South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) Second Meeting

Meeting Report

31st August, 2008

Hulhule’ Island Hotel, Male, Republic of Maldives

With funding from the European Union

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
L-R Dr. Arvind Boaz, Director General of SACEP, Patron-SACRTF Hon. Judge C. G. Weeramantry, Chief Guest Hon., Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives, Dr. B.P. Nilratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF

Delegates from India

Sri Lanka and Pakistani Delegates at the meeting

Maldives delegates at the meeting

Bangladesh delegates at the meeting

Participants at the meeting
South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) Second Meeting

Meeting Report

With funding from the European Union

31st August, 2008

Hulhule’ Island Hotel, Male, Republic of Maldives
DISCLAIMER

The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the views of SACEP or contributory organizations. The designations employed and the presentations do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of SACEP or contributory organizations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area its authority, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INAUGURAL MESSAGES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome address by Dr. Arvind Anil Boaz, Director General, SACEP</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message from the ICRAN Director, Dr. Kristian Teleki</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address by Dr. B.P. Nilratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address by Guest of Honour Hon. Patron-SACRTF, Judge C. G. Weeramantry</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris, Deputy Minister of Environment Energy &amp; Water, Republic of Maldives</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SESSION 1 – INTRODUCTORY SESSION</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managers exchange program in the Marine National Park in the Gulf of Kachchh</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SESSION 2 – COORDINATION AND INFORMATION SHARING SESSION</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presentation Bangladesh</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presentation India</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presentation Maldives</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presentation Pakistan</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Presentation Sri Lanka</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO Efforts in the Field of Coral Reef and Marine Protected Area Conservation</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ram Boojh, Programme Specialist (Ecology &amp; Earth Science) of UNESCO</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SESSION 3 – ACTIVITIES OF SACRTF</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed South Asia Regional Coral Reef Action Strategy</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SESSION 4 – SACRTF ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURES</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX A SACRTF Work Plan and Priority Actions for the SACRTF</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX B Environmental Education Call For Action</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX C International Year Of The Reef (IYOR)</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX D Projected Annual Operating Costs of the SACRTF</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX E SACRTF ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX F SACRTF Nominated Representatives</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX G Approved Logo SACRTF</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX H SACRTF Implementation Plan</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX I Meeting And Events Calendar</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX J Managers Training Programme</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX K Call for Proposals - Enforcement Equipment</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX L Workshop Agenda</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX M List of Participants</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOREWORD

It is indeed a pleasure to share with you the Report of 2nd Meeting of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force. This meeting was held in the beautiful Island of Hulhule in the Island country of Maldives – an ideal setting for thinking about the protection, conservation and development of the Coral Reefs and associated ecosystems.

We have come a long way since the starting of the EU funded MCPA Project of South Asia. A lot of work has been done in this period of nearly three years that we have being implementing this project in the five Maritime Countries of South Asia. One of the biggest achievements of this project has been the establishment of this Task Force on Coral Reefs that is the first in Asia and only the third in the world after the US and the East African Coral Reef Task Force.

The SACRTF has grown from strength to strength. It has been able to bring policy makers, bureaucrats, experts and grass root level managers on one forum to discuss the problems facing Coral Reef conservation in the region and to learn and implement good practices both from within the region and elsewhere. The Regional Task Force was also able to request the country governments to establish National Task Forces and I am happy to report that Pakistan and India have establish the National level Task Forces and the balance countries have initiated action to do so.

This meeting was particularly important as it discussed the important issue of developing a Regional Management and Communication Strategy that will be finalized over the next few months after receiving comments from Country Governments and experts. These strategies will go a long way to have a uniform approach to coral reef management in the region and help the countries to communicate effectively with each other on matters of conservation and development and linking Coral Reef conservation to development issues and livelihood sustenance in this region. It will also help countries to discuss and replicate best practices for the benefit of both the environment and the dependent. Another important deliberation was the important discussion on how to attract sustainable financing for the Task Force so that it carries on beyond the period of the project. The members were strongly of the opinion that the country government should extend both technical and financial support for the Task Force and that SACEP should try to house the Task Force to provide it continuity to strengthen coral reef conservation in the region.

I am confident that this report will be thought provoking and informative and will help to develop a sustained commitment of the country governments and experts to the cause of coral reefs conservation and development in the South Asian Region.

Dr. A A Boaz
Director General
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme and SACRTF acknowledge the generous support offered by the Government of Maldives through the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water towards the conclusion of the meeting. I gratefully acknowledge the contributions of Hon. Minister for Energy, Environment and Water, HE Mr. Ahmed Abdullah, Republic of Maldives for his valuable suggestions while initiate this venture and HE Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives, for being generous enough to spare his valuable time for the meeting.

A special thanks to Mr. Mohamed Zuhair, Director General, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water and all the Staff Members of the Ministry for valuable cooperation in organizing and in the successful conduct of the meeting. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Hon. Judge C.G. Weeramantry, Patron of the SACRTF and Dr. B.P. Nilaratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF for attending the meeting.

I would like to thank all the workshop participants and delegates from the region, as this workshop report is an output of their active and involved brainstorming sessions, inputs and discussions. Also I thank SACEP Staff to coordinate this event at the Regional level.

My thanks are also due to the European Union for their generous funding for the budget and Dr. Kristian Teleki and Ms. Nicola Bernard from ICRAN for supporting us in the conduction of the meeting.

Dr. Arvind Boaz
Director General, SACEP
Welcome Speech by Dr. A. A. Boaz  
Director General SACEP

- Chief Guest - Hon. Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Minister of Environment, Energy and Water, Republic of Maldives
- Guest of Honour – H. E. Judge Mr. C. G. Weeramantry, International Centre for Peace, Education & Research
- Dr. B.P. Nilratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF
- Dignitaries from International and Local Agencies
- Distinguished Members of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force
- Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and as Member Secretary of the SACRTF let me warmly welcome all those present this morning for the Inaugural Session of this 2nd Meeting of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF). This meeting is convened to discuss the progress made since its inauguration and discuss at length and to chalk out the future work plan, policy and administrative issues of the SACRTF.

21st December 2007 was a red letter day in the history of SACEP and the South Asian Seas Programme. It saw the inauguration of a ground breaking activity as the first meeting of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force, which is only the 2nd in the world and the first in the Asian Region. It also saw the beginning of a new era of activity in the management of Coral Reefs in South Asia which at present is facing severe environmental threats, mainly man made.

SACEP is greatly honoured by the presence of Hon. Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives. His continued patronage to the activities coming under the South Asian Seas Programme has been a source of encouragement to the SAS Secretariat.

The Patron of the Task Force H. E. Judge C. G. Weeramantry who is here with us today as given the Task Force the necessary international recognition and his continued commitment is indeed a source of great encouragement and inspiration to SACEP. Dr. B.P. Nilratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF

The presence of a large gathering of Experts from the National and International Community is indeed a matter of pride and great satisfaction, The Task force activities which since its formation is commendable and we are here today to take steps for the future activities

I am confident that this meeting will decide on the various critical issues related to the task force and also chart out a long term sustainable strategy for the task force that will prove to be a boon for the management of coral reefs and related ecosystems in the South Asian Region.

