

## Virtual Workshop: Draft Findings of the MCSP Policy Review in the context of COBSEA's Strategic Directions 2018-2022

COBSEA's Strategic Directions 2018-2022, adopted by the Intergovernmental meeting in 2018, identifies measures to strengthen ecosystem-based marine and coastal spatial planning (MCSP). COBSEA is collaborating with Blue Solutions Initiative<sup>1</sup> to advance MCSP in the East Asian Seas Region by building capacity and supporting development of a conducive policy environment. For further information see concept note on Regional Training and Knowledge Exchange on Marine and Coastal Spatial Planning, circulated on 3 April 2020. Technical and financial input from UNEP towards the efforts are provided through the Swedish-funded Sustainable Blue Economy Initiative.

A desk review of national and regional legal and policy frameworks is being undertaken by two consultants with the assistance of nominated national experts. The review will identify recommendations on enabling conditions for wider use of MCSP in marine and coastal ecosystem-based management and development, as mandated by COBSEA Strategic Directions 2018-2022. The review may be used by COBSEA countries to inform development and implementation of actions addressing MCSP. Findings of the review will be conveyed to the 25<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental meeting of COBSEA for consideration.

A virtual workshop will be held to share draft findings of the study, invite input to support its finalization, and exchange views on possible future efforts to address MCSP through COBSEA.

The virtual workshop will take place **Thursday 20 May 14.00-16.00 ICT**.

The draft study report will be shared with COBSEA countries by 3 May 2021. Comments in writing are requested by Friday 21 May 2021. COBSEA countries are invited to provide brief presentations of c 3 - 5 minutes during the virtual workshop, including views on the draft study report as well as views on possible future actions through COBSEA.

Please register for the virtual workshop via email by 19 May 2021 to Ms. Krittika Kleesuwan ([Kleesuwan.unescap@un.org](mailto:Kleesuwan.unescap@un.org)) copying Ms. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren ([Katrin.holmgren@un.org](mailto:Katrin.holmgren@un.org)). A meeting link will be sent to registered participants. Kindly submit presentation files ahead of the workshop to Ms. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren.

### *Proposed programme*

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
14:00	Welcome and opening remarks	Interim COBSEA Coordinator
14.05	Presentation of Blue Solutions Initiative	Representative from Blue Solutions
14.10	Presentation of draft MCSP policy review	Consultants
14.30	Input from COBSEA countries (3-5 min per country)	Representatives from COBSEA countries
15.30	Discussion including suggested follow-up	
15.55	Summary and closing	Interim COBSEA Coordinator

<sup>1</sup> Blue Solutions Initiative is a partnership between UNEP, GIZ, GRID-Arendal and IUCN funded by the International Climate Initiative of the German Ministry of Environment