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Capacity Building on EBM/EBA

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UNEP Capacity Development on Marine & Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management and Adaptation in Regional Seas

Discussion Note for the 14th Global Meeting of RSCAP's

Synopsis

Responding to essential goals and commitments of countries and regions on good environmental status and sustainable development for dependent communities and societies, UNEP's EBM Capacity Development Programme assists Regional Seas Conventions & Action Plans develop and implement ecosystem-based management of oceans and coasts.

The EBM Programme works with national, regional and global partners to develop tools, guidance and customized solutions across Regional Seas – from tropical coasts to temperate estuaries and polar seas.

Thematic areas include integrated marine and coastal environment and resource management; ecosystem service valuation and trade-off evaluation; cross-sectoral spatial planning and management, for example zoning of marine protected areas and other uses; governance of effective and equitable MPA networks; Integrated Coastal Zone Management & climate change for ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA).

Capacity development activities include:

- Practical decision-support, planning and management tools
- Training, technical guidance and policy advice
- EBM demonstration activities
- Synthesis and sharing of good practices across Regional Seas

This Discussion Note briefly outlines the EBM programme strategy and invites Regional Seas Secretariats to review and provide guidance on regional priority issues, capacity needs, services and implementing modalities (summarized in §21). This includes an invitation for engagement and feedback on a proposed process to develop a knowledge-platform providing advice on marine and coastal spatial planning across Regional Seas, and synthesis of good practices on effective regional MPA networks for IMPAC3 [details in §19d and Annex 1 & 2].

Annex 1: Knowledge platform addressing CBD-SBSTA16 recommendation on capacity building on MSP; Annex 2: Proposal for Regional Seas Day on MPA Networks at the 3rd International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC3).

Rationale and program objectives

1. Healthy oceans and coasts provide wide-ranging social and economic benefits and ensure food-security for large populations. They are key to climate processes and provide essential climate change adaptation capacity. These ecosystem services are facing wide-spread decline largely due to increasing cumulative effects of human activities¹. The decline is exacerbated by current in-effective sector-by-sector approaches to marine and coastal management, whereby different human activities are addressed largely in isolation from one another. Linking sectors in truly integrated management efforts is becoming more and more imperative to achieving long-term sustainable ecosystem service delivery. A comprehensive focused effort is required to adopt integrated ecosystem-based management via practical cross-sector planning, management and policy instruments.
2. The Regional Seas Programme provides a global platform of regional, intergovernmental mechanisms for delivering environmental protection and sustainable management and development. They work towards common goals and objectives on maintaining healthy oceans and coasts as specified in Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. The Global Strategic

¹ Regional Seas Marine Biodiversity Assessment & Outlook Series, Global Synthesis (UNEP 2010)

Directions for the Regional Seas Programme 2008-2012², as well as the draft Strategic Direction 2013-2016, emphasize the adoption of ecosystem-based management approaches, implementation of the Manila Declaration (2012), and building relevant capacity here for.

3. UNEP's **Capacity Development Programme on Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management** (hereafter referred to as the '*EBM Programme*') was initiated in 2010 in response to the UNEP GC 2010 Decision on Oceans, as further articulated in UNEP's Marine & Coastal Strategy for implementation of UNEP's Medium Term Strategy 2010-13 on Ecosystem Management.
4. The **strategic goal** of the EBM Programme is to enable countries and regions develop and implement EBM principles as effective means to sustain healthy marine and coastal ecosystems and natural resources ensuring long-term food production and other ecosystem services for dependent communities and societies. The EBM Programme works with a sustainable development perspective - linking environmental, social and economic dimensions.
5. The EBM Programme focus on the essential link between ecosystem health and sustainable development articulated in the Rio+20 Outcome Document, 'The Future We Want'³, paragraph 4: "We also reaffirm the need to achieve sustainable development by ...promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports inter alia economic, social and human development while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration and restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges".
6. Ecosystem-based Management principles form the operational basis to deliver the new UN "Ocean Compact"⁴, an initiative to set out a strategic vision for the UN system to deliver on its ocean-related mandates, consistent with the Rio+20 outcome document, in a coherent and effective manner.
7. The EBM Programme supports countries and regions address the CBD Strategic plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020⁵ and a range of Aichi Biodiversity Targets, notably Target 6 on ecosystem-based management of fish and invertebrate stocks; Target 8 on coastal pollution; Target 10 on maintaining integrity and function of vulnerable ecosystems; and Target 11 on effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other areas-based management measures.
8. The programme also support countries implement the Rio Conventions – notably CBD-UNFCCC's evolving strategic focus on ecosystem-based adaptation.

