



SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE BAY OF BENGAL LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (BOBLME) PROGRAMME

“A healthy ecosystem and sustainable use of marine living resources for the benefit of the people and countries of the Bay of Bengal LME”



AREA

- Total maritime area: 6.2 million km²
- Total area of EEZs: 4.3 million km²
- Combined length of coastline: 14 000 km

ENVIRONMENT

- 8% of the world’s mangroves
- 12% of world’s coral reefs
- Some of the largest estuaries in the world

FISHERIES

- Number of fishers: 3.7 million
- Number of fishing boats: 415 000
- Annual fisheries production: 6 million tonnes
- Value of fisheries production: USD 4 billion

PEOPLE

- Total population of countries: 2 000 million
- Population of coastal zone: 185 million

FRAMEWORKS IN PLACE:

Regional fishery bodies - Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

Regional fishery management organization - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

Regional Seas - South Asian Seas Programme (SASP), Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) area

ISSUES:

overexploitation of living resources, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, degradation of habitats, marine pollution, socio-economic concerns

BOBLME PHASE 2 PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

Component 1

Sustainable management of fisheries

Component 2

Restoration and conservation of critical marine habitats and protection of biodiversity

Component 3

Management of coastal and marine pollution to improve ecosystem health

Component 4

Improved livelihoods and enhanced resilience of the BOBLME

Component 5

Regional mechanism for coordination, monitoring and assessment

Relevant GEF Core Indicators

Improved marine protected area management, biodiversity conservation in marine habitats, greenhouse gas emission mitigation, cooperative management of shared water ecosystems, sustainable fisheries, chemical waste reduction, POPs emission reduction, and co-benefits to beneficiaries.

Project Information

Joint agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Asian Development Bank

Regional and subregional executing partners: BOBP-IGO, SEAFDEC, International Union for Conservation of Nature/ Mangroves for the Future (IUCN/MFF), UN Environment (e.g. COBSEA, Global Programme of Action), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)

National execution partners include Ministries of Fisheries and Agriculture, Ministries of Environment, and other national agencies from all 8 participating countries

GEF Program Financing: USD 14 266 055

Co-financing: USD 165 000 000

Co-financiers: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, FAO, ADB, Sweden, Norway, USA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Agency for International Development), UN Environment, IUCN, UNIDO, SEAFDEC, BOBP-IGO, Japan Fund for Joint Crediting Mechanism

Program duration: 60 months

Innovative solutions, tools, practices for sustaining International Waters cooperation

- Capacity development on and promotion of Ecosystem Approaches (e.g. to Fisheries and Aquaculture)
- Support to implementation of Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines, international agreements and conventions
- Private sector participation
- Towards creation of a Consortium for the Conservation and Restoration of the Bay of Bengal LME (CCR-BOBLME)

