



Report of the 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop

Submitted by: Japan

Background

1. A series of ICRI East Asia Regional Workshops have been held annually in different East Asian countries from 2008 to 2012 with the main focus to enhance development of MPA networks in East Asia region. The “ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks 2010” was the major achievement until 2010 and the follow-up meetings were held in 2011 and 2012.
2. During 2008 and 2010, the initiative also supported various relevant activities. One of them was to discuss and identify the appropriate regional level MPA management effectiveness (ME) standard in East Asia. The voluntary working group reviewed the status and gaps in the region on MPA ME and developed a list of potential indicators as well as sample monitoring tools. The group then compiled a report including recommendations based on their work. The recommendation emphasized that East Asian countries should develop their respective national systems of MPA ME rather than developing a regional common standard.
3. At the 8th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop (Jeju, Korea, Sep 2012), participants agreed to hold a series of workshops focusing on capacity building and developed a Terms of References (TORs) for ICRI East Asia Regional Workshops on capacity building. The TORs suggested focusing on MPA ME in 2013 and MPA database in 2014. It was also suggested that the capacity building workshop on MPA ME be organized back-to-back with the ICRI focal point meeting to follow-up the implementation of the Regional Strategy and discuss on ICRI related matters.
4. In response to these background and suggestions, the 27th ICRI General Meeting endorsed the proposal to organize the capacity building workshop series in 2013 and 2014, and the governments of Singapore and Japan in collaboration with the ICRI Secretariat have agreed to co-organize the 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop in Singapore in 2013 focusing on MPA ME capacity building.

The 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop on MPA ME capacity building

5. The 9th Workshop was held from 9th to 12th September 2013 at the Botany Centre, Singapore Botanic Garden in Singapore. The workshop was co-organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan and the National Parks Board of Singapore, in collaboration with the ICRI Secretariat. Technical support was provided by Japan Wildlife Research Center. A total of 45 participants attended the Workshop, of which 20 were international participants and 25 were local participants.
6. The objectives of the workshop were as follows:
 - I. Become familiarized with the basic concept and principles, current international circumstances, existing tools, etc. of MPA ME;
 - II. Share status, challenges and different approaches of MPA ME development and

its application in East Asian countries;

- III. Examine several MPA ME systems for respective countries according to the level of their development;
- IV. Identify, where practicable, common elements of those country-based ME approaches that can allow comparisons to be made across countries and across ME approaches; and
- V. Develop their respective “possible action plans” for catalyzing development and/or effective use of MPA ME system.

7. The Workshop:

1. Achieved most of the objectives of the workshop including development of possible action plans to enhance MPA ME in eight East Asian countries;
2. Agreed and accepted the offer from Japan to host the next ICRI Regional Workshop towards the end of 2014 which is subject to funding availability;
3. Established a working group to implement the actions in the Terms of Reference (TOR) for planning and preparing the ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop in 2014; and
4. Adopted the above mentioned TOR with the list of working group members.

8. The Executive Summary of the workshop is attached as **ANNEX**. The more detailed Meeting Record as well as presentation slides and other meeting materials are to be posted on ICRIForum at: <http://earw.icriforum.org/EARW-2013-Agenda.html>

Action Requested

ICRI members are requested to:

9. Take note of the Executive Summary of the 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop as per the **ANNEX**.

ANNEX

*The 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop/
MPA Management Effectiveness Capacity Building Workshop
9th – 12th September 2013, Singapore*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(Last update: 2013/10/7)

The 9th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop and MPA Management Effectiveness (ME) Capacity Building Workshop was held from 9th to 12th September, at the Botany Centre, Singapore Botanic Garden in Singapore.

The objectives of the capacity building workshop were as follows:

- I. Become familiarized with the basic concept and principles, current international circumstances, existing tools, etc. of MPA ME;
- II. Share status, challenges and different approaches of MPA ME development and its application in East Asian countries;
- III. Examine several MPA ME systems for respective countries according to the level of their development;
- IV. Identify, where practicable, common elements of those country-based ME approaches that can allow comparisons to be made across countries and across ME approaches; and
- V. Develop their respective “possible action plans” for catalyzing development and/or effective use of MPA ME system.

The workshop was co-organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MoE) and the National Parks Board (NParks) of Singapore, in collaboration with the ICRI Secretariat. Technical support was provided by Japan Wildlife Research Center (JWRC).

