



Webinar on National Consultations on Marine Litter Monitoring

04 April 2022



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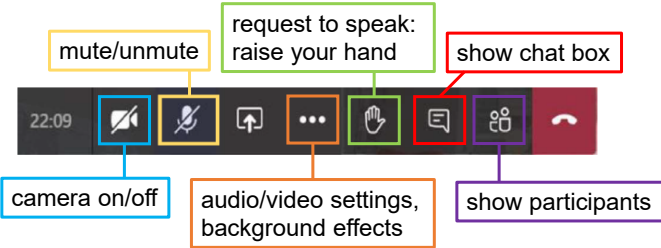
USING MS TEAMS

Stay muted with your camera off when you are not speaking

Raise your hand to request to speak

When you speak, turn on camera, unmute, please state your name, country / organization

For questions, please use the chat box or raise your hand



22:09

mute/unmute



request to speak: raise your hand

show chat box

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OVERVIEW

Denise Hardesty &
Lauren Roman

Commonwealth
Scientific and
Industrial Research
Organisation (CSIRO)



- 01** Introduction and background
- 02** Objectives of this project
 - Activity 1 – Technical assistance for developing harmonized national marine litter monitoring programmes;
 - Activity 2 – Capacity building on marine litter monitoring;
 - Activity 3 – Establishing national baselines on marine litter;
 - Activity 4 – Informing regional assessment of marine litter status and trends.
- 03** Timeline
- 04** Expected outputs
- 05** Feedback
- 06** Summary and next steps

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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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RAP MALI knowledge on types, sources, amounts, status and trends, impacts of marine litter is needed to address marine litter

WGML (Jun 20, 2020) recommended actions



- a** Inventorize existing marine litter monitoring efforts
- b** Establish a Marine Litter Monitoring Expert Group under WGML
- c** Establish common objectives for marine litter monitoring
- d** Identify common indicators, recommend methods, data standards
- e** Capacity building

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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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Technical consultations of the COBSEA WGML on 23-25 June 2020 identified steps towards harmonized marine litter monitoring, in line with the RAP MALI:

Step	Status
Establish an inventory of existing marine litter monitoring efforts	Completed
Establish a Marine Litter Monitoring Expert Group under COBSEA WGML	Completed
Establish common objectives for marine litter monitoring in the context of COBSEA RAP MALI	Completed
Identify proposed common indicators, recommended methods and data standards	Ongoing
Capacity building	Ongoing



Several COBSEA participating countries have expressed their strong interest and need to establish a marine debris monitoring program within their jurisdictions, which is harmonised with those programs in other jurisdictions.

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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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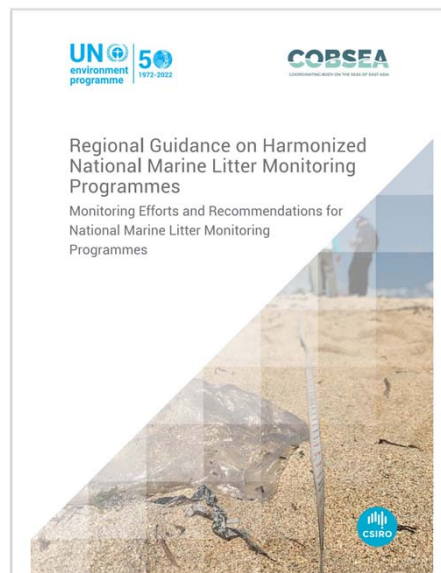
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REGIONAL GUIDANCE

This document provides Regional Guidance on Harmonized National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes to strengthen and harmonize marine litter monitoring efforts toward preventing and reducing marine litter and its impacts, in line with the COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI). The review responds to the needs identified by COBSEA participating countries, incorporates country contributions, and builds on existing capacities and priorities, to promote data comparability and align efforts at regional and global level. The document was prepared by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and the COBSEA Secretariat, in close consultation with COBSEA participating countries and with guidance from the COBSEA Working Group on Marine Litter.

Weblink: [Resources | Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia \(COBSEA\) \(unep.org\)](#)



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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND (RECOMMENDATIONS)

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Recap of recommendations. Initial recommendations.