Focus and approach

9. The EBM Programme serves to enhance national and regional capacities for EBM development and implementation across all Regional Seas – from tropical coastal ecosystems to temperate estuaries and polar seas.
10. The EBM Programme follows the four thematic streams of *UNEP's Marine & Coastal Strategy*⁶:
 - *Marine Ecosystems for Human Well Being* - Ecosystem services identified, assessed and valued to contribute to human well-being
 - *Land-Ocean Connections* - Clean, healthy & functioning ecosystems, integrated watershed-coastal-marine management

² UNEP(DEPI)/RS.9/6

³ <http://www.uncsd2012.org/thefuturewewant.html>

⁴ https://www.un.org/Depts/los/ocean_compact/oceans_compact.htm

⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-EN.pdf>

⁶ http://www.unep.org/ecosystemmanagement/Portals/7/Documents/UNEPs_Marine_&_Coastal_Strategy_Executive_Summary.pdf

- *Reconciling Use & Conservation* - Harmonizing marine resource use with conservation objectives via integrated responses
 - *Vulnerable People and Places* - Empowering local communities, SIDS, access & benefit sharing, vulnerable ecosystems, ecosystem adaptation
11. Ecosystem-based management is a holistic approach that takes into account the interactions within and among ecosystems; between land and sea; between humans and nature; and between uses of coastal resources and the ability of ecosystems to serve those uses. EBM centers around five core elements: (I) Recognizing connections within and across ecosystems; (II) Applying an ecosystem services perspective; (III) Understanding and addressing cumulative impacts; (IV) Managing for multiple objectives; and (V) Embracing change, learning, and adapting (UNEP 2011⁷).
- Key UNEP operating principles are: EBM includes people and promotes equity; EBM concerns all maritime sectors, not environment alone; One size doesn't fit all - in order for EBM to realize its full potential capacity needs to be built for context-specific planning and governance; There is no single 'correct' approach – there are many different paths toward EBM; EBM is incremental – it can develop gradually building on existing management structures and evolve from present approaches rather than reinventing them; ICZM, MPAs, fisheries management are all part of EBM (particularly when planned coherently); countries and regions are different and have different priority issues and incremental capacity needs.
12. The EBM Programme provides a coordinated capacity development platform across Regional Seas to advance sustainable development of oceans and coasts. Specific outputs include strengthened national and regional capacities for cross-sectoral EBM policy-formulation, development and implementation of integrated management plans for equitable environment and natural resource management. The Programme addresses critical ecosystem connections and upstream-downstream interactions. Particularly emphasis is placed on multiple-objective EBM planning across environment, fisheries, energy, transport, tourism and other relevant maritime sectors, emphasizing effective stakeholder participation for cohesive sustainable development.
13. By sustaining resilience of ecosystem and vulnerable communities, EBM is also a key vehicle to deliver ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) responses to climate change. The EBM Programme is addressing such aspects as an integral part of the capacity development approach.

Modalities of work

14. The EBM Programme works closely with Regional Seas Secretariats in planning, design, cost-sharing and coordination of EBM trainings, preparation and translation of regionally customized tools and guidance, design of demonstration activities, and collation and synthesis of practical experiences.
15. An interdisciplinary *EBM Advisory Group* of experts and Regional Seas representatives are proposed to provide regular advice and strategic direction on development of EBM capacity development activities, including evolving issues and regional priorities, and assist synthesis of regional experiences and good practices for global knowledge-sharing and learning. The *EBM Advisory Group* will also provide technical assistance in delivery of national and regional training, EBM demonstration projects and policy advice.
16. The EBM Programme collaborates with governments, agencies, national and regional organisations, academia, other UN agencies and NGOs to develop, coordinate and implement marine and coastal EBM capacity development activities and projects.

⁷ UNEP 2011: 'Taking Steps Toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management – An Introductory Guide' (http://www.unep.org/pdf/EBM_Manual_r15_Final_high.pdf).

