

NBS Good Practices from Chinese government

May 2019

Monitoring and conservation of mangrove forest in coastal zones of South China Sea

1. Background

South China Sea is highly rich in ecosystem types such as mangrove, coral reef and seagrass. Ecosystem degradation and biodiversity reduction resulting from climate change and marine pollution are increasingly concerned in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASAN) and international community. The trans-boundary cooperation between China and ASAN countries in South China Sea is expected to help get a full picture of marine environmental change and marine biodiversity status, which is the fundamental to the study of the role of SCS in global climate change and the assessment, conservation and sustainable utilization of marine biological resources in SCS. National Marine Environmental Monitoring Center (NMEMC) attached to the Ministry of Ecology and Environment takes part in the ASAN cooperation project titled “South China Sea coastal ecosystem conservation and demonstration in the context of global change”, which is financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Matang mangrove forest is the biggest Mangrove forest patch in Peninsular Malaysia and has been in the stage of continuous degradation. Its monitoring and assessment is incumbent on NMEMC.

2. Time

From January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020

3. Implementation

Field survey and data collection

4. Parties involved

National marine environmental Monitoring Center, Minister of Ecology and environment, Universiti Sains Malaysia

5. Beneficiaries

It has provided basis for the policies of local government to protect Matang mangrove forest. Meanwhile it also provides basic data for scientific research.

6. Total Investments

700,000 CNY, 100% from China minister of foreign affairs.

7. Supporting Funds and Financial Composition

None.

8. Project hierarchy: Local, national, regional

Region

9. Mitigation and adaptation to the climate change

Matang mangrove forest, the biggest mangrove forest tract in Peninsular Malaysia, has an area of 400 Km², which, together with the high primary productivity of mangrove forest ecosystem, means the carbon fixation capacity of Mantang mangrove forest is very huge. However, human activity and climate change have degraded its function of fixing carbon and biodiversity conservation to some extents. The spatial planning and management of Mangrove forest conservation zones is expected to help improve and maintain its role in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

10. Social, economic and environmental impacts

It will be helpful to guide the protection of Matang mangrove forest, increase ocean carbon sinks and address environmental problems.

11. Pictures