Table 1 Survey design in multijurisdictional global marine litter monitoring programmes



SURVEY DESIGN	OCEAN CONSERVANCY INTERNATIONAL COAST CLEANUP (ICC)	PROJECT AWARE DIVE AGAINST DEBRIS	NOAA STANDING STOCK SURVEYS	CSIRO GLOBAL PLASTIC LEAKAGE BASELINE PROJECT
Stratification of sites	NO	NO	NO	YES
Randomisation of site location	NO	NO	NO	YES
Replication within sites	NO	NO	YES	YES
Stratification within sites	NO	NO	NO	YES
Randomization within sites	NO	NO	YES	YES
Control of survey effort	NO	NO	YES	YES
Control of detection probability	NO	NO	YES	YES

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INTRODUCTION &
BACKGROUND
(RECOMMENDATIONS)


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Five tenets for designing national and regional scale marine litter monitoring programmes (e.g. establishing baselines and monitoring changes through time):

- Clearly delineated and repeatable methods;
- Quantification and reporting findings in a way that is harmonised with other surveys and uses policy-relevant categories, as best possible;
- Representative capture of variation within each habitat to avoid sampling bias;
- Account for/report sampling/data collection effort;
- Ensure appropriate representation of habitats.





UN @ 50
COBSEA
Regional Guidance on Harmonized National Marine Litter Monitoring
Monitoring Efforts and Recommendations for National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes

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INTRODUCTION &
BACKGROUND
(RECOMMENDATIONS)

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- Increase surveys that involve biota, consider using biota as indicators of ecosystem health;
- Consider opportunities wildlife sampling to increase above, though know there are some biases/limitations here as well;
- Adopt/expand programs already operating in the region that meet the five criteria on previous slide;
- Ensure high quality data capture and consistent reporting.



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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the COBSEA Secretariat with funding support from the Government of Sweden are jointly implementing the project:

'Reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in South-East Asia' (SEA circular).

- SEA circular project contributes directly to achieving the COBSEA RAP MALI and COBSEA Strategic Directions 2018-2022.
- CSIRO to map monitoring efforts in the region and prepare Regional Guidance on Harmonized National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes in the East Asian Seas for discussion in the WGML and consideration by the IGM 25 of COBSEA.
- The Regional Guidance will be formally launched by COBSEA in April, 2022.
- Building on the Regional Guidance document (adopted during first part of the IGM 25), SEA circular project is providing technical assistance to COBSEA member countries on marine litter monitoring toward developing and strengthening harmonized marine litter monitoring programmes in the target countries.



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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

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Lauren Roman

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Objectives of this project

Activity 1 – Provide technical assistance for developing harmonized national marine litter monitoring programmes;

Activity 2– Support capacity building on marine litter monitoring;

Activity 3– Establish national baselines on marine litter;

Activity 4– Inform regional assessments of marine litter status and trends.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

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Activity 1. Provide technical assistance for developing harmonized national marine litter monitoring programmes.

- Regional webinar is held to launch Regional Guidance and build capacity of participating countries on application of Regional Guidance.

Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, Philippines and Viet Nam:

- National consultations on monitoring programmes are held to identify needs, gaps, and recommendations for development of monitoring programmes
- National monitoring programme descriptions and implementation roadmaps are developed and validated/endorsed by countries

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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

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Activity 2. Capacity building on marine litter monitoring.

- A regional training syllabus is developed for all training modules and materials
- National training plans identifying needs, stakeholders, priorities, and implementing modalities and programmes are developed or elaborated for Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
- Training modules and materials are developed and finalized, including development of training videos
- National trainings are held to build capacity of national and local authorities and stakeholders to conduct marine litter monitoring and assessment
- Reports of trainings are provided, identifying any remaining gaps and recommendations

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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

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Activity 3. Establishing national baselines on marine litter.

Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, Philippines and Viet Nam:

- National consultations are held to adapt and apply monitoring methodology and plan baseline assessment
- Implementation plans for baseline assessments are developed for each country, including contingency plans addressing possible restrictions and risks
- Marine litter is surveyed in the environment and baseline data is collected, including use of CSIRO's digital application and provision of on-site/remote technical support
- National baselines on marine litter are established and findings are validated

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OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