17. Internally in UNEP, the EBM Programme is anchored within DEPI/FMEB Marine & Coastal Ecosystems Unit and coordinated closely with other marine and coastal activities, including the Regional Seas Programme, GPA, the EARS indicator initiative; Island Ecosystem initiative; Coral Reef Partnership; Regular Process; and the Blue Carbon initiative. It works closely with UNEP/DEPI Climate Change Adaptation Unit on Ecosystem-based Adaptation and with DEPI/FMEB Freshwater Ecosystems Unit on integrated coastal catchment management.

Capacity development activities

18. As regional priorities and needs vary, feedback and guidance are sought from Regional Seas Secretariats on priority activities and recommended foci of the EBM Capacity Development Programme. It currently covers four mutually-supporting areas enabling decision-makers, planners and practitioners develop and implement ecosystem-based management plans and interventions. These are:

- a. **Practical decision-support, planning and management tools** – Focus areas include development of spatial trade-off analyses and spatial planning and zoning of human uses in coastal and marine areas; participatory approaches to effective and equitable MPA governance combining top-down, bottom-up and market-based approaches, multiple-use MPAs embedded in wider marine and coastal spatial planning, and coastal ecosystem-based adaptation planning.

Examples of evolving tools are: (i) Ecosystem-based Adaptation – Decision Support Framework; (ii) Resilience Mapping for Marine Spatial Planning.

- b. **Training, guidance and policy advice** – Training and guidance is provided to enhance in-country capacity for policy formulation and design and implementation of cross-sectoral management responses. Activities include including regional training of national planners, advice and mentoring, technical support in assessment and science-policy interfacing under the Regular Process, ecosystem service evaluation, scenario-building, formulation of multi-objective policies, target-setting and management planning.

Recent guidance resources and training courses include: (i) “*Taking Step Towards Marine and Coastal EBM – An Introductory Guide*” (UNEP 2011) [available in English – forthcoming in Spanish, French, Arabic]; (ii) “*Governing MPAs– Getting the Balance Right* (UNEP 2011); (iii) Regional EBM courses, incl. design of EBM demonstration projects; (v) Technical support to SIDA-COBSEA Coastal Spatial Planning; (iv) Regional workshops on Regular Process methodologies.

- c. **EBM demonstration activities** – Working through Regional Seas Programmes with governments and relevant stakeholders to develop practical scenario-building using available assessment information and preparation of integrated management plans. This include MPA-network design through multi-objective spatial planning identifying and reconciling objectives and performance criteria of competing sectoral uses of ecosystem services. This is approached through an adaptive cycle of ecosystem valuation; culturally appropriate processes of community involvement, a cyclic process of evaluation of achievements against objectives and review of implementation arrangements resolving cumulative and interactive human impacts.

Recent/ongoing activities include: (i) EBM framework in Papua New Guinea; (ii) LifeWeb Marine Corridor project in Caribbean and East Pacific, Mangrove protected areas in Guinea Bissau and MPA-network for turtles in West Africa; (iii) Management Plan for Silverbank Humpback Sanctuary, Dominican Republic; (iv) Ecosystem-service valuation in Southeast Pacific, (v) EBA Cost-benefit Analysis, Fiji.

- d. **Synthesis of good practice, regional knowledge-sharing and learning** – An import, yet currently slightly under-utilised feature of the Regional Seas network, is its potential to

collate and review good (and bad) marine & coastal management experiences, and share good EBM practices through south-south and north-south knowledge-sharing, learning exchanges and peer network-building. This include cross-sectoral knowledge-exchanges linking decision-makers across resort ministries, sector agencies across Regional Seas through a global EBM partnership mechanism. The EBM Programme has as a core priority to further evolve such aspects in collaboration with Regional Seas Secretariats. Examples of recent south-south exchanges includes: regional EBM training workshop between Red Sea – Arabian Sea, and a large inter-regional workshop on marine corridors engaging national planners and experts across Caribbean and East Pacific.

*NOTE: A new activity proposed by the EBM Programme is a coordinated effort to collate and review regional experiences and good practices on effective and equitable MPA network design and marine spatial planning systems. A review process is proposed for consideration by Regional Seas Secretariats, including a knowledge-platform on good practices is outlined in **Annex 1**, and preparation of a One-day Session on MPA networks in Regional Seas at the forthcoming 3rd International MPA Congress (IMPAC3) in **Annex 2**.*

Question: From above 'menu' of EBM capacity development services, which type of activities is regarded of specific interest and high priority to Parties of RSCAPs?