A total of 45 participants attended the Workshop, of which 20 were international participants and 25 were local participants (**ANNEX 1**). The agenda for the Workshop is attached as **ANNEX 2**. All workshop material was made available to the participants on memory sticks provided at the end of the Workshop. The presentation slides in PDF format are to be posted on ICRIForum at: <http://earw.icriforum.org/EARW-2013-Agenda.html>

The Workshop was officially opened by Mr. Hassan Ibrahim of NParks. Welcome addresses were delivered by the representatives of co-organizers: Dr. Lena Chan, Director of the National Biodiversity Centre, NParks; Mr. Naoki Amako, Assistant Director, Biodiversity Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, MoE; and Mr. John Baldwin from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority of Australia representing the ICRI Secretariat.

1. Introduction of MPA ME and its development

Three resource persons were invited to give presentations to provide basic understanding of MPA ME and the regional-level activities on MPA ME in East Asia. Professor Marc Hockings of the University of Queensland presented the concept, background and significance of MPA ME; Dr. Alan White from the Nature Conservancy shared the lessons learned from the experiences in the development of MPA ME system in the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) countries; and Dr. Sheila Vergara of the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) presented the work of ACB related to MPAs including MPA gap analysis. Participants were familiarized with this background information.

2. Interactive sharing and learning

Facilitated by Mr. Kohei Hibino, interactive sharing and learning session took place. Firstly, all the eight participating government representatives were invited to give a brief overview of the status of implementation of MPA ME, the lessons learned and challenges they faced. Participants then broke up into small groups to discuss good examples as well as to formulate questions related to MPA ME development and implementation. Each group presented their results, followed by interactive questions and answers.

3. Development of Possible Action Plan

From Day 2, participants were divided into two groups – one comprising countries with no ME system or a fledgling ME system in place (Cambodia, Japan, Singapore, Vietnam), and one with established ME systems (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand). The breakout-session facilitators (Cristi Nozawa of BirdLife International Asia and Sheila Vergara) briefed the two groups on the possible approach for the breakout discussion, and the groups subsequently broke up into their respective country clusters to discuss and work on their country's possible action plan using the template.

After working separately in country clusters for several hours, all the countries presented the summary of their possible action plans, followed by questions and answers. Various suggestions were provided from the floor and countries had a chance to revise their action plans until the morning of Day 3.

4. Wrap-up and follow-up of the MPA ME capacity building workshop

The Participants reviewed the MPA ME capacity building workshop and discussed the lessons learned in the morning of Day 3, followed by discussions on the possible capacity building workshop in 2014. Participants agreed that the progress of the possible action plans should be followed-up in the future workshops. As the 2012 workshop had suggested MPA database as the theme of the next capacity building workshop, the discussion mainly focused on how the capacity building workshop on MPA database may be effectively organized. Japan offered to host the next workshop in Japan, subject to funding availability.

Mr. Stanley Tan from WorldFish Center presented the latest updates on the Coral Reef MPA database in East Asia and Micronesia on ReefBase, and the participants were informed of its features and advantages through the discussion. It was suggested that a volunteer working group will develop the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the MPA database capacity building workshop during the workshop.

5. Singapore session

To share information on marine and coastal conservation and management activities in Singapore, a session was organized to present five case studies from Singapore. Mr. Koh Kwan Siong presented on the development, progress and future plans for the Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey; Ms. Siti Maryam Yaakub presented on the long-term seagrass monitoring in Singapore, which is based on the Seagrass Watch methodology; Dr. James Guest presented the initiatives in Singapore on rearing corals from eggs to adult for reef rehabilitation; Mr. Jeffrey Low presented on efforts to enhance Singapore's biodiversity through the introduction of iconic species and novel habitats; and Mr. Shin Koh presented on Singapore's national biodiversity and environment database system – BIOME. Questions and answers took place after each presentation and information was shared.

6. ICRI regional workshop (Possible regional collaboration)

Dr. Vo Si Tuan chaired the session to facilitate the discussion related to ICRI matters. All the eight country representatives were invited to briefly present the updates on the achievements and status of implementation of the ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy in their countries.