On behalf of SACEP I wish to pledge SACEP's fullest support in meeting the goals of Task Force and I wish this meeting the very best and also wish all foreign delegates a very pleasant stay in Maldives.

Thank you

Dr. A. A. Boaz  
Director General SACEP and Member Secretary, SACRTF
Your Excellencies,
Honourable guests,
Colleagues and friends

Please let me extend my sincere apologies for not being able to be with you at this very important meeting of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force as longstanding personal commitments precluded my participation with you here today.

Before offering you some thoughts I would like to acknowledge and thank the Honourable Minister for generously hosting this meeting in the Maldives. Your leadership and genuine interest in the Task Force and the EU South Asia MCPA Project has been an inspiration to us all and for which we are very thankful.

I would also like to thank our patron the Honourable Judge Weeramantry who continues to provide support and leadership to the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force, and would like to recognise his tireless efforts to champion pressing environmental issues which are of great concern to us all.

Finally, but not least, I would like to thank Dr. Boaz, Hiran Tillekaratne and the staff of SACEP who have worked very hard to ensure that the meetings of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force occur with such efficiency. Dr. Boaz has also worked hard to promote the Task Force in the wide range of meetings he has attended over the last year which has been very welcome.

To date the EU South Asia Project has been very successful in addressing the issues which the marine and coastal environment, and the people and communities who live there, face in the South Asia region. There have been a diverse range of activities and a great number of project participants for all of the five maritime countries in South Asia and it is our hope that this network will continue well beyond the life of the project.

There have been a number of important workshops and activities to build and develop capacity in the region, as well as provide opportunities for exchanging information and knowledge, and raising the profile of the importance of coral reefs and MCPAs.

Project highlights include:

- Developing a more systematic approach to livelihood enhancement and diversification which responds to the actual realities and needs of coastal communities.
- Convening a workshop (December this year) on Coral Reef Crime Scene Investigation to enhance and improve resources to enforce MCPA regulations, and to provide training for field investigators in investigative, forensic and rapid ecological assessment techniques. This will ensure accurate assessment and data collection, and maximise prosecution, mitigation, or negotiation success.
- Producing an MPA Managers Toolkit for South Asia (a number of you will have participated in the very successful workshop held here in the Maldives a little over two months ago) – this will officially be launched at the World Conservation Congress being held in Barcelona in October this year.
- And of course the formation of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force which will hopefully be a dynamic and living legacy of this project. The Task Force has been recognised at a number of regional and international venues. The membership of the International Coral Reef Initiative has been particularly supportive and welcoming of this initiative for which all of you should be congratulated, and I hope that this can continue.

There is a very full agenda for the Task Force meeting and a number of critical issues which need to be addressed which will benefit from your collective experience and guidance. Particularly the long term sustainability of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force and how the Task Force will operate and support a regional strategy and approach for coral reef management and conservation. This will require your sustained commitment and effort, and I am confident that this will continue.
Although the EU South Asia MCPA Project is entering its final months there is still much to accomplish and set into motion before it finishes, and look to you all for seeing through the Project to its fullest extent. The EU has been very complimentary of the project and its activities which is a great testament to all of you assembled here and our colleagues in the region. It is our hope that we can maintain this high standard right to the end.

I think that you will agree that with such an august composition and esteemed leadership that the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force will continue to evolve and move from strength to strength.

Please let me extend my apologies again for not being with you and, on behalf of ICRAN, I wish you a very successful and productive meeting. I shall look forward to the outcomes with great anticipation and hope to see many, if not all, of you at the next meeting.

Thank you.

Kristian Teleki
Director
International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN)
219 Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL
United Kingdom
Speech of Dr. B.P. Nilaratna, Hon. Chairperson, South Asia Coral Reef Task Force at 2nd meeting of SACRTF

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure and privilege, as chairperson of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF), to welcome you all at this 2nd coordination meeting of SACRTF at Male. I would also like to thank Government of Maldives for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and our comfortable stay in Maldives.

It is heartening to note that delegates from all the five South Asian Countries, namely, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka and India have spared their valuable time and made it convenient to participate in this meeting.

The objectives of this meeting are to discuss the progress of SACRTF from the 1st meeting held in Colombo and development of Communication Strategy and Regional MCPA Strategy of concrete actions. The meeting will also discuss Research, Monitoring and Policy issues. The meeting would also like to develop Sustainable Financing and Institutionalisation of SACRTF, both Regional and National level.

You would recall that the establishment of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) was done to facilitate and coordinate in the management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems at a national level, and to promote collaborative action at the regional level, encouraging trans-boundary responses to shared environmental challenges and raising the political and public profile of coral reef related issues in the South Asia region. As the Chairperson, I feel greatly honoured by the confidence placed in me by the participating SACEP countries and reassure you that the Task Force will make every effort to fulfil the tasks assigned to it.

In the last meeting of SACRTF held in Colombo, the member countries were urged to establish the national level task force early, where it has not been done so far. I am sure some progress must have made in this regard.

Coral Reefs are the ‘rainforests of sea’. They are the repositories and storehouses of biological diversity. The South Asia region has enormous wealth of coral reefs. The natural and human pressures on the resources are high. Despite the current protection measures, degradation of these resources continues at an unprecedented rate. One third to half of the coral reefs of South Asia are now effectively dead and a further 30% threatened. It is beyond doubt that coral reefs have been degrading alarmingly in the last few decades and this is likely to get aggravated by anthropogenic changes. However, the international community has now become more conscious of the anthropogenic effects on coral reefs. Sincere efforts have been made in recent years to protect and conserve these resources.

The Year 2008 has been designated as the ‘Year of Reef’. Let us strive together to conserve, protect & manage coral reefs of south Asia region for both present and future generations. During the IYOR, I am sure the member countries must have initiated many programmes and activities. They may present them while making their country presentations.

I hope this meeting of SACRTF will further our efforts on protection and conservation of our reefs. I wish you all productive & fruitful deliberations and comfortable stay in this beautiful country, Maldives.

Thank you.

Dr. B.P. Nilaratna,
Hon. Chairperson, South Asia Coral Reef Task Force
Message by Guest of Honour Hon. Patron-SACRTF, Judge C. G. Weeramantry

The protection of the environment is one of the major obligations of the present generation. It has come down to us from generations past and we need to transmit it in all its integrity to generations yet to come.

We are not its owner but only its custodian. Yet, for too long now, human beings have behaved as if we are the owners. This wrong attitude needs to be corrected urgently, especially because the rate at which damage is caused to the environment is accelerating dangerously. Species that have existed from time immemorial are disappearing, forests are being felled, water supplies world wide are being poisoned, the climate is being changed and coral reefs are being destroyed, all at an accelerated pace. Every one of these is occurring because we are thoughtless about generations yet to come.

In this age of commercialism, individual rights have been magnified and social duties neglected and the interests of the present generation have been elevated over the interests of future generations. The environment has been treated as our private property to be exploited for our temporary advantage rather than to be protected in the long term interest of humanity as a whole.