EBM thematic areas

19. Feedback and guidance are also sought from Regional Seas Secretariats on priority issues, capacity needs and future thematic areas that could be addressed by the EBM Programme. Ongoing and evolving working areas include the following, with additional areas to be identified:
 - a. **Marine spatial planning: Focus 1:** Development of a practical tool for mapping coral reef resilience to climate change to guide marine spatial planning for ecosystem-based adaption; **Focus 2:** Collaboration with CBD Sec and other partners to collate and synthesize national and regional experiences from RSCAPs on marine spatial planning to develop guidance and policy advice on MSP as a means to implement ecosystem-based management, incl. future demonstration projects and training activities. The effort will address *CBD-SBSTTA16 Rec. XVI/6 (Annex 1)* by reviewing practical experience and use of marine spatial planning to facilitate cross-sectoral efforts for integrated management, incl. design and establishment of marine protected areas and other area-based management efforts.
 - b. **Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Focus 1:** MPA Governance. Development of guidance to assist countries develop more holistic, effective and long-term sustainable MPAs. This include a recent study, 'Governing Marine Protected Areas– Getting the Balance Right'⁸, which in turn has led to development of a MPA governance framework to assist planners and practitioners combining top-down, bottom-up and market approaches in design of effective and equitable governance of MPAs in different context. Future testing and demonstration of the framework is proposed across Regional Seas. **Focus 2:** MPA and fisheries. Development of guidance on using MPAs as a fisheries management tool⁹in collaboration with FAO, including pursuing compatible objectives between conservation and fisheries via holistic marine spatial planning and zoning of area-based measures. **Focus 3:** A related line of work aims to further evolve and build national capacity for development of networks of coastal 'fish refugia' aiming at protecting biodiversity and essential fish habitats (e.g. mangroves, seagrass beds, estuaries, coral reefs) underpinning fish-stock recruitment as prerequisite for food-security of tropical coastal communities. **Focus 4:** Marine Corridors. UNEP is currently implementing a set of MPA network demonstration projects in West

⁸ "Governing MPAs – Getting the Balance Right", Technical Report, UNEP 2011 (www.mpag.info).

⁹ The role of MPAs in Reconciling Fisheries Management with Conservation of Biological Diversity (Ocean & Coastal Management, In press).

Africa, Caribbean and East Pacific, including innovative approaches to management of long-distance migration corridors and essential habitats of large marine mammals.

- c. **Island Ecosystem Management:** UNEP has initiated an effort on EBM in SIDS to address the needs for island specific ecosystem management approaches. This includes valuating of ecosystem services and trade-off analysis to guide holistic island ecosystem management across Regional Seas. Based on previous/ ongoing activities, including integrated coastal area and river-basin management (ICARM) and integrated water resources management in SIDS. It covers: 1: Guidance document and good practice case studies on island ecosystem management approach, 2: Pilot application of guidance to selected sites; 3: Collation and dissemination of experiences, replication of good practices across SIDS.
- d. **Biodiversity and Sustainable fisheries:** UNEP is working with CBD Sec, FAO, IUCN and other partners to address biodiversity concerns in sustainable fisheries. This include e.g. preparation of technical advice reviewing and synthesizing current knowledge and possible ways forward to address effects of fisheries¹⁰, incl. recommendations on policy-making and management aiming at the mitigation, reduction and, where possible, elimination of impacts of fisheries on biodiversity and habitats. Future planned activities may include review of impacts of fisheries on biodiversity and ecosystems in Regional Seas, and collaboration with RFMO's on development of management and governance systems to reduce fisheries impacts on biodiversity.
- e. **Ecosystem-based Adaptation Decision Support:** The EBM Programme assist countries develop effective ecosystem-based adaptation responses through new decision-tools, guidance, training and demonstration activities building resilience of ecosystems and dependent communities to climate change. An Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Decision-Support Framework (EBA-DSF)¹¹ is in development to assist planners and decision-makers select, design, implement and track EBA measures. Future steps include testing by national planners and practitioners in a pilot projects and development of a training package to support future national NAP implementation. Evolving pilot projects include coastal EBA in SIDS and a EBA-DSF for tropical coastal areas. Other evolving EBA work includes a new tool for coral reef resilience mapping for marine spatial planning.
- f. **Integrated Community Based Adaptation (CBA) – Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA):** New effort to develop guidance on practical integration of EBA and CBA, particularly emphasizing participatory adaptation planning. Aim is to stimulate longer-term innovation of CBA-EBA solutions through interdisciplinary discussions, outlining avenues and evidence-based program practices for integrated EBA-CBA; identify strategic initiatives for demonstrating EBA-CBA interventions in practice, including participatory vulnerability assessment and M&E; and advance integrated CBA-EBA programming and policies.
- g. **Other EBM disciplines:** A range of other thematic areas and disciplines enabling planning and implementation of EBM could be addressed by the EBM Programme, some of which are listed in Figure 1. Guidance is sought from Regional Seas Focal Points on specific capacity gaps and priority needs.