As updates from the 8th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop, Mr. Tadahi Kimura introduced the progress in relation to the statement of GCRMN regional reporting and high latitude corals, and Mr. Kohei Hibino introduced the works related to sustainable marine managed areas. Mr. Kimura also presented the updates on GCRMN in the region where current focus is the development of the Regional Coral Reef Status Report and the Regional Data Analysis. Mr. John Baldwin provided an update on the status of current Australia-Belize ICRI Secretariat including information on the upcoming 28th ICRI General Meeting and the Secretariat Plan of Action.

Special sessions were organized to highlight two issues that were identified as priority themes in the region in the past regional workshops – overfishing and integrated coastal zone management (ICZM). Dr. Shinichiro Kakuma presented a case study on MPAs and fishery management, and Prof. Chou Loke Ming and Dr. Nhung Nguyen gave presentations on ICZM in Singapore. Participants shared the importance of these themes as well as difficulties.

Mr. Jerker Tamelander, Head of UNEP Coral Reef Unit was invited to brief participants on its proposal for a regional cooperation through Skype. Copies of the concept note on the UNEP Regional Seas Global Coral Reef Partnership were distributed and participants were encouraged to contact Mr. Tamelander on any further clarifications regarding this matter.

7. Conclusions

There was a report back from the working group that developed the draft TOR for the preparation of next capacity building workshop in 2014. The TOR suggested forming a working group which was tasked to develop a TOR of the capacity building workshop. The draft TOR was agreed and the working group was established by the interested members.

Dr. Vo concluded that the workshop largely achieved most of its objectives and expected outcomes including development of the possible action plans and was considered a success.

Annex 1. Participant List

Participants are listed alphabetically by Representation.

Representation (G: Government, O: Organization)			Name	Surname
1	O	Akita International University	Kohei	Hibino
2	O	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity	Sheila	Vergara
3	O	BirdLife International	Cristi	Nozawa
4	G	Cambodia (Fisheries Conservation Department)	Vibol	Ouk
5	O	DHI Water & Environment (S) Pte Ltd.	Karenne	Tun
6	O	DHI Water & Environment (S) Pte Ltd.	Moi Khim	Tan
7	O	Fauna & Flora International	Berry	Mulligan
8	O	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	John	Baldwin
9	G	Indonesia (Ministry of Forestry)	Cherryta	Yunia
10	O	Institute of Oceanography	Si Tuan	Vo
11	G	Japan (Ministry of the Environment)	Naoki	Amako
12	O	Japan Wildlife Research Center	Noriko	Kamada
13	O	Japan Wildlife Research Center	Tadashi	Kimura
14	O	Japan Wildlife Research Center	Kumiko	Suzuki
15	G	Malaysia (Department of Marine Parks)	Datin Shahima	Abdul Hamid
16	O	National University of Singapore	James	Guest
17	O	National University of Singapore	Loke Ming	Chou
18	O	National University of Singapore	Siti Maryam	Yaakub
19	O	Okinawa Prefecture	Shinichiro	Kakuma
20	G	Philippines (Department of Environment and Natural Resources)	Gwendolyn C.	Bambalan
21	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Hui Ping	Ang
22	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Lena	Chan
23	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Pei Rong	Cheo
24	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Hassan	Ibrahim
25	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Kwan Siong	Koh
26	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Shin	Koh
27	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Sumathi	Krisinasamy
28	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Isabelle	Lee
29	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Tsen Yang	Lee
30	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Karen	Lim
31	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Jeffrey	Low

32	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Hock Keong	Lua
33	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Annabelle	Ng
34	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Nhung	Nguyen
35	G	Singapore (National Environment Agency)	Geraldine	Ow
36	G	Singapore (MFA)	Gursharn	Singh Gill
37	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Saifuddin	Suran
38	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Sze Peng	Tan
39	G	Singapore (National Parks Board)	Collin	Tong
40	G	Thailand (Phuket Marine Biological Center)	Nippon	Phongsuwan
41	G	Thailand (Phuket Marine National Parks and Protected Area Unnovation Center)	Parop	Plangnan
42	O	The Nature Conservation	Alan	White
43	O	University of Queensland	Marc	Hockings
44	G	Vietnam (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)	Giang Thu	Nguyen
45	O	World Fish Center	Stanley	Tan