All the religions of the world are agreed that the environment and all its component elements are the creation of a power superior to us, which has given these to us in trust. It is God's handiwork and is not to be damaged or destroyed. All humanity is one family and past, present and future groups are its component elements. The environment has been given to humanity across the boundaries of time just as it is given across the boundaries of race.

Likewise all the religions are agreed that we must protect the rights of our children and our children's children. Buddhism taught us the principle of sustainable development more than two thousand years ago. In a famous episode the monk Mahinda, son of the Emperor Asoka of India, preached Buddhism to the King of Sri Lanka when he was on a hunting trip and told him that though he was the king of the country he was not the owner of the land but held it in trust for those who are entitled to enjoy it both now and in the future.

In Christianity, Jesus has taught, quite categorically, that it would be better for anybody who places obstacles in the way of our children to have a millstone round his neck and to be drowned in the ocean. In Judaism we are taught that land does not belong to us but rather that we belong to the land. In Islam, Prophet Mohamed has taught that our duty to the future is such that even if we know we are to die tomorrow and we have a sapling in our land we should plant it.

All of these teachings can be multiplied several fold from the sacred texts and what they tell us is that we must live in harmony with the environment, that it must have continuity, and that it is like a seamless web. If we damage any part of it we damage the whole structure.

This can be well illustrated in the case of coral reefs, for if we damage them we damage life in the ocean, thus damaging the foodstocks of humanity, thus damaging global welfare, the economic system, the source of livelihood for many and so on, in an unending series of negative consequences.

Now, for the first time, humanity has acquired the power to destroy itself if it does not use its knowledge constructively. Today more than ever the need is urgent for correct attitudes towards the environment. More sensitivity needs to be generated in relation to obligations towards the environment, humanity as a whole and generations yet to come.

The message sent out by organizations like SACEP is that we should be more sensitive towards the environment, more practical in protecting it, more thoughtful about those who come after us, more dutiful as human beings towards the planet as a whole. Education to this end is urgently required.

I commend SACEP for the wonderful work it has done and is continuing to do in this field on which the future of humanity so heavily depends.
Address by Hon Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris, Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives

It is indeed a great honour for me to be present as Chief Guest at the 2nd Meeting of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force, under the European Union Funded Project titled Long Term Management and Conservation of Marine and Coastal Resources in South Asia.

Let me also warmly welcome our foreign delegates to my country.

The establishment of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) was done to facilitate and coordinate in the management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems at a national level, and to promote collaborative action at the regional level, encouraging trans-boundary responses to shared environmental challenges and raising the political and public profile of coral reef related issues in the South Asia region, which was endorsed by the country governments of the 5 maritime nations of South Asia, at the SACEP 10th Governing Council (GC) Meeting and further ratified by the 11th GC.

This meeting is convened to discuss the progress made since its inauguration and discuss at length and to chalk out the future work plan, policy and administrative issues of the SACRTF.

It will also discuss among other matters the Specific activities under each of the SACRTF priority implementation areas and develop timeframe for implementation, which includes Policy Matters such as to Identify / development of a regional strategy for coordinated responses to marine and coastal issues within the South Asia region, set the framework / outline of the regional strategy Regional Coral Reef Action Strategy, develop a strategy for engagement with key coral reef entities: EACRTF, GCRMN, ICRMN, National Coral Reef Committee (India) and others and carry forward the decisions on MCPA adopted by the SACEP 11th GC.

Amongst Communication it is scheduled to discuss the institutionalising the SACRTF so as to ensure that a nodal unit / representative can be mandated to undertake specific responsibilities, To the review and preparation of a strategy for enhanced communications between sectors involved in MCPA management and operation within the South Asia region and to discuss the modalities of the MCPA Exchange Programme in 2008, to be carried out by the GEER Foundation, India.

Another important aspect under discussion will be Fundraising under which the meeting is expected to identify a mechanism, and key actions to advance discussions with country governments on the ‘challenge grant’ for the sustainable future of the SACRTF and to Harmonise meetings/ events calendar with the availability of members.

It has been brought to my notice that the funds generously provided by the European Union for the establishment of the SACRTF will cease on 31st December 2008, and therefore the development of a sustainable financing mechanism or the successful institutionalisation of the SACRTF over the course of 2008 is the key to the continuation of this unit. As such the representatives should bear this mind in the discussions.

I would be failing my duties if I do not thank UNEP and ICRAN for having chosen the South Asian Seas region for priority activities, the European Union for the generous financial assistance and last but not least the member governments for their support to this activity.

I wish this meeting the very best look forward to receiving the Final Report of this meeting.
Thank you
INTRODUCTION

The South Asia region was ranked the lowest in the world in terms of declared marine and coastal protected areas in the 2003 United Nations List of Protected Areas. In addition, the inclusion of essential coral reef habitat in MCPA provisions is minimal, making the Indian Ocean, with its wealth of coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangrove forests, perhaps the most poorly protected ocean. As a result, the degradation of coastal and marine resources continues at an unprecedented rate, and despite current protection measures, one third to half of the coral reefs of South Asia are now effectively dead, and a further 30% threatened.

The 2004 Status of Coral Reefs of the World report identified the major factors contributing to the continued resource degradation at MCPA sites encompassing coral reef habitats, prior to the Indian Ocean Tsunami event. This report specified limited interagency and governmental cooperation as an inhibitor to effective resource management across the South Asia region and recommended the introduction of overlapping and complementary mandates.

OBJECTIVE

The establishment of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) was done to facilitate and coordinate in the management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems at a national level, and to promote collaborative action at the regional level, encouraging trans-boundary responses to shared environmental challenges and raising the political and public profile of coral reef related issues in the South Asia region, which was endorsed by the country governments of the 5 maritime nations of South Asia, at the SACEP 10th Governing Council (GC) Meeting and further ratified by the 11th GC.

Through extensive consultation with key regional stakeholders, the role, mandate and structure of the SACRTF was developed, and the resulting constitution document endorsed by the participants of the second regional resource coordination workshop held on the 25-27th July 2007, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. SACRTF representatives have been selected in accordance with the constitution document and regional nominations – see Annex F.

Second official meeting of the SACRTF representatives discussed the progress made by Task Force, the establishment of the National Task Force, the future work plan, policy and administrative issues of the SACRTF.

INAUGURATION CEREMONY

Inauguration Dinner of the meeting was held at the conference hall of the Hulhule Island Hotel, Republic of Maldives on 30th August, 2008. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Hon. Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris, Deputy Minister, of Environment, Energy and Water, Republic of Maldives and the Guest of Honour, Former Vice President International Court of Justice & Hon. Patron of SACRTF Judge C. G. Weeramantry. The meeting was attended by the national members of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force from Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The International Community represented by UNESCO and GEER Foundation.