¹⁰ UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/6

¹¹ 'EBA Guidance – Moving From Principles to Practice' (Working Document, UNEP 2012)
<http://www.unep.org/climatechange/adaptation/Default.aspx>

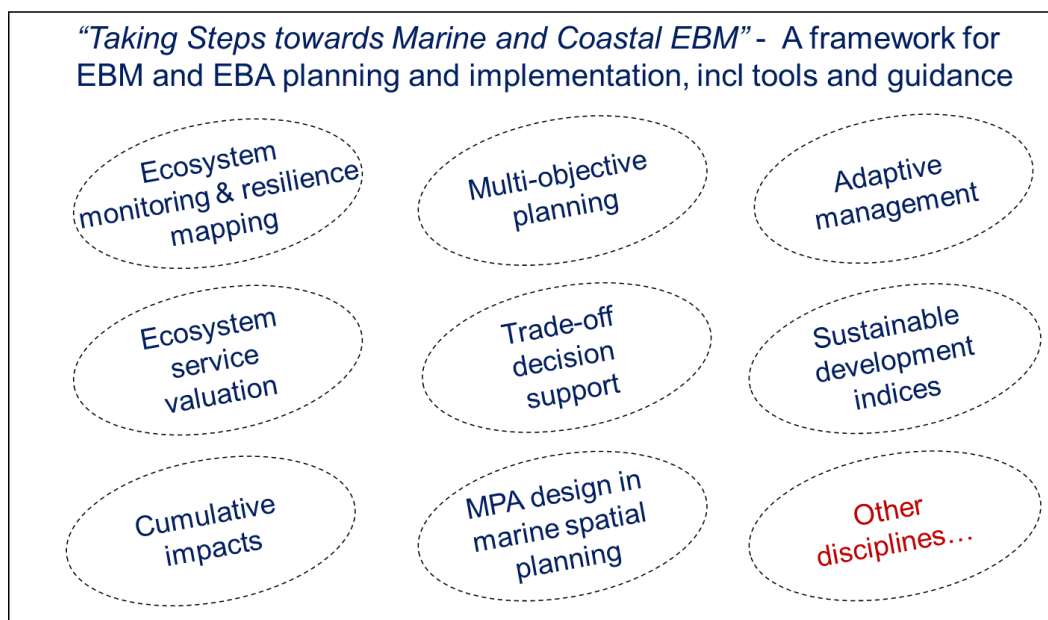


Figure 1: Examples of current and future components of the EBM Capacity Development Programme

Potential deliverables 2013-2016

20. Feedback and guidance are sought from Regional Seas Secretariats on working priorities and deliverables under the RSP Strategic Direction 2013-2016. Tentative suggestions are:

- Development of partnership to support and implement EBM capacity development for Sustainable Development of Oceans and Coast across Regional Seas (2013-2014).
- Establishment of south-south and north-south learning mechanism for good practice and knowledge-sharing on marine and coastal EBM (2013-15).
- Development of EBM tools, for example objective identification, trade-off analysis and spatial planning decision-support tools and associated guidance (2013-15).
- National/regional training courses, technical support, demonstration activities (on trade-off analysis and multi-objective spatial planning scenarios) and cross-sectoral consultations in three regions involving at least 15 countries (2014-16).
- Draft management and implementation plans and policies with cross-sectoral objectives and targets for integrated coastal and marine area-based management and governance in X? number of countries, and Policy Briefs with synthesis of good practice for global dissemination (2014-2016).