Annex 2. Workshop Agenda

Day 1 (Monday, 9 th Sep) MPA ME capacity building workshop	
1. Opening	
8:00	Registration
8:30	1.1 Opening Remarks
8:35	1.2 Welcome and opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Singapore (Lena Chan) ➤ Japan (Naoki Amako) ➤ ICRI Secretariat (John Baldwin)
8:40	1.3 Introduction of participants
8:50	1.4 Workshop objectives and process; Result of the needs assessment
9:05	1.5 Adoption of the Agenda
9:10	<i>Group photo and coffee break</i>
2. Introduction of MPA ME and its development in East Asia	
9:35	2.1 Overview of MPA ME (Marc Hockings)
11:30	2.2 Lessons learned from the experiences in the development of MPA ME in the CTI countries (Alan White)
12:30	2.3 ASEAN Center for Biodiversity and MPA ME (Sheila Vergara)
13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
3. Interactive sharing and learning	
14:30	3.1 Introduction of Session 2
14:35	3.2 Presentations by country representatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cambodia ➤ Indonesia ➤ Japan ➤ Malaysia ➤ Philippines ➤ Singapore ➤ Thailand ➤ Vietnam
15:40	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:55	3.3 How to get started (small group session with 4-6 members)
17:35	End of the day
18:00	National Orchid Garden
19:00	<i>Welcome reception (hosted by NParks)</i>

Day 2 (Tuesday, 10 th Sep) MPA ME capacity building workshop	
8:30	Re-cap of Day 1 and introduction of Day 2
4. Development of “possible action plans”	
8:40	4.1 Determine how each group will work on action plan
9:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
9:45	4.2 Work on the action plans
12:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30	4.2 Work on the action plans (continued)
15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:45	4.3 Presentation of the action plans and Q&As
	Group 1: Initial ME system Group 2: ME system improvement

	planning/development ➤ Cambodia ➤ Indonesia ➤ Japan ➤ Malaysia	➤ Philippines ➤ Singapore ➤ Thailand ➤ Vietnam
17:05	4.5 Summary and general comments	
17:15	End of the day (free evening)	

Day 3 (Wednesday, 11 th Sep) ICRI Regional Workshop	
8:30	Re-cap of Day 2 and introduction of Day 3
5. Wrap-up and follow-up of the MPA ME capacity building workshop	
8:35	5.1 Review of and lessons learned from the MPA ME capacity building workshop
8:45	5.2 Next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Compilation of outcomes and presentation at the upcoming ICRI GM➤ How to follow-up with the outcomes of the workshop and progress on MPA ME by countries➤ Possible dissemination to other East Asian countries➤ Other possibilities (e.g., development of toolkits, etc.)
9:45	5.3 Planning of the MPA database workshop in 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Presentation by Stanley Tan (WorldFish Center)
10:15	Coffee break
6. Singapore session	
10:30	6. Singapore session <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Presentation by Koh Kwan Siong on “Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey”➤ Presentation by Siti Maryam Yaakub on “Long-term seagrass monitoring in Singapore”➤ Presentation by James Guest on “Closing the circle: is it feasible to restore reefs with sexually reared corals”➤ Presentation by Jeffrey Low on “Enhancing Singapore’s biodiversity: introducing iconic species and novel habitat”➤ Presentation by Shin Koh on “BIOME- A one-stop portal for biodiversity and environment related information”➤ Q&As
12:30	Lunch break
7. ICRI regional workshop (Possible regional collaboration)	
Chair: Vo Si Tuan	
13:30	7.1 Introduction and objectives
13:35	7.2 Updates on ICRI matters <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Status of implementation of the Regional Strategy (each member country to present the status in 5 minutes)➤ Results of the 8th workshop➤ Updates on sustainable marine managed areas theme➤ GCRMN➤ Updates from ICRI Secretariat (John Baldwin)
15:00	7.3 Overfishing session

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation by Dr. Shinichiro Kakuma ➤ Discussion
16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15	7.4 Integrated Coastal Zone Management session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation by Prof. Chou Loke Ming ➤ Discussion
17:15	7.5 Regional collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regional Seas Programme (UNEP Coral Reef Unit) ➤ Discussion
17:45	7.6 Wrap-up of the workshop
18:00	7.7 Closing
18:30	<i>Farewell reception (hosted by MoE-J)</i>

Day 4 (Thursday, 12th Sep) Field trip

8:00	Leave the hotel
9:00	Sungei Buloh (Wetland Reserve)
11:00	Picnic lunch (packed lunch box)
12:00	Leave the site
13:00	Arrive at the hotel