- Dr. Arvind Boaz, Director General of SACEP provided the welcome address to participants and invitees on behalf of the organising committee, who said that the SACEP is honoured to host this 2nd Task Force meeting in Maldives and pledged its fullest support to ensure the meeting of the objectives of this Task Force.
- Dr. B.P. Nilratna, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF, mentioned SACRTF will be working towards the cooperative body with the participation of the Regional experts and policy makers soon.
- Address by Guest of Honour Hon. Patron-SACRTF, Judge C. G. Weeramantry encouraged an inclusive, important meeting at which guidelines will be laid down for the future work of the SACRTF.
- Address by the Chief Guest Hon. Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives delivering the keynote address briefed the meeting on the importance of strengthening the SACTRF AS a Regional Body on Coral Reef conservation.
- Hon. Mr. Abdul Razzaq Idris Deputy Minister of Environment Energy & Water, Republic of Maldives released the proceedings of Gulf of Mannar Workshop.
- Mr. Hiran Tillekaratne Programme Officer-SACEP, delivered the vote of thanks to all concerned.
1. **MEETING OBJECTIVES**

The following objectives were achieved at the meeting.

1.1 **Specific activities under each of the SACRTF priority implementation areas and develop timeframe for implementation.**

**Policy**
- Identify / development of a regional strategy for coordinated responses to marine and coastal issues within the South Asia region.
- Set the framework/outline of the regional strategy Regional Coral Reef Action Strategy
- Develop a strategy for engagement with key coral reef entities: EACRTF, GCRMN, ICRMN, National Coral Reef Committee (India) and others.
- Carry forward the decisions on MCPA adopted by the SACEP 11th GC.

**Communication**
- Institutionalising the SACRTF to ensure that a nodal unit/representative can be mandated to undertake specific responsibilities
- To the review and preparation of a strategy for enhanced communications between sectors involved in MCPA management and operation within the South Asia region.
- Discuss the modalities of the MCPA Exchange Programme in 2008, to be carried out by the GEER Foundation, India.

**Fundraising**
- Identify a mechanism, and key actions to advance discussions with country governments on the 'challenge grant' for the sustainable future of the SACRTF
- Harmonise meetings/ events calendar with the availability of members.

1.2 **Implementation and Reporting of Environmental Education activities** at 5 MCPA sites participating in the project (selected via call for proposals).

1.3 **Advocacy and awareness raising** Identify profile-raising materials required by the SACRTF and the process for their development.

1.4 **Administration issues:**
- Communications and coordination
- SACRTF budget
- Official launching of the SACRTF logo

2. **Deliverables**

1. Progress of SACRTF from the 1st Meeting.
   - Communication and coordination strategy identified among SACRTF representatives.

2. Implementation and Reporting of the five selected Education Grant IYOR Progress
   - A strategy for the assessment of activities of Environmental Education Call for Action proposals.
   - As the IYOR Focal point for South Asia, Key messages for SACRTF for IYOR 2008 Profile and a SACRTF IYOR 2008 activities.

   - SACRTF work plan with specific activities, lead representatives, and timeframe identified under each of the priority action headings.

4. Research, Monitoring and Policy Issues
   - Criteria, lead representative, and launch timeframe for the SACRTF Exchange Programme to be conducted buy the GEER Foundation, India.
   - Key actions, lead representatives, and timeframe for the institutionalisation of the SACRTF.

5. **Sustainable Financing and Institutionalisation of SACRTF, both Regional and National level.**
   - ‘Challenge Grant’ for the sustainable future of the SACRTF
   - Participation of SACRTF representatives at local, regional, and international meetings of strategic importance coordinated and finances allocated from the SACRTF budget.
   - Target meetings include:
     - The managers exchange programme will be hosted by the GEER Foundation in October
     - World Conservation Congress - Oct
     - ICRI East Asian Seas MCPA Meeting - Nov
     - ASEAN/ SAARC/ EACRTF opportunities

6. **Outreach materials**
   - Further development of promotional and outreach materials required by the SACRTF.
SESSION 1 – INTRODUCTORY SESSION

This working meeting is the Second official meeting of the SACRTF representatives held on 31st of August, 2008 at the conference hall of the Hulhule Island Hotel, Republic of Maldives. Hon. Patron Judge C.G. Weeramantri released the SACRTF 1st Meeting Report and 04 Stickers of the IYOR celebration at the outset of the meeting.

1.1 Introduction and Progress of SACRTF from the 1st Meeting

The meeting adopted the agenda and introductory presentation of the SACRTF was done by Dr. A.A. Boaz. Dr. K. Venkataraman was appointed as the official Rapporteur of the meeting.

1.2 Environmental Education Call for Action Grants

Dr. Boaz pointed out that the following proposals were selected for the funding and contract already signed with the Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

- Environmental Education for Conservation of Threatened Coral Resources in the St. Martin’s Islands -Department of Environment Nature Conservation Management (NACOM), Bangladesh
- Awareness Generation Programme for local stakeholders in Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, Andaman & Nicobar Islands-Department of Environment and Forest, India
- Environmental Education Activities with reference in Marine and Costal Protected Area- Sindh Wildlife Department, Pakistan.

1.3 Progress of International Year Of Reef (IYOR) Activities

For the IYOR 2008, ongoing Regional Environmental School competition and Brand Ambassador selected from Sri Lanka Cricket team for raising profile of the Coral Reef Task Force. SACEP has been selected as the South Asia Focal Point for the IYOR by the IYOR secretariat.

1.4 Report on the progress in Preparation of the Managers Exchange Programme

Managers Exchange Programme is planned to be hosted by the Gujarat Ecological Education and Research (GEER) Foundation in November 2008 to address multiple elements of management, enforcement and education, and to encourage the improved operation and outputs and their use as better management practice examples within countries and across the region. Dr. H. S. Singh, Acting Director of GEER Foundation explained the provisional workshop agenda.

1.4 EU project Update and Progress

Dr. Boaz highlighted the role of the project in supporting the development of human and technical capacity at existing MCPAs across the region.

- Project partnership has been widened improving access to regional and international technical expertise and outreach potential
- Challenges remain to complete all activities before the project deadline 31 December 2008. SACRTF member support is sought to help advance and effectively implement the remaining activities – key challenge areas listed in slides
- Toolkit prepared in consultation with over 40 regional and international experts and printing will be completed by 1 October 2008
- Interactive exercises to build managers skills in project design, planning, monitoring, livelihoods and networking. Workshop Report is available from www.icran.org/action-southasia.html
- Government of Maldives kindly offered to host a regional South Asia Coral Reef Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) course, 1-5 December 2008. To identify ~18 participants with appropriate in-water skills and opportunity to apply training in workplace
RECOMMENDATIONS

Following recommendations were emerged from the discussion:

- Bangladesh highlighted the importance of collaboration with Center for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad, India for the environment educational activities of the Task Force.

- 3-5 officers from each country will be selected for the MCPA manager level participants for site exchange/exposure visit programme by first week of November 08, after the consultation with the country governments.

- Director of the GEER Foundation, Ahmedabad, India will be sending the provisional work programme for the managers exchange programme at Gulf of Kachchh which is the first Marine National Park in India and they agreed to facilitate the programme. Half day experience sharing session and 30 min country case study session will be included in the agenda. (Provisional Agenda in Annex J)

- Implementation of project activities under the Environmental Education Call for Action from all 5 countries were agreed to complete within the IYOR, i.e 2008. SACRTF representatives were requested to share the progress of the short projects.
Environmental Education Call for Action

GOAL
- to raise awareness of the importance and value of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, and to explain to the public the long-term, sustainable benefits of the MCPA.