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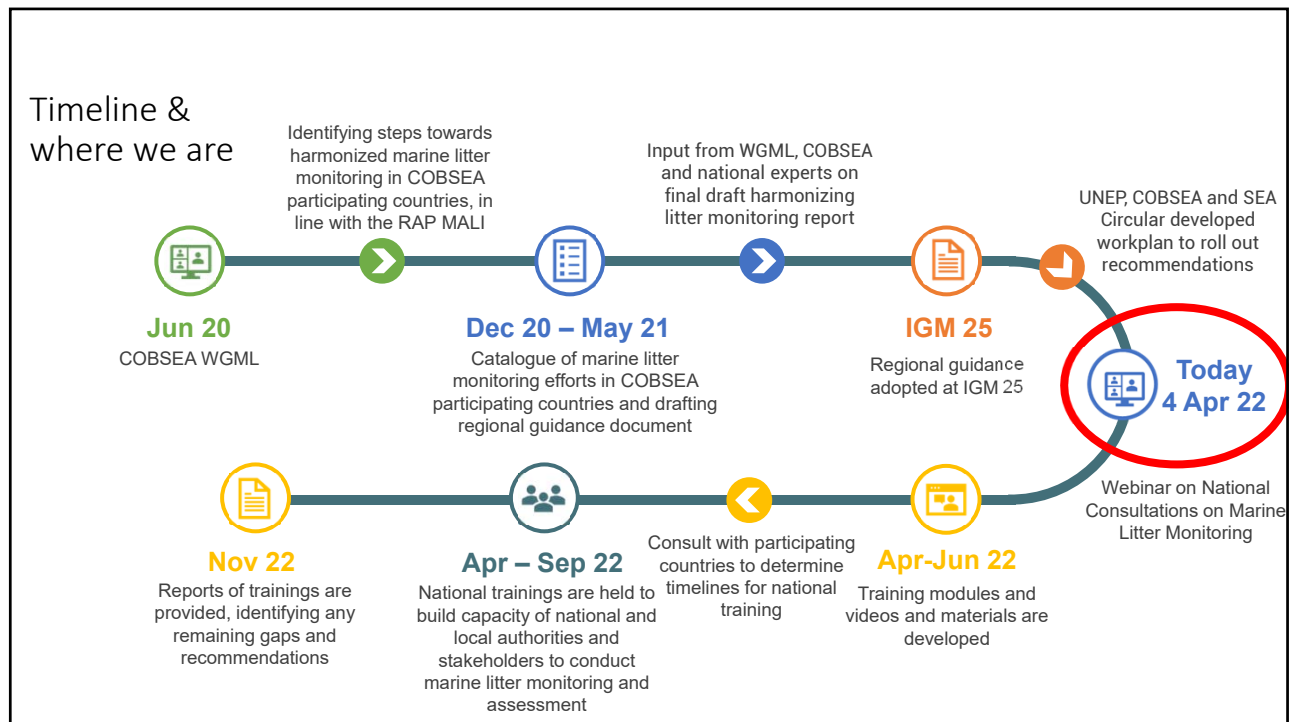
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Activity 4. Informing regional assessment of marine litter status and trends.

- Regional dialogue is held to identify needs and scope for a future regional assessment of marine litter status and trends:
 - i. Survey of the Expert Group on Monitoring
 - ii. Consultation of the COBSEA WGML at its Fourth Meeting
- Plan for regional assessment of marine litter status and trends is developed, including identification of steps, procedures, and potential institutional structures

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS

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Expected outputs:



- 01** A regional training syllabus;
- 02** National training plans identifying needs, stakeholders, priorities, and implementing modalities and programmes for participating members;
- 03** Training modules and materials will be developed and made available to participants;
- 04** National trainings will be held to build capacity of national and local authorities and stakeholders to conduct marine litter monitoring and assessment;
- 05** A summary report will be provided, identifying any gaps and recommendations.

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FEEDBACK

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Lauren Roman

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Any feedback?



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NEXT STEPS

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Lauren Roman

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- Identify appropriate partners/leaders for each country
- Schedule sessions with individual countries
- Commence stakeholder engagement sessions and trainings
- Identify key/priority survey areas
- Commence training sessions
- Conduct on-ground litter audits
- Analysis of data
- Report findings back to partners
- Elicit feedback from partners
- Report national baselines
- Identification of enhancements/next steps

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UN 
environment
programme

COBSEA
COORDINATING BODY ON THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA


CSIRO

 **SEA
circular**
ending plastic pollution at source

Natalie Harms/David Kuntel
Marine Litter Focal Point
COBSEA Secretariat
Natalie.Harms@un.org David.Kuntel@un.org

Denise Hardesty/ Lauren Roman
Senior Principle Research Scientist
CSIRO
Denise.Hardesty@csiro.au
lauren.roman@csiro.au