



# **11<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans**



Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand  
5-8 October 2009



# Overview

- I. UNEP Marine and Coastal Strategy
- II. Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas
- III. Securing resources
- IV. Role of the MCEB



# UNEP Marine and Coastal Strategy

- **Land-Ocean Connections**  
*clean, healthy & functioning ecosystems*
- **Marine Ecosystems for Human Well Being**  
*ecosystem services identified, assessed and valued to contribute to human well-being*
- **Reconciling Resource Use & Marine Conservation**  
*harmonizing marine resource use with conservation objectives*
- **Vulnerable People Vulnerable Places**  
*empowering vulnerable people to access the benefits of marine ecosystem services*



## Land Ocean Connections

- Further support to implementing GPA - National Action Plans (NAPs) and protocols
- Wastewater – infrastructure and financing
- Nutrient Partnership – reduce nutrient loading
- PADH – rebuild ecosystems to contribute to biodiversity concerns at population, species and ecosystem level



# Ecosystem Management

- Capacity building in EM customized to regions
  - Targeting specific audiences, e.g. permanent secretaries, managers, park managers
- Provide technical support to countries and regions to meet global marine & coastal biodiversity targets
- Develop common frameworks for defining and valuing essential habitats and their services to enable coherent priority setting in coastal planning



## Reconciling Resource Use & Conservation

- Tools and frameworks for operationalizing ecosystem management
  - Spatial planning, trade-off analyses – biodiversity conservation and fisheries
- Capacity building customized to regions
  - Targeting specific audiences, e.g. permanent secretaries, managers, park managers
- Marine Protected Area – governance and equity



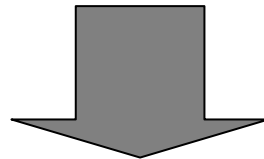
# Vulnerable People & Places

- UNEP-wide SIDS specific PoW
- Ecosystem Resilience – key habitats and species (e.g. coral reefs)
- Disaster Preparedness
- Climate change vulnerability
- Climate change & cities
- Engagement in the Coral Triangle Initiative



# Complementation to PoW of the Regional Seas

Land-Ocean Connections  
Marine Ecosystems for Human Well Being  
Reconciling Resource Use & Marine Conservation  
Vulnerable People Vulnerable Places



Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans  
Programme of Work





# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

- I.** Scientific Component
- II.** Institutional and Governance
- III.** Communications
- IV.** Mainstreaming – Economic valuation of marine ecosystems



# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

## I. Scientific Component

- *Collaboration with scientific programmes related to marine and coastal environment*
- *Development of monitoring and assessment networks in coordination with the AoA*
- *Collaboration with MEAs i.e. CMS Scientific Council on Biodiversity*
- *Operational guidelines on strengthening scientifically credible data and assessments to the work of RSPs*
- *Regional Biodiversity Assessments*



# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

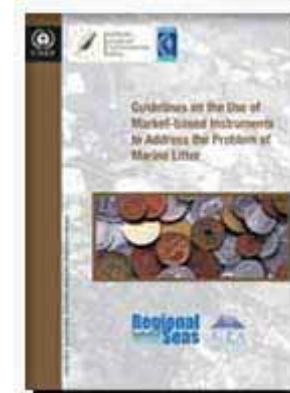
## II. Institutional and Governance

- *Enhance legal components – drafting and revision protocols*
- *Domestication of RSP Conventions and Action Plans into national legislation and policies.*
- *Harmonization of Regional Activity Centers*
- *Financial procedures and sustainable finance*



# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

- II. Institutional and Governance – Financing
- *Linkages to GEF International Waters and Biodiversity – **Capacity building** i.e. World Oceans Conference, May 2009*
  - *Increasing finances of Secretariats – developing a Regional Seas **resource mobilization strategy** with regional flexibility*
  - *Exploring the applicability of **market-based instruments** to the work of the Regional Seas i.e. MPAs*





# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

## III. Communications

- *Regional Seas Communications Task Force*
  - *Development of policy papers and rapid assessments on emerging issues*
- *Regional Seas X-Change Platform*
- *Dissemination of regular reports on the state of the marine environment*
- *RSP bi-annual report*



# Strengthening Programme for the Regional Seas

- IV. Mainstreaming - Marine Economic Valuation
- *Economic valuation of regional marine ecosystems - linked to policy making decisions*



## Resources

- Internal UNEP
- Sida – Marine and Coastal Strategy
- Norway
- Spain – Life-web



# Role of UNEP/MCEB

- I. Tackling emerging issues
  - Blue carbon
  - Ecosystem-based management in the Regional Seas
  - Ecosystem-based adaptation
  - Environmental aspects of high seas / ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSA)
- II. High-level engagement and political support
  - Large Marine Ecosystems Commissions
  - Country relations
- III. Raising “brand” and visibility of Regional Seas Alliance
- IV. Global partnerships
  - Regional workshops with MEAs, civil society, private sector
  - Guidelines of collaborating with MEAs / Strategic Plan for collaboration?
  - Joint Programming between MEAs and RSPs?