



**UNEP-GEF/UNEP-CMS Project: “Enhancing the Conservation Effectiveness of Seagrass Ecosystems Supporting Globally Significant Populations of Dugong across the Indian and Pacific Oceans Basins”  
(GEF Dugongs and Seagrass Conservation Project)**

**GEF International Workshop to review progress towards developing the Project Document and CEO Endorsement Request**

**21-22 February 2013  
The Best Western Premier F1 Hotel,  
Manila, Philippines**

***Draft agenda for circulation***

***Workshop objectives***

1. To review progress on the delivery of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase in each of the seven countries participating in the GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project;
2. Specifically to determine the status of the three core activities – delivery of national background reviews, and identification and development of national-level activities and community level activities that will form the basis for the sets of GEF project activities for each country;
3. To identify challenges to successfully completing the PPG phase in each country and agree mitigation measures to ensure each country can deliver a set of project activities to be included within the overall framework of the GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project and the Project Document and CEO Endorsement request delivered according to the agreed timetable, with associated costings and co-financing secured;
4. To identify and discuss potential regional and international level activities for the GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project;
5. To foster collaboration and partnership between countries for this multi-national, multi-regional project;
6. To further familiarise national representatives with GEF processes and relevant tools.

***Basic workshop structure***

The two-day workshop is structured so that on Day 1 allows the national participants to update members on the progress of completion of tasks under the Project Preparation Grants (PPG) phase (as discussed at the national workshops/meetings held between October 2012 and January 2013), and present their proposed sets of project activities for the GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project, based on the outcomes of the national meetings/workshops held during this phase. The presentations should highlight their proposed sets of activities for each country, and how they fit within the overall working structure and logic of the GEF Project (see Annex).

Day 2 will focus on discussions of each of the four outcomes of the project, and identify where further support will be needed to help partners complete their PPG activities with the opportunity for countries to consider their own proposed activities. Further opportunity to discuss other challenges and possible solutions will also be given.

**Suggested format for country presentations**

Countries will each be given 20 minutes to present their project implementation plans, which identify problems and issues preventing development of project activities and completion of the PPG phase. This will be followed by about 10 minutes for questions and discussion from the floor to consider the potential solutions.

The presentations should contain the following information:

- Status of selection and design of national and local level activities – priority areas and issues/threats/barriers to be targeted by the GEF Project
- How the proposed activities relate to the overall GEF Project Working Structure and Logic (see Annex);
- Limitations on the design of project activities, e.g. gaps in information on distribution of the Dugongs in their country;
- Provisional costings for the proposed activities;
- Co-financing for the proposed activities and timeframe for obtaining Letters of Co-financing;
- Stakeholder participation in the proposed project activities;
- Proposed implementation arrangements for national and local activities;
- Statement on capacity needs to deliver proposed activities;
- Likely risks inhibiting the delivery of the project in the participating country
- Sustainability of proposed project activities;
- What still needs to be done.

Country presenters should point out where they have not yet developed all of these aspects.

Time	Topic
<b>Day 1: Update on delivery of PPG phase</b>	
09:00	Welcome and introductions
09:15	Summary overview of workshop objectives and review of agenda
09:30	Reminder of the GEF Project and objectives (from Working Structure and Logic Document)
09:45	Summary overview of GEF expectations and PPG process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include process, timetable and highlight need for national coordinators and national teams to be available until final submission to the GEF Secretariat in October 2013</li> </ul>
10:00	Country presentation: Indonesia
	Country presentation: Madagascar
11:00	<i>Break</i>
11:30	Country presentation: Malaysia
	Country presentation: Mozambique
	Country presentation: Sri Lanka
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00	Country presentation: Timor Leste
	Country presentation: Vanuatu

Time	Topic
15:00	<i>Break</i>
15:30	Review of global and regional activities (international reviews) and identify any gaps that the project is seeking to fill
16:00	Overall threat analysis (defined before workshop on basis of feedback from questions and replies to Dr. Nicolas J. Pilcher) with discussion on threats, root causes and barriers, and agreement on priorities to be addressed at international, regional, national and local levels
17:00	<i>End of Day 1</i>

Time	Topic
<b>Day 2: GEF processes and tools, and broader discussions on overcoming foreseen challenges</b>	
09:00	Summary of Day 1 discussions
09:30	Additional GEF issues – co-financing forms, how to capture it, Incremental Cost Analysis and GEF PA Strategic Priorities and Tracking Tools for Biodiversity and need to fill these in for each PA included in project
10:00	Discussion on Outcome 1 (community-based stewardship): what is it trying to achieve, and how it can be done
11:00	<i>Break</i>
11:15	Discussion on Outcome 2 (innovative incentive mechanisms): what is it trying to achieve, and how it can be done
12:15	Discussion on Outcome 3 (barriers to critical knowledge removed): what is it trying to achieve, and how it can be done
13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
14:15	Discussion on Outcome 4 (incorporation into regular policy frameworks): what is it trying to achieve, and how it can be done
15:15	Review and revision of project structure in light of workshop discussions, and discussion on project SMART indicators for Objective and each Outcome in light of threats/challenges identified
16:15	<i>Break</i>
16:30	GEF Project implementation arrangements at international and national levels
17:00	Next steps: which countries still need most support, review PPG budget if reallocation of resources is needed, reminder of timeline for ProDoc delivery and review; agree each country's plan for delivery of PPG
18:00	<i>End of Day 2</i>