Objective
- to improve the effectiveness of management and operation at existing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs), developing staff capacity and training tools, and encouraging the replication of best practices at sites across the region.

Output
- Awareness and the involvement and participation of coastal communities in MCPA management is critical to effective conservation.
- In countries where MCPAs are effective, conservation awareness is usually high among communities, managers and the private sector.

Areas of focus/Action
Under the project, and with the support of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF), five small action grants are available for environmental education and outreach activities at the following participating MCPA sites:
- St. Martins Island, Bangladesh
- Mahatma Gandhi National Park, Andaman Islands, India
- Boa Atoll, Maldives
- Jiwani (Gwadar), Pakistan
- Bar Reef, Sri Lanka

Environmental Education Call for Action

GOAL
To raise awareness of the importance and value of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, and to explain to the public the long-term, sustainable benefits of the MCPA.

Objective
- to improve the effectiveness of management and operation at existing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs), developing staff capacity and training tools, and encouraging the replication of best practices at sites across the region.
Call for Action Output

- Awareness and the involvement and participation of coastal communities in MCPA management is critical to effective conservation.

- In countries where MCPAs are effective, conservation awareness is usually high among communities, managers and the private sector.

Summary of the Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>PROGRAM TITLE</th>
<th>TIME Frame (months)</th>
<th>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reporting Information

- Short Asian country case studies from MCPA site management authorities, local stakeholders, community groups and conservation NGOs. Collaborative workshops that discuss the current involvement of communities and the forthcoming areas for improvement.

- A comprehensive overview of existing awareness raising activities in MCPA sites, if any.

- A plan, or strategy for community engagement in education and awareness raising activities that will motivate the target audience to take action to protect coastal areas.

- A list of potential partners involved and a brief description of respective organizations and capacity to support the planned activities.

- A detailed budget and timeline with a time frame for implementation.

- A feedback system to monitor the implementation.

- A strategic plan on the planned activities to include detailed costs and expected outcomes.

- Final report for the planned activities and submitted to the MCPA.

- To foster a national network of MCPA awareness advocates.
**IYOR 2008**

- In order to align activities with the global awareness raising campaign of the International Year of the Reef 2008 (IYOR 2008) which starts in January, Final Reports are asked to submitted before 31 DECEMBER 2008.

- MPCA site management authorities, in collaboration with local partners, community groups, and conservation NGOs.

---

**Thank you!**

For more information on the project

www.mesper.org/html/projects_ongoing_mesper.htm
IYOR Introduction

"Recognizing that ten years after the first International Year of the Reef (1997) there continues to be an urgent need to increase awareness and understanding of coral reefs and to further conserve and manage valuable coral reef and associated ecosystems.

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), designated 2008 as the "International Year of the Reef (IYOR 2008)" in October 2006.

IYOR 2008 Goals

- Strengthen awareness about ecological, economic, social and cultural value of coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Improve understanding of the critical threats to reefs and generate both practical and innovative solutions to reduce these threats
- Generate urgent action to develop and implement effective management strategies for conservation and sustainable use of these ecosystems

Vision:

January to December 2008

IYOR 2008 will be a year-long campaign of events and initiatives hosted by governments and non-governmental organizations around the world, with global ownership from the community level upward, to promote conservation action and strengthening long-term consistencies for coral reef conservation.
**IYOR 2008 Activity / Event for SACRTF**

- Organize and host a special Day of the Coral Reef in 2008 - this could involve a public festival or street parade with a focus on celebrating coral reefs' role in local livelihoods and the media to take part!
- Invite a celebrity who is interested in coral reef to be a IYOR Ambassador - use their status to increase public awareness of coral reefs.
- Develop a range of IYOR merchandise such as, calendar, caps etc. Ask if your postal service would prepare a IYOR stamp (please inquire). Use this merchandise as giveaways or as rewards for participation in conservation activities.
- Produce leaflets, brochures, pamphlets, stickers and patches in your native language to educate the public about the value of coral reefs.
- Encourage local journalists to write features about issues important to coral reef in the media.
- Organize a coral reef competition (or photo competition) that encourages participation of local school students and the general public.
- Promote the IYOR by linking web site to the IYOR website (http://www.iyor.org).
- Participate in beach clean-up.

---

**Contd. IYOR 2008 Activity / Event Ideas...**

- Encourage the next generation to care about coral reefs - organize educational visits to local schools and introduce coral reef biology and conservation into the school curriculum.
- Identify and nominate sites that are important for coral reef in your country, and lobby for their protection.
- Organise a community clean-up day and coral reef survey invite local schools to participate.
- Develop a code of practice for sustainable tourism - build relationships with coastal resort developers and tourist authorities and ensure them to ensure that their resorts are 'coral reef'. Offer training for resort staff and develop (or re-print existing) educational material on coral reef for tourists.

---

**SACEP as the Focal Point for IYOR-South Asia Region**

http://www.iyor.org/focalpoints.org/sacrtf/sac001orga.htm

---

**Thank You!**
South Asia MCPA Project

Overview:
- Significant progress has been made in a number of key products and activities during the last 6 months.
- 100% of the required co-financing (~US$1M) has been secured, releasing all funds from the EU.
- Project partnerships have been widened, improving access to regional and international technical expertise and outreach potential.
- Challenges remain to complete all activities before the project deadline 31 December 2008.
- SACRED member support is sought to help advance and effectively implement the remaining activities - key challenge areas listed in slides.

Managing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas: A Toolkit for South Asia

Aims: Prepare a comprehensive toolkit to help managers in South Asia access simple and current information to support MCPA management.
- Toolkit's prepared in consultation with over 40 regional and international experts.
- Printing will be completed by 1 October 2008.
- International launch intended at the World Conservation Congress in Mexico, October 2008.
- Next Steps: To identify strategic opportunities for regional launch and dissemination by SACRED (e.g. ICRI East Asia MCPA Regional Workshop, 11-14 November 2008).

Capacity Building Training for MCPA Managers

Aims: Develop the skills of participants through interactive training scenarios, and provide opportunities for the target audience to review content, structure and usefulness of the South Asia Toolkit prior to finalisation.
- Regional training workshops conducted in the Maldives, June 4-7 2008.
- 30 participants attended from the 10 participating countries.
- Interactive exercises to build managers' skills in project design, planning, monitoring, livelihoods and networking.

Coral Reef Crime Scene Investigation (CSI)

Aims: Training for field staff in investigative, forensic and rapid ecological assessment techniques to improve response to incident and maximise prosecution and investigation success.
- 260-page Coral Reef CSI Toolkit prepared to guide resource impact investigations and rapid responses.
- Workshop of Maldive Islands. (september) to host a regional South Asia CSI course, 2-5 December 2008.
- Marine Research Centre (MRC) to provide local coordination support.
- Two-week, capacity development training, 12-28 August 2008, for international CSI trainers to facilitate location, data management, logistics.
- Next Steps: To identify up to 15 participants with appropriate in-water skills and opportunity to apply training in workplace.

