



Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP Project)

First Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee

Bangkok, Thailand, 17-19 October 2022

MEETING DETAILS AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA



UNOPS



INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP Project) is:

“To assist countries in meeting the targets of the approved Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the marine and coastal environment of the South China Sea (SCS) through implementation of the National Action Plans in support of the SAP, and strengthening regional co-ordination for SCS SAP implementation.”

Participating Countries:	Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
Implementation Agency:	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Executing Agencies:	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)
Funding Agency:	Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Funding:	15 million USD (with approximately 83 million USD in co-financing)
Web-links:	https://scssap.org

Introduction

As per Terms of Reference approved by the Project Steering Committee in June 2021, the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee (RSTC) has the overall responsibility for: overseeing the scientific and technical elements of the project; ensuring effective implementation of activities undertaken during project execution; and providing sound scientific and technical advice to the SCS SAP Project Steering Committee. The RSTC will also be responsible for ensuring that scientific and technical aspects of SCS SAP Project meet international standards. Specifically, the RSTC will review the substantive activities of the project to: (1) reduce habitat degradation and loss via national and local reforms to achieve Strategic Action Programme targets for coastal habitat management in the South China Sea; (2) strengthen knowledge-based planning for the management of coastal habitats and land-based pollution to reduce environmental degradation of the South China Sea; and (3) facilitate regional and national level integration and cooperation for implementation of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme.

The RSTC is composed of the Chairs of the National Technical Working Groups (NTWGs), the Chairs of the Regional Working Groups (RWGs) on Mangrove, Coral Reef, Seagrass and Wetland, five regional experts on mangrove, coral reef, seagrass, wetland and land-based pollution and the Project Coordination Unit. The membership of the RSTC shall be formally established at the first meeting of the committee.

Objectives

The objectives of this First Regional Scientific and Technical Committee meeting is to discuss and agree on the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the Committee, review and reporting of SAP targets

and achievements during 2008-2021, review and status on the development and signature of the Project Cooperation Agreements, review of the updated SCS SAP targets including the current SAP targets for implementation, brainstorm the documentation and publication of good practices, discuss the regional and national activities under Components 2 and 3, and the revision and updating of the TDA and SAP, among others.

Participants

The participants of this First Regional Scientific and Technical Committee meeting are as follows:

1. Chairs and Staff of the National Technical Working Groups (NTWGs) from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
2. Chairs of the Regional Working Groups (RWGs) on Mangrove, Coral Reef, Seagrass and Wetland
3. Regional experts on mangrove, coral reef, seagrass, wetland and land-based pollution Project Director and Members of the RSTC of the Fisheries Refugia Project
4. SCS SAP National Coordinators from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
5. Officials and Staff of the United Nations Officer for Project Services
6. Officials and Staff of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
7. SCS SAP Project Coordination Unit

Date and Location

The First Regional Scientific and Technical Committee meeting will be organized from 17-19 October 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand. The first two days will be allocated for the meeting and the third day for the site visit in one of the project sites in Thailand.

Agenda

The provisional agenda and annotated agenda are attached separately.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting

- 1.1 Welcome address by Project Manager (or UNEP Task Manager)
- 1.2 Welcome remark by the Secretary General of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
- 1.3 Welcome remark by the Representative of the Thailand Government
- 1.4 Introduction of members

2. Organisation of the meeting

- 2.1 Designation of officers
- 2.2 Organisation of work

3. Adoption of the meeting agenda

4. Consideration of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee

5. Review of the SCS SAP outcomes designed in the SAP and revised in the Inception Report

6. Reports on achievements in implementing the SAP at the national level during 2008 – 2021

- 6.1 Cambodia SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
- 6.2 China SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
- 6.3 Indonesia SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
- 6.4 Philippines SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
- 6.5 Thailand SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
- 6.6 Viet Nam SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point

7. Reports of the First Meetings of Regional Working Groups (RWGs) on Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Seagrass and Coastal Wetlands

- 7.1 RWG Mangrove Chair
- 7.2 RWG Coral Reef Chair
- 7.3 RWG Seagrass Chair
- 7.4 RWG Wetland Chair

8. Report of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee Members of the Fisheries Refugia Project

- 8.1 Cambodia FR National Technical Focal Point
- 8.2 Indonesia FR National Technical Focal Point
- 8.3 Malaysia FR National Technical Focal Point
- 8.4 Philippines FR National Technical Focal Point
- 8.5 Thailand FR National Technical Focal Point
- 8.6 Vietnam FR National Technical Focal Point

9. Review of status in development and signature of the PCAs and update of SCS SAP targets at the site level designed in available PCAs

- 10. Plan for documentation and publication of good practices on habitat and land - based pollution**
- 11. Next steps in implementing regional and national activities under the components 2 and 3**
- 12. Initial discussion on national data required to develop the revised Transboundary Diagnosis Analysis (TDA) of the South China Sea**
- 13. Execution arrangement and work plans**
- 14. Any other business**
- 15. Closure of the Meeting**