Considerations for RS14

21. Regional Seas Secretariats are invited to provide feedback, insight and future direction on regional priorities, EBM development needs, and recommendations on how UNEP can best assist? Questions include, but are limited to:

- a. What are the key regional environmental issues, - can EBM resolve them?

- b. What are currently key barriers to applying EBM? How can UNEP EBM Capacity Development Programme best assist Regional Seas take incremental steps toward ecosystem-based management?
- c. What are specific regional capacity development needs? – What tools, policy advice, training, demonstration projects are most needed? What thematic areas or disciplines should be addressed by the EBM Programme?
- d. What would be effective mechanisms for collating and synthesizing practical experiences and good practices from Regional Seas on marine and coastal EBM and practical modalities for south-south and north-south knowledge-sharing and learning?
- e. What could be potential avenues for financial resources or in-kind support in regions to co-share EBM capacity development activities?

Draft recommendations for discussion

- 22. Regional Seas Secretariats are invited to review the EBM Capacity Development Programme strategy herein and to collaborate with UNEP to further evolve and expand the Programme to address regional priority issues and fill capacity gaps identified by Regional Seas Coordinators and focal points.
- 23. UNEP and Regional Seas Secretariats will work together in identifying resources for developing and implementing specific activities of the EBM Capacity Development Programme, including tools, guidance, demonstration projects, and good practice knowledge-sharing. To this end, UNEP will provide technical and co-financial support towards implementation of joint regional capacity development and demonstration activities.
- 24. UNEP and Regional Seas Secretariats will work together to collate experiences and synthesize good practices on the application of marine spatial planning in planning and implementation of effective and equitable MPA networks to be disseminated via new online knowledge-system (addressing, amongst others, CBD/SBSTTA 16 Recommendation XVI/6, see further Annex 1).
- 25. UNEP and Regional Seas Secretariats will work together to organize and provide substantial input to a Regional Seas Day addressing regional MPA-networks at the 3rd International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC3) to be held 21-27 October 2013, Marseille.

Annex 1: Global synthesis of good practices on MSP and MPAs

Scope: Outline of process for review and synthesis of good practices on marine spatial planning and MPAs development across Regional Seas for south-south and north-south knowledge-sharing and learning.

Rationale: An essential element of UNEP's EBM Capacity Development Programme is collation of practical experiences and synthesis good practice for knowledge-sharing and learning across Regional Sea. To this end, UNEP invites all interested Regional Seas Secretariats to engage in a small process to collate practical experiences on application of marine spatial planning and MPAs in different ecosystem, management and policy context. The effort will include a MSP capacity building needs assessment, a tool gap analysis and recommendations on establishment of simple online knowledge-portal.

The outputs will inform future Regional Sea EBM capacity development activities. It also directly contributes to addressing a recent CBD-SBSTTA16 recommendation¹² (See Annex 1A below) inviting Parties to:

- a. Develop a web-based database/information-sharing system linking existing information sources on the web;
- b. Compile experience on use of marine spatial planning practices, particularly those in support of achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 6, 8, 10 and 11;
- c. Develop practical guidance for applying marine spatial planning, incl. application of the ecosystem approach to the implementation of integrated marine and coastal management; design, establishment and management of marine protected areas and other area-based management efforts;

UNEP invites for initial feedback and guidance from Regional Seas Secretariats on potential interest and engagement in such UNEP-led efforts to run for six-twelve month during 2013. This could include identification of regional resource persons, relevant sources of information, but also direct active engagement of RS Secretariats in collation of experience and synthesis of good practices from their respective Regional Seas are highly welcomed.

An international review and synthesis workshop is in planning tentatively in or Jan-Feb 2013. The outputs will also inform the Regional Seas MPA Network Day in preparation for IMPAC3 (described in Annex 2).

Some questions for consideration by RS14 on good-practice synthesis and knowledge sharing:

- What practical examples and experiences on MSP are available in Regional Seas for synthesis of global good practice? What are key information sources and/or existing web-based info?
- What regional examples/experiences are available on zoning of MPAs within comprehensive MSP? Example of comprehensive regional MPA-network development?
- What would be a good mechanism to synthesize good practices on MSP? What would be the most effective engagement of RSP Secretariats, countries or other partners to contribute to such process? Could an informal Working Group to review and synthesize good practices be useful?
- What would be useful knowledge products / guidance resources on good practices on MSP and MPA-networks development?