Supporting Enforcement and Compliance at existing MCPA Sites

Aims: To better support existing MCPAs in the enforcement of protection, restoration and population through the provision of technical enforcement equipment and resources.
- Call for proposals released in November 2007 to highlight availability of a selection grants (~US$20k).
- Only two proposals were received, from Sri Lanka and Pakistan, in preparation to release funds to these countries.
- Next Steps: Encourage timely engagement of remaining 3 countries to ensure the funds can be released from the EU for national activities.
**South Asia Marine and Coastal Information Portal**

**Aims:** Develop a comprehensive information portal containing tools, resources and information distilled from data in a user-friendly format for marine and coastal resource managers.

- IUCN Asia contracted to lead the development of an innovative information and linked discussion facility.

**Next Steps:**
- Establish collaborations partnerships with regional stakeholders to encourage regular sharing of information and resources.
- Obtain feedback from target audience on relevance and user-friendliness of site.

---

**Sustainable Livelihood Diversification and Enhancement (SLED)**

**Aims:** Strengthen the capacity for the design and implementation of SLED initiatives for poor reef users.

- 5 regional SLED workshops conducted to characterize reef dependence and build skills of local facilitators to assist and engage communities.
- Regional framework to guide implementation and uptake of SLED activities designed and field tested in 6 countries.
- Micro-grants provided to support community members in SLED projects – demand for additional activities in many communities.
- SLED process evaluated to define impact and regional scope – full report prepared.

**Next Steps:** Explore options for continuing/expandng the scope of SLED activities beyond the 2008 deadline.

---

**SLED Outputs Include:**

- SLED Manual prepared to provide development practitioners with an introduction to the process and guidance for facilitating Sustainable Livelihood Enhancement and Diversification (SLED).
- Global Review of Livelihood Experiences prepared and in print.
- Case Studies from site based SLED activities prepared for each participating country.
- Article in the 2008 CORDIO report on regional SLED activities.

---

**Contact Information**

- ICARAN and SACEP are keen to work alongside SACERT members to advance and successfully implement the remaining activities under this project.
- For further information on any of the listed activities, how you can help, or to obtain copies of reports and resources please contact:

  Nicola Barnard  
  Senior Programme Officer - ICARAN  
  nbarnard@icran.org
Managers exchange program in the Marine National Park in the Gulf of Kachchh,
Dr. H.S. Singh

First Marine National Park of the country-declared in 1982, although Marine Sanctuary was constituted in 1930

Total area : 457 sq. km.
Islands 42 with 33 having coral reefs

Opportunities of learning
- Long history of coastal reef conservation-36 years
- First Marine National Park of India
- Diversity of marine habitats, coral reef, mangroves, sea grass beds, tidal flat
- Biological diversity
- Geod research and educational activities
- Large number of stakeholders
- Rich fishery area-high dependency of fishermen
- Support threatened marine species
- Largest area of coastal wetland of India in the Gulf of Kachchh

ZONING IN THE GULF OF KUTCH

How management of MPA in India is different from other parts of the world?
- Organizational set up
- Complexity of stakeholders
- Research and education activities

SECTORS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN MPA
- Coastal people, fishermen
- Marine Park Authority
- Department of Fisheries
- Gujarat Maritime Board
- Kachchh Port Trust (KPT)
- Salt industries
- Refineries and petroleum etc.
- GSFC Ltd.
- Cement industries
- Thermal power plants
- Ship breaking units
- Department of Customs
- Coastal guards
- Indian Navy
- Department of Tourism
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

MANGROVES
- Mangroves in Gujarat: 936 sq. km.
- Mangroves in MPA: 150 sq. km.
- Total core species of mangroves: 7
- 294 sp. of flowering plants and 120 species of algae

Impressive Mangrove Restoration
A most successful mangrove restoration in the world

CORAL REEFS
52 species of corals
Dead and live coral reef: 450 sq. km

MARINE LIFE
- 206 sp. of mollusca
- 3 sp. of turtle
- 199 species of fish
- 20 species of crabs
- 4 species of mammals
- 4 species of sea snakes
- 70 sp. of sponges
- 27 sp. of prawns

190 species of birds
2,000 pairs of birds of over a dozen species nest on mangrove trees in a partial area in the park in 2000.
Programs
First Day: Induction at GEC Foundation, Gandhinagar
Presentation by experts and discussion on
Program on coral conservation in India
Marine National Park, Jamnagar—conservation and management
Research works on coral reef and associated habitats in the
Marine Park by GEC Foundation
Presentation by international expert and discussion
Institutional and organizational arrangement for managing Marine National park
Community participation in mangroves and sustainable use of coastal resources by GEC
Mapping the coral reefs and other associated habitats

Second Day
Experience sharing—Presentation by the managers of MCPAs of South Asian Nations and discussion
Departure from Gandhinagar/Ahmedabad to Jamnagar in the afternoon

Third Day: at Jamnagar
Presentation by Director, Marine National Park on conservation, management of the park, issues of conservation discussion
Visit to the park to see and study Mangroves—restoration by the department & industries, sustainable use of resources by local people, Ecological education activities—discussion

Fourth Day: Presentation by international or national expert
Visit to islands of the Marine National Park in the Gulf of Kachchh to study coral reef conservation
Discussion with local people and stakeholders

Fifth Day
Presentation and discussion on policies and implementation related to MCPAs
Presentation and discussion on role of local communities in mangroves and coral conservation and sustainable use of marine resources
Marine biodiversity and livelihood of coastal communities
Feedback
Plenary discussion
Concluding session

Cost estimate
Total cost for organizing managers exchange/training program for 25 participants in the Gulf of Kachchh as per the planning would be about Rs 3.0 million (US $ 70,000)

Above cost include about Rs one million for travel cost of the managers from their countries to Jamnagar—Gulf of Kachchh and about Rs 0.3 million will be cost for international experts.

Above cost may be modified after discussion
SESSION 2 – COORDINATION AND INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Review of progress and major initiatives related to MCPAs/ coral reefs and the SACRTF work plan since the 1st meeting of the SACRTF.

2.1 Country Presentations

Country presentations were done by the following representatives highlighting the;

- New activities which raise the profile of MCPAs
- New key policy developments
- New funding opportunities
- Major new initiatives
- Milestones for the next year and potential role of the task force to advance them.
- Establishment of National Coral Reef Task Force (NCRTF)

Bangladesh, Mr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Project Manager, Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project (CWBMP)
- A coral conservation plan developed under CWBMP for St. Martins Island by WCRC
- The experiences gathered from the deliberation of fellow member countries in this regard could play a role in forming National Coral Reef Task Force and to carry out conservation activities of national and international interest

India, Dr. K. Venkataraman, Secretary- NBA
- National committee on Mangroves & Coral Reef acts as National Coral Reef Task Force
- Expert Group on Research in Mangroves and Coral Reef.