## Annex: Working Structure and Logic for the GEF project

**Key problem** – Declining dugong populations and loss/degradation of seagrass habitats

### **Cause of the problem (key threats):**

1. Incidental by-catch mortality from net fisheries
2. Destructive fisheries practices (which leads to loss of habitats)
3. Poorly planned coastal development and inappropriate land-use practices
4. Illegal hunting of dugongs (direct take)
5. Destruction/degradation of seagrass habitats due to run-off from palm plantations (Asia) and siltation from deforestation
6. Boat strikes from tourist and fishing boats
7. Others to be defined by national partners as part of national reviews

### **Key barriers to effective conservation to address the key threats:**

1. Low community involvement in conservation efforts (solutions to protect dugongs and their seagrass ecosystems)
2. Lack of sustained, long term incentives to protect dugongs and seagrasses.
3. Lack of basic information on dugong and seagrass ecosystems and its accessibility in key regions to inform (science-based) decision-making
4. Weak policy and regulations for the protection and conservation of dugong and seagrass ecosystems; as well as the institutional capacity to implement them

The GEF project aims to address each of these barriers as a specific outcome.

## **Goal**

To improve the conservation status of dugongs and their seagrass habitats across the Indian and Pacific Oceans basins.

## **Project Objective**

To enhance the effectiveness of conservation of dugongs and seagrass ecosystems at globally important sites in the Indian and Pacific Oceans basins [through community-based stewardship, incentive-based conservation, removal of knowledge barriers and national and regional mainstreaming activities].

## **Outcomes**

**Outcome 1.** Community-based stewardship of seagrass-dependent biodiversity at selected globally important sites (PAs and non-PAs) enhanced.

- **Output 1.1:** Governance structures for improved community involvement in management of dugong and seagrass ecosystems established in target areas
- **Output 1.2:** Capacity of local communities and relevant government representatives in target areas to actively participate in conservation and monitoring of dugong and seagrass habitats developed
- **Output 1.3:** Awareness raising and social marketing programmes developed to bring about robust local management interventions and adoption of more sustainable fishing practices
- **Output 1.4:** Integrated community management plans established for dugong and seagrass ecosystems developed and piloted in target areas (focus on importance of

stakeholder/livelihood groups) based on locally-relevant management tools and approaches (e.g. gear change, temporal and spatial closures)

**Outcome 2.** Innovative, market-based incentive mechanisms (inclusive of but not limited to environmental mortgages, environmental loan facilities and valuation of ecosystem services) promote and sustain responsible fisheries and other practices that reduce damage to dugong and seagrass ecosystems

- **Output 2.1:** Incentive tools from the 'Dugong and Seagrass and Coastal Communities Toolbox' are developed and piloted in target areas, and local community and government capacity built to implement these tools.
- **Output 2.2:** Sustainable financing for long term dugong conservation is developed by capturing the value of seagrass ecosystem services, including blue carbon, fisheries and tourism
- **Output 2.3:** Long-term private and public financing for continuation of incentive-based mechanisms is gained for the continuation of activities beyond the project lifetime.

**Outcome 3.** Barriers to critical knowledge needed for decision-making for effective conservation of seagrass-dependent biodiversity removed.

- **Output 3.1:** Critical gaps in knowledge of dugong and seagrass status, distribution, threat and conservation through rapid assessment methodologies (e.g. standardized surveys) identified, and local and national threat assessment maps produced
- **Output 3.2:** Good practice guidelines for dugong and seagrass ecosystem conservation in Indian and Pacific Oceans basins, based on the project results and experiences (ref. Outcomes 1 and 2) developed and disseminated
- **Output 3.3:** Conservation-relevant information on dugong and seagrass ecosystems collated and made publicly available through centralized multilingual web-based information-sharing platforms (acting as a national and international Clearing House Mechanisms, hosting project reports, presentations, theatre, video, media packs and press releases) and other existing online channels).
- **Output 3.4:** Incentive-based approaches for supporting local dugong and seagrass conservation assessed and best practices shared across partner network.

**Outcome 4.** Seagrass-dependent biodiversity conservation priorities and measures incorporated into relevant policy, planning and regulatory frameworks (regional, national, local, coastal and sectoral, as appropriate)

- **Output 4.1:** Policy, planning and regulatory gaps to promote conservation of seagrass-dependent biodiversity are identified, and recommendations to address these developed in each target country
- **Output 4.2:** Advocacy programmes for policy, planning and regulatory recommendations for improved seagrass-dependent biodiversity conservation and management are developed and implemented
- **Output 4.3:** Capacity of advocates (dugong focal points, national task forces and local and private sector champions) in target areas to effectively execute the advocacy programmes built (training, communications, lobbying skills)