishing fleets

Cross-cutting

- Climate change

Southern areas

- Destructive fishing practices and overfishing nearshore and offshore
- Deforestation and shoreline development contributing to reduced water quality
- Underlying drivers: poverty in coastal communities and lack of enforcement

(Burke et al. 2013; ADB 2009;
Tengberg and Cabanban 2011)



Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) – PEMSEA review

- Countries with legal and institutional mechanisms to improve coastal and marine management programs
- Development and implementation of integrated coastal management (ICM) programs at an increasing number of sights (target: 20% of the region's coastline by 2020)

(PEMSEA 2015)

Country	Coastal and Ocean Policies or Water Governance Strategy	Coastal and Ocean or Water Governance Legislation	National Institutional Arrangements for Coastal and Ocean Governance or Water Governance
Cambodia	Yes	-	Yes
China	Yes	Yes	-
DPR Korea	-	-	Yes
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Japan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lao PDR	Yes	-	Yes
Philippines	Yes		-
RO Korea	Yes	Yes	Yes
Singapore	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thailand	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timor-Leste	-	-	Yes
Vietnam	Yes	Yes	-
No. countries with instruments	10	7	9



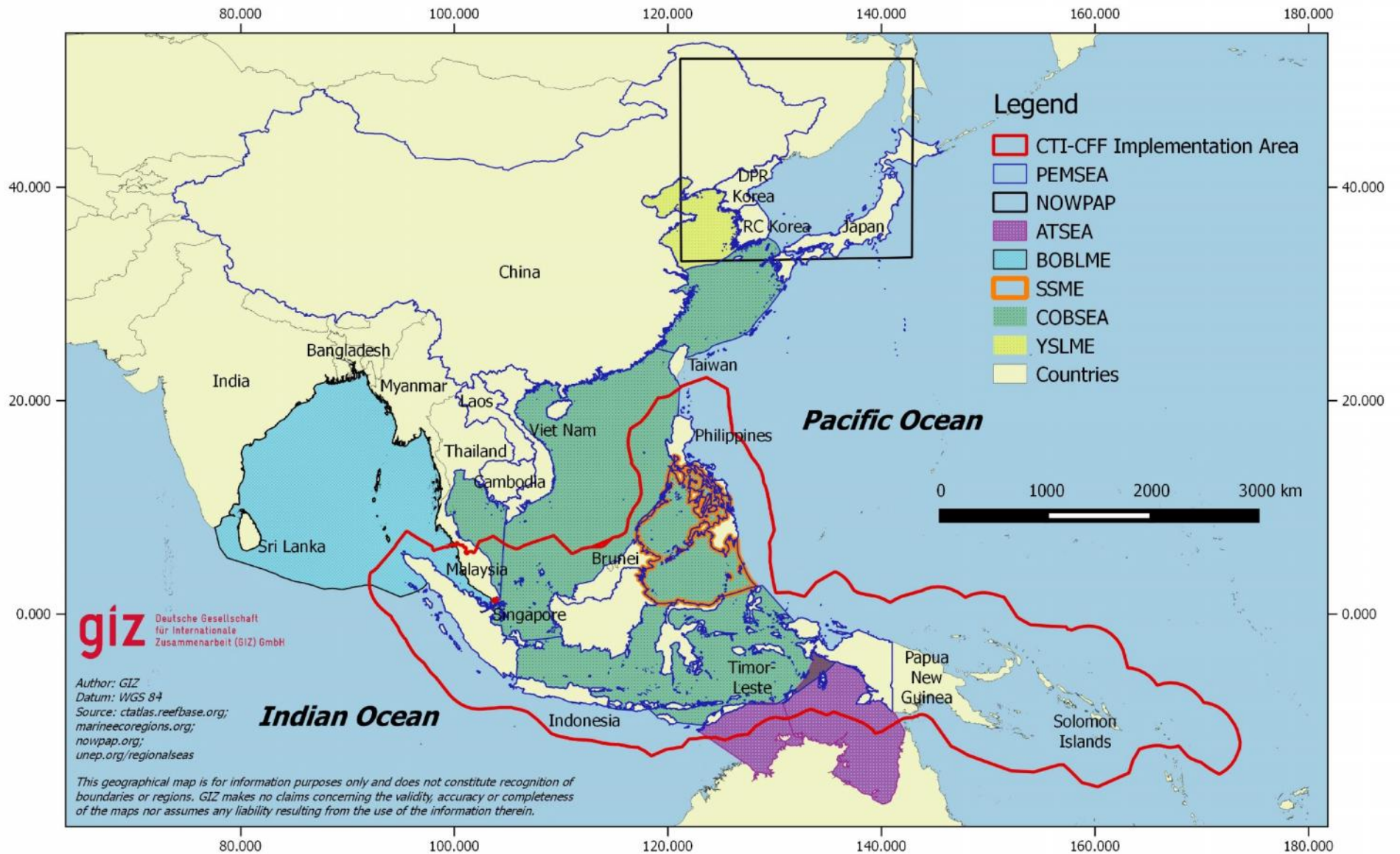
Key concerns noted in PEMSEA SDS-SEA review

- Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction
- Water resource management
- Fisheries and livelihoods
- Pollution
- Low relative coverage of MPAs, moderate MPA effectiveness and lack of networks
- Need to expand application and effectiveness of ICM across more areas
- Poor monitoring and evaluation systems for assessing effectiveness

(PEMSEA 2015)



East Asian Seas Initiatives





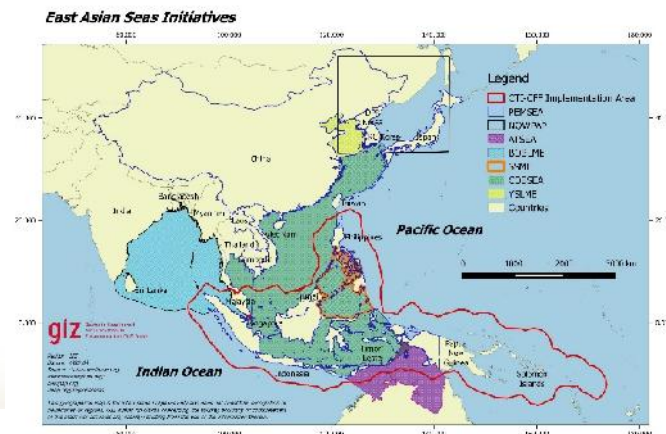
Geography of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs)

- Physical extent of LMEs are based on ecology rather than political or economic criteria:
 - i. Bathymetry
 - ii. Hydrography
 - iii. Productivity
 - iv. Trophic relations
- Countries often prefer to default to political jurisdictions for implementation



Review of EAS initiatives

- Multinational and roughly aligned with LMEs
- Key themes = sustainable use and protection
- Created by or with international organizations in conjunction with member countries
- Cover some overlapping geographies and objectives





Success factors of EAS initiatives

- Regional/ strategic action plans based on
 1. Proper assessment of transboundary issues (e.g. TDA)
 2. Baseline data collection & analysis
 3. Scientifically backed
 4. Regularly updated
 5. With appropriate stakeholder input
- Institution/ committee with the mandate to implement the action plan
- Goals of the regional action plans reflected in national action plans
- Vertical integration local – national – regional



Success factors of EAS initiatives

- Establish a robust M&E system with measurable indicators
- Build thorough common understanding among partners
- Platforms for technical exchange and cooperation on specific themes
- (Informal) learning networks/ peer to peer learning platforms
- Cooperation with science, NGOs and other private sector organizations
- Being gender sensitive, support female leaders
- Science-based regional marine protected area networks





Different experiences among EAS initiatives raise questions for discussion:

- Are scientific advisory boards useful?
- Joint data collection and sharing among programs?
- Cooperation with NGOs and private sector **vs.** relying on government
- How to best develop regional policies that develop into national laws?
- Best mechanism for “best practices” to be adopted by programs at regional or the national level?

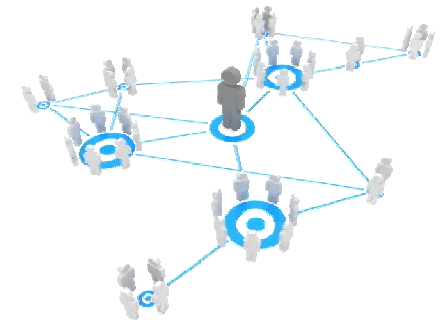


How can M&E mechanisms be strengthened, individually and collectively?

- Insufficient M&E systems in place & lacking capacities
- No agreed standard means of monitoring progress towards objectives and/or tracking the status of marine systems in EAS

Suggestions:

- ❖ Develop a shared Report Card to track SDGs initially
- ❖ Pick a test key indicator and harmonize it (per theme?) to show on a regional map such as for MPAs, relative water quality, habitat quality, etc.
- ❖ Experiment with cross over members on advisory boards or thematic and M&E bodies among programs





What partnerships could be further forged?

- ❖ Collaboration around local government networks of PEMSEA, CTI-CFF and SSME
- ❖ Collaboration of CTI-CFF and WCPFC on tuna stock management
- ❖ More formal collaboration of northern EAS initiatives (NOWPAP, YSLME and parts of COBSEA and PEMSEA) on M&E systems development, building effective education programs for government and local stakeholders, sharing lessons on fisheries management in areas
- ❖ Strong link or merger between SSME and CTI-CFF
- ❖ Pick themes (such as topical TWGs – climate change, MPAs, ICM, fisheries, etc.) for collaboration





And then...

- ❖ Find new/ innovative and sustainable funding sources to adjust to reductions in donor funding
- ❖ Leverage education opportunities e.g. Fulbright scholarships and other fellowships
- ❖ Develop an “East Asian Seas brand” and link it with the private sector





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