Maldives, Mr. Hussein Zahir, Senior Research Officer, Marine Research Center
- Ecological surveys of the 15 sites from 1998-2005 on the status and recovery
- Marine resource valuation – just completed under AEC Project

Pakistan, Dr. Fehmida Firdous, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sindh Wildlife Department
- Coral and Coral Reefs have recently been explored in Pakistan after extensive underwater surveys along Baluchistan coast due to technical assistance from Pakistan Wetland Program under Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan.

Sri Lanka Mr. Anil Premaratne Additional Director, Coast Conservation Department
- Country Task Force has not been formed yet. This would be formed for action to begin at the MCPAs. Lead agency would be the Coast Conservation Department involving all other stakeholders. However there are no funds for any of the activities that the task force would address at the MCPA site.

2.2 UNESCO Efforts in The Field of Coral Reef and Marine Protected Area Conservation

Dr. Ram Boojh, Programme Specialist (Ecology & Earth Science) of UNESCO highlighted in his presentation the Mandate of UNESCO are

- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)- Coral Reef Monitoring sites
- Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme- Biosphere Reserves- Marine Protected Areas- Marine Spatial Planning
- World Heritage Marine Sites- Marine Parks

Key points emerged from this discussion:

- Dedicated funding for the development of MCPA sites and for continued research.
- Identify and seek support through available expertise within region which can minimize expenses for training of MCPA staff.
- Development of sustainable financing mechanisms through Public and Private partnerships in the activities of MCPAs through tourism, resource use etc. (SACRTF can assist by linking the sources that is necessary for PP partnerships).
- National Committee on Coral reef and Mangrove of India which will function as National Coral Reef Task force and country Working Group including more members.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the presentations and the subsequent discussion, following recommendations for the implementation by the Task Force were agreed upon:

- It was noted that each National Task Force will have to be allocated adequate resources from the Country Governments. It will be developed in collaboration with local partners and management agencies to ensure a complementary and appropriate local focus and to add value to the existing efforts. Where appropriate, lessons learned will be transferred to the Regional level.

- UNESCO will be informed and shared their marine and coastal activities within the region with the SACRTF. Similarly, communication between stakeholders in this sector will be identified for experiences sharing and capacity building programmes of the sector.

- Pakistan and India were already nominated the Country Task Force and the secretariat requested the other country governments to form the National Task Force nominations. SACRTF representatives agreed on a representative from each MCPA site, if not already done so and ensure that they are included in all future SACRTF correspondence and meetings. Till such time that the country task forces are established and one member nominated them on the regional task force.
Country Presentations
Country Presentation Bangladesh
Mr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Project Manager, Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project

New Activities to raise the profile of MCPAs

Following activities took place:
- A coral conservation plan developed under CWBMP for St. Martin’s Island by WCRC
- A comprehensive underwater survey of the coral and associated community conducted in St. Martin’s Island from CWBMP project by WCRC
- An education programme for awareness raising of people in and around St. Martin’s Island developed, SACEP has agreed to fund

New key policy developments

- ECA rules drafted under the BECA 1995, this will provide legal protection to coral and associated communities among others
- The CWBMP has planned to organize seminar and photo exhibition on Corals to sensitize people

New Funding Opportunities

- The MOEF has planned to provide 1 Million US$ to the CWBMP for addressing climate change issues in biodiversity conservation
- The SACRTF can provide technical assistance to the CWBMP coral conservation activities and can coordinate in exploring necessary funding

Major New Initiatives

CWBMP Coral Conservation activities:
Objective: Conserve coral biodiversity and colonies through community engagement at St. Martin’s Island

Activities:
- Sensitize and engage local community
- Underwater survey
- Identify and prioritize threats
- ID & prioritize conservation actions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engaging Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultation meeting with stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitize and engage local community: fisher, collectors, traders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware tourists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market vigilance and legal enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative income generation activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Coral Reef Task Force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Though there is no specific progress, it is expected that the upcoming seminar will result in formation of a network for coral conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The experiences gathered from the deliberation of fellow member countries in this regard could play a role in forming National Coral Reef Task Force and to carryout conservation activities of national and international interest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coral Conservation in Bangladesh

Objective

Conserve Coral Biodiversity and colonies through community engagement at St. Martin's Island

1. St. Martin's Island designated as ESA in 1992 under the ESA Act 1972
2. A small island at the north eastern corner of Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal
3. 9 km south from Cox's Bazar-Central Parliament
4. Famous tourist spot, the tourist pressure is increasing rapidly
5. Surface area is about 16 km²

Major Activities

- Dive under coral conservation component of SWMP area
- 1. Sensitize and engage local community in coral conservation
- 2. Conduct a comprehensive underwater survey of the coral and associated community of the island
- 3. Identify and prioritize threats for corals
- 4. Identification and prioritization of actions for conservation of coral ecosystem

Major Findings

- Corals of 65 species, 16 family observed
- Acropora is most common
- 37 species of reef associated fish
- 46 species of algae

Acropora

Brittle Star
Engaging Community

1. Consultation meeting with stakeholders
2. Sensitize and engage local community, especially the fisher, coral collectors and traders
3. Aware tourists
4. Market vigilance and legal enforcement
5. Alternative income generation activities for the poorer

Threats to coral communities

- Sedimentation
- Marine trash
- Fishing and other vessel anchoring
- Boulder removal from intertidal zone
- Coral collection trading
- Movement of fishing & tourist boats over the area
- Oil pollution
- Walking over
- Coral disease
- Climate change

Guidelines developed

- Guideline for tourist
  - For divers
  - For boating
  - For shore side walking
  - For snorkeling
- Under water cleanup guideline

Management: Zoning of Coral Area

- Restricted access zone: only scientific research
- Sanctuary zone: high protection/no take
- Habitat protection: fishing & recreation without harming corals
- Generally managed zone: sustainable use
- Special purpose zone: jetty/port
Country Presentation India Dr. K. Venkataraman, Secretary- NBA

New Activities to raise the profile of MCPAs

- Workshop and awareness programs held in January 2008
- 49 papers presented from India during 10th ICES
- Attended MCPA roundtable and ICES-IUCN
- Programme on children’s education Awareness for schools of Odisha, Odisha- October 2008
- National meet on conservation and management of India’s coral reef 2008 at Andaman Nicobar Islands
- IUCN - SOP on brain storming meeting (NGO-GoMERS)
- IUCN Project in Spice Application Centre (ISPAL)
- International Agreements Treaties, Conventions

New key policy developments

- Implementation of National Environment Policy 2006
- National Biodiversity Action Plan 2008 (CBD-At 5)
- India Country Report on Biodiversity (CBD)
- National Expert Group on Research – New R&D Projects
- National Committee Meeting on Mangroves and Corals –March 2008 Goa (Invited Dr. ARAVIND BOAZ)
- WLP Act amended –Community Protected Area.