¹² <http://www.cbd.int/recommendations/?id=13055>

Annex 1A

RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AT ITS SIXTEENTH MEETING

*XVI/6*¹³ **Marine biodiversity: marine spatial planning and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas**

Marine spatial planning

5. *Welcomes* the synthesis document on the experience and use of marine spatial planning, as contained in the document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/18, and *takes note* of the key messages contained in the present document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/7);

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of financial resources and human resources at the Secretariat, to collaborate with Parties, other Governments and organizations, such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-STAP) and other relevant organizations:

(a) **To develop a web-based database/information-sharing system linking existing information sources¹⁴ on the web;**

(b) To continue to **compile the experience and use of marine spatial planning practices, particularly those in support of achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 6, 8, 10 and 11**, and make the compiled information available to Parties, other Governments and organizations;

(c) **To develop practical guidance and a toolkit for applying marine spatial planning**, building upon existing guidelines through convening an expert workshop, in order to complement and further enhance the existing efforts of Parties and other Governments on **the application of the ecosystem approach to the implementation of integrated marine and coastal management; design, establishment and management of marine protected areas**; identification of ecologically or biologically significant areas, and other area-based management efforts;

(d) To organize training workshops in close linkage to existing capacity-building efforts on marine protected areas¹⁵ and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas,¹⁶ in order to increase the capacity of Parties, especially developing country Parties, in their **application of marine spatial planning as a tool to enhance existing efforts on integrated marine and coastal area management, marine protected areas**, ecologically and biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs), and other marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable-use practices.

¹³ <http://www.cbd.int/recommendations/?id=13055>

¹⁴ e. g. IOC/UNESCO webpage on marine spatial planning: (http://www.unesco-ioc-marinesp.be/marine_spatial_planning_msp)

¹⁵ e.g. UNDOALOS training manual on marine protected areas.

¹⁶ e.g. EBSA training manuals and modules prepared by Executive Secretary.

Annex 2: Overview of IMPAC3 Regional Seas MPA-network Day and discussion of process for RSP engagement and contributions

Scope: The 3rd International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC3) will be held on 21-27 October 2013 in Marseilles, France. A dedicated day is proposed by the IMPAC3 Steering Committee to address issues related to regional MPA networks. UNEP and Regional Seas are invited to organise this specific one-day session. UNEP/FMEB has started sketching out a tentative structure for the proposed MPA network day and welcome feedback and collaboration with Regional Seas Secretariats in defining content, format. We also invite direct engagement of Regional Seas Parties and experts in the process, including participation in IMPAC3. A small informal coordination group involving UNEP/FMEB and Regional Seas Secretariats is proposed to coordinate input and organize the IMPAC3 session.

Mr. Christophe Lefebvre, Director, French MPA Agency, will be attending RS14 and provide an overview of IMPAC3 and engage in further discussions.

Background information:

- IMPAC3 overview, see page 12
- Draft programme for RSP MPA-Network Day at IMPAC3 (Annex 2A, page 13)

Questions for consideration by RS14 in preparation of IMPAC3:

- How can Regional Seas Secretariats and countries best contribute to preparation of the Regional Seas MPA Network Day?
- What are key issues that should be addressed in the RSP MPA-Network day at IMPAC3?
- Possible feedback and guidance on draft programme listed in Annex 2A?

For example: could regional MPA targets be set to contribute to delivery of the global Aichi Target 11? What would be a useful process to facilitate such regional MPA target setting? How could Regional Seas assist countries meet such regional MPA targets – Protocol? Actions Plans? Network?

- What ongoing work and experiences of Regional Seas can contribute to addressing the higher-level policy objectives of IMPAC3? How can the MPA Network Day advance relevant learning and good practices?
- Is there interest in joining a small informal coordination group to work with UNEP Marine & Coastal Ecosystem Unit in Nairobi to organize the IMPAC3 session? In what way are RSP Secretariats planning to contribute to (and possibly attend) IMPAC3?