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND PROGRAMME

Monday, 17 October 2022, 09.00 – 17.15

08.30-09.00	Registration of participants
1. Opening of the meeting	
09.00-09.10 10 min	1.1 Welcome address by the Project Manager (or UNEP Task Manager) The Secretariat will invite the SCS SAP Project Manager (or UNEP Task Manager) to open the meeting and deliver the welcome address.
09.10-09.20 10 min	1.2 Welcome remark by the Secretary General of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center The Secretariat will invite the Secretary General of SEAFDEC to deliver the welcome remark as the executing agency for regional activities.
09.20-09.30 10 min	1.3 Welcome remark by the Representative of the Thailand Government The Secretariat will invite the Representative of the Thailand Government to deliver the welcome remark as the host country of the meeting.
09.30-09.45 15 min	1.4 Introduction of members The Secretariat will be invited to introduce the members of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee and other participants.
2. Organization of the meeting	
09.45-10.00 15 min	2.1 Designation of officers In accordance with the draft rules of procedure for the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee, participants will be invited by the Secretariat to elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur.
10.00-10.15 15 min	2.2 Organisation of work The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to brief participants on the proposed organization of work, the list of documents available to the meeting and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the meeting. The meeting will be conducted face to face and online in plenary. The meeting will be conducted in English.
3. Adoption of the meeting agenda	
10.15-10.30 15 min	The Chairperson will invite participants to consider the provisional agenda and annotated agenda prepared by the Secretariat as the documents SCSSAP RSTC 1/1 and SCSSAP RSTC 1/2 (this document), propose any amendments or additional items for consideration, and adopt the agenda.
10.30-10.45	MORNING BREAK
4. Consideration of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee	
10.45-11.15 30 min	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to introduce documents SCSSAP RSTC 1/3: Provisional Terms of Reference and SCSSAP RSTC 1/4: Provisional Rules of Procedures for the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee of the UNEP/GEF SCS SAP Project, previously circulated. The RSTC is invited to consider, amend and adopt the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures as outlined in this document.
5. Review of the SCS SAP outcomes designed in the SAP and revised in the Inception Report	
11.15-12.00 45 min	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to briefly introduce document SCSSAP RSTC 1/Inf3: Regional Implementing Report, focusing on the SCS SAP outcomes and outputs designed in the SAP and revised in the Inception Phase.
12.00-13.30	LUNCH BREAK

6. Reports on achievements in implementing the SAP at the national level during 2008 – 2021	
13.30-15.00 15 min country presentation	<p>The Chairperson will invite SCS SAP National Technical Focal Points from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam to present key achievement in SAP implementation between 2008-2021 based on the reports prepared in advance of the 1st RSTC meeting. Following the presentations, the members will be invited to discuss on further steps for the finalization and publication of national achievement in SAP implementation in 2008-2021.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cambodia SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point 2. China SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point 3. Indonesia SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point 4. Philippines SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point 5. Thailand SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point 6. Vietnam SCSSAP National Technical Focal Point
7. Reports of the First Meetings of Regional Working Groups (RWGs) on Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Seagrass and Coastal Wetlands	
15.00-16.00 15 min presentation	<p>The Chairperson will invite the Chairs of the SCS SAP Regional Working Groups to report and highlight key discussions, issues and challenges including recommendations of the 1st meeting of the Regional Working Groups on Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Seagrass and Coastal Wetlands.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RWG Mangrove Chair 2. RWG Coral Reef Chair 3. RWG Seagrass Chair 4. RWG Wetland Chair
16.00-16.15	AFTERNOON BREAK
8. Report of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee Members of the Fisheries Refugia Project	
16.15-17.15 10 min presentation	<p>The Chairperson will invite the Fisheries Refugia Project National Technical Focal Points from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam to report and highlight key achievements including issues and challenges, and recommendations of the 6th Meeting of the RSTC of the Fisheries Refugia Project.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cambodia FR National Technical Focal Point 2. Indonesia FR National Technical Focal Point 3. Malaysia FR National Technical Focal Point 4. Philippines FR National Technical Focal Point 5. Thailand FR National Technical Focal Point 6. Vietnam FR National Technical Focal Point

Tuesday, 18 October 2022, 09.00 – 16.30

9. Review of status in development and signature of the PCAs and update of SCS SAP targets at the site level designed in available PCAs	
09.00-09.45 45 min	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to present document SCSSAP RSTC 1/6 PCA development and finalization status and updated SCS SAP targets at the site level as well as challenges in the implementation. The meeting will be requested to discuss on solutions to proceed finalization and implementation of PCAs.
10. Plan for documentation and publication of good practices on habitat and land - based pollution	
09.45-10.45 1 hour	The Chairperson will invite the Science Coordinator to introduce the document SCSSAP RSTC 1/7 Good Practices on Habitat and Land-Based Pollution, and invite the members to discuss on publication of this living document in 2022/2023 to include all past and present good practices
10.45-11.00	MORNING BREAK

11. Next steps in implementing regional and national activities under the components 2 and 3	
11.00-12.00 1 hour	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to present the document SCSSAP RSTC 1/8 Regional and National Activities under Components 2 and 3. The meeting will be requested to discuss the priority actions and next steps in coordinating regional and national activities under component 2 and 3.
12.00-13.30	LUNCH BREAK
12. Initial discussion on national data required to develop the revised Transboundary Diagnosis Analysis (TDA) of the South China Sea	
13.30-14.30 1 hour	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to introduce the document SCSSAP RSTC 1/Inf4 Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the South China Sea. The Chairperson will invite members to review the TDA published in 2000 and discuss on needed and available data and information which can be provided for preparation of the revised TDA of the South China Sea.
13. Execution arrangement and work plans	
14.30-15.30 1 hour	The Chairperson will invite the Secretariat to present the next steps in the RSTC towards execution of activities under the SCS SAP, including next meeting of the RSTC.
14. Any other business	
15.30-16.00 30 min	The Chairperson will invite members to consider and discuss any items of business introduced under agenda item 3.
15. Closure of the Meeting	
16.00-16.30 30 min	The Chairperson will call for a formal motion to close the meeting. The Chairperson will invite a representative member of the RSTC to deliver the closing remark.

Wednesday, 19 October 2022, 08.00 – 15.00

08.00-15.00	Visit to Project Site in Thailand
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