New Funding Opportunities

- Supported:
  - GEF (GOMERS), World Bank-IUCN, UNEP (strengthen the capacity under BD Act), UNDP (Mohan-Korichy)
  - Regional opportunities that can be capitalised through leadership from the SACRTF
  - Revive the earlier Programmes such as GCRMN & CORDIO

Major New Initiatives

- Coastal Regulation Zone under World Bank Project (ICBM, Pollution Monitoring & Control and Technical Capacity Building)
- UNDP GEF - Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Project (Malvan and Korichy)
- Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve Trust (GEF)
- Regional initiatives on South Asian Regional Seas Programme (Training on MPA, Assessment of Ballast Studies under Global Ballast Programme, Regional Oil Spill Contingency Program)

Milestones

- National Coral Reef Research Institute strengthened funded by IRSD
- Port Trust Coral Reef Studies completed by IRSD
- Expert group on Research in Mangroves and Coral Reefs constituted
- Regional Guidelines on Coral Reefs finalized
- BOO OILSPILL - Monitoring in MCPA; R&D Programme on Monitoring of Marine Habitat; Development of sea waste quality criteria; drugs from the sea, Marine Biodiversity Assessment in Deep Sea, Redlisting including in biodiversity interested areas; marine coastal point in modeling Ecosystem Modeling, Fishery based alternate Livelihood Programs
- National Biodiversity Action Plan approved
- WLP Act amended and to cater to the Community participation.
- GLOBAL TREATY on ENVIRONMENT Law for Threats Protected Area by UNEP
- Regional Oil Spill contingency Plan for India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Guam
National Coral Reef Task Force

**Progress Made**

- Several Programmes Related Committees on Min. Earth Sci.
- National committee on Mangrove & Coral Reef acts as National Coral Reef Task Force
- Expert Group on Research in Mangroves and Coral Reef.
- Several Research projects have been funded by Government of India and on going projects.

**No developments and barriers**

- Deprival of Taxonomists and Capacity Building in coral reef
- Open access nature of marine resources
- Inadequate capacities for underwater monitoring.

---

Think corals, Dream Corals & Save corals

Thank you very much
Country Presentation Maldives
Mr. Hussein Zahir, Senior Research Officer, Marine Research Center

New Activities to raise the profile of MCPAs

Atoll Ecosystem Conservation Project (GEF)
- Collection of information on biodiversity and related issues
- Rapid ecological surveys - ongoing
- Socioeconomic studies of Baa atoll
- Economic evaluation of natural resources of Baa atoll
- Economic studies and management plans for Dhigali and Olhughi
- Dive site study on tourists willingness to pay (Dhigali Bay)

Program of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA) under GEF
- Establish a system for representative PAs
- Develop a governance mechanism
- Develop a financing mechanism

New activities continued...

Country Coral Reef Task Force
- Just initiated: MFF’s National Co-ordinating Body (NCE) and National Task Force on IVOR followed
- Representatives of NCRTF: MFF, MOPA, MNS, TURAB, SND, AHS, DIVE, etc.
- Fishermen’s Association
- etc.

New key policy developments

- Existing policies and strategies
  - National Development Plans
  - Tourism Master Plan 5
  - National Environmental Action Plan - 2005
  - National Sustainable Development Plan - ongoing
  - National Strategy and Action Plan (NiSPA) - ongoing
  - National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA)

New Funding Opportunities

- BOF/ICE - Approved by GEF and ready for signing
- Focus is on the management of shared resources
- Benefits to the Maldives is limited - larval connectivity of pelagic and coral reef resources
- Indian Ocean Island Biodiversity Project - FID
  - Started in 2008
  - 3 years
- Biocentre Project (coastal and coral reef areas, conservation studies)
- Linked to AEC Project
- SWICPO South western Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
- Management of tuna fishery resources
- MFF (small-scale US$25,000 large-scale US$100,000)
Major New Initiatives/Projects

- Maldives Environmental Management Project (MEMP)
  - WFD funding
  - Capacity building, marine management and strengthening of existing coastal and marine monitoring programmes
  - Project target areas: North and South Male Atolls (includes Hanafaru Bay)
- Are there any gaps/needs that SACRTF members could support?
  - Exchange of expertise
  - Long-term management plans

Milestones

- Ecological surveys of the 15 sites from 1998-2005 on the status and recovery of regional recovery trends
- Marine resource valuation – just completed under AECG Project
- How can the SACRTF contribute to this effort?
  - Technical opportunities
  - Information dissemination and sharing in the region and beyond

National Coral Reef Task Force

- Multinational and comprises of government, private and non-profit sectors
- Need collaboration and networking of all sectors and uses
- e.g. pest identification networks on coral health
- Best practices of NROs and non-governmental organizations
- Need enhanced environmental stewardship from public and private sector

Acknowledgements

EU
ICRAN
UNEP
SACRTF
MEEW and others

Thank you
Country Presentation Pakistan
Dr. Fehmida Firdous, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sindh Wildlife Department

**South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF)**

**Recent Surveys along the coastal and marine areas of Pakistan**

**Recent joint surveys**

**Exploration for Coral**

Coral and Coral Reefs have recently been explored in Pakistan after extensive underwater surveys along Baluchistan coast due to technical assistance from Pakistan Wetland Program under Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan.

**Problems associated with coastline resources**

- Habitat loss due to conversion and sea intrusion.
- Network of Protected Areas: minimum protection gap analysis.
- Excessive cutting of mangroves and associated riverine forests.
- Reduced availability of freshwater due to construction of dams.
- Forest land clearance for agricultural purposes.
- Unchecked pollution from the industries and agricultural fields.
- Use of illegal nets for fishing.
- Population pressure.
- Lack of political will among the leaders; and,
Coral Threat by Ghost Nets

Existing Legislation / Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>Sindh</th>
<th>Balochistan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Migratory Species Convention, 1979</td>
<td>Sindh Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
<td>Balochistan Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-ordination Convention</td>
<td>Sindh Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
<td>Balochistan Wildlife Ordinance, 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARPOL (Marine Pollution)</td>
<td>Sindh Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
<td>Balochistan Wildlife Ordinance, 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution</td>
<td>Sindh Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
<td>Balochistan Wildlife Ordinance, 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFO Convention 1955 related to alien species</td>
<td>Sindh Fisheries Ordinance, 1973</td>
<td>Balochistan Wildlife Ordinance, 1975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pakistan’s International Obligations

- Ramsar Convention
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-ordination Convention
- MARPOL (Marine Pollution)
- International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution
- MARSAT Convention 1976 (Convention of International Maritime Satellite)
- DFO Convention 1955 related to alien species

New key policy developments

- MOU signed with Oman Beach Guard and PWP Makran coast.
- MOU signed with Community Development Department and Makran Coastal Complex.
- Recommendations submitted to Government of Sindh to declare as "Nature Reserve".
- Government of Balochistan requested to declare seawas as "Protected Area".
- Conservation Committees formed in Balochistan coastal areas.
- Declared Astola Island as Ramsar site

New Activities to raise the profile of MCPAs

- Established Conservation Information/Resource centre at Gwadar-Jaward and Tando.
- Initiated Community Based Turtle & Coral Conservation Programs.
- Organised Training Workshops and seminars to raise awareness community for importance of corals and surrounding habitats.
- Celebrated ecosystem weeks (e.g., world wildlife week, world water day, world earth day, world environment day).
- Attended Coral Management Course in Egypt by three Participants from