IMPAC 3: “the right time to assess the progress made and to prepare our future objectives”

IMPAC 3 will deliver a new vision and new tools to achieve the 2020 objectives by:

Developing networks at regional and global level with stakeholders, maritime users and decision-makers in order to involve them more effectively in marine protected area management and governance;

Developing twinning/sister sanctuary and transboundary relationships in order to better protect shared resources;

Developing methodological tools and processes **for good management** certification, resources to be used and for MPA management costs, using pilot sites and regions as testing grounds; Fostering the new MPA Agency Partnership and helping further define its objectives in the larger MPA arena;

Fostering with new guidance the involvement of regional authorities, local government, and port cities, local stakeholders and general public to ensure the protection and integrated management of coastal, marine and island areas;

Drawing a roadmap for implementing international and regional marine environment objectives following the Rio+20 Summit;

Promoting new partnerships with the private, corporate, and NGO sectors, and development of projects supported by donors

Encouraging communication and exchange between stakeholders, maritime users and decision-makers

Congress themes

Sessions on oceans and regional seas will focus on the following themes (non exhaustive list):

- Ocean and regional seas governance
- Services provided by the large marine protected areas
- Climate change and ocean acidification
- Regional marine protected area network strategies and policies
- Regional action on marine protected areas
- Marine protected areas not under national jurisdictions
- Marine strategic planning
- International designations (e.g. RAMSAR and UNESCO)

Technical workshop themes to include:

- MPA biodiversity evaluation and monitoring
- MPA governance
- Ecosystem-based adaptive management
- Integrated management of coastal zone marine island sites
- Effectiveness of legal instruments
- Effectiveness of management tools
- MPA certification and labelling by MPA category
- Artificialization and / or restoration of marine habitats
- Coherence and resilience of MPA networks
- Integrated fishery management – Mariculture – Maritime transport – Marine energies – Non-renewable resource usage – Tourism
- MPA funding

Source: <http://www.aires-marines.com/Events/International-Marine-Protected-Area-Congress>

Annex 2A: Draft programme for UNEP-led Regional Seas Day on MPA Networks at IMPAC3

Suggested format for the day

- A. Plenary –Keynotes:
 - a. Role of Multiple-use MPAs for Sustainable Development.
 - b. Regional MPA Networks – Challenges and Opportunities?
 - c. Setting the scene for regional workshops and Roundtable
 - B. Break out groups by regions including SIDS grouping – to discuss network question, targets and monitoring
 - C. Reporting back by groups
 - D. Breakout groups into the 4 tool panels
 - E. Plenary/Roundtable
- Overall Outcome for the Day – Summary Recommendations

Key issues:

- 1. Strengthening and expanding the regional networks for MPAs**
 - a. What are the current operating networks – FIBA, MEDPAN, CARIPAN, CTI, others
 - b. How can Regional Seas assist existing networks and where there are gaps fill in those gaps
 - c. Input – analysis of the gaps in networks, along with analysis of mandate or role/level of activity/capacity to meet mandate or role, recommendations to fill the gap
 - d. Output – priority activities to fill the gap – global/regional initiatives
- 2. Role of Regional Seas in setting regional biodiversity targets (linked in relation to the Aichi targets)**
 - a. What are the regional targets
 - b. How are they being met
 - c. How can Regional Seas help countries to meet the targets – Protocol? Actions Plans?, Network?
 - d. Input – Regional target examples, e.g. Mediterranean
 - e. Output – Necessary action from the Regional Seas to set and meet regional targets
- 3. Regional Monitoring of MPAs**
 - a. What needs to be monitored – effective MPA management, not just targets on area coverage
 - b. Do the IUCN guidelines on measuring MPA performance work? If not why not? What other guidance might be needed?
 - c. Input – collation of available tools and an analyses of their utility
 - d. Output – recommended guidelines for Regional Seas to use in monitoring MPA management
- 4. Tools**
 - a. What regional tools and guidelines and good practices are working or need developing? Planning and management, MPA governance, Monitoring & Evaluation tools – SOE reporting (link to Regular Process?)
 - b. Specific tools – MSP/Cross-sectoral cooperation, multiple-use MPAs, FAO MPA Guidelines - where does this work, why and what else is needed
 - c. Green Economies – role of MPAs including fish refugia
 - d. Emerging issues – climate change and ecosystem-based adaptation– turtle network, corridors
 - e. Input – list of available tools
 - f. Output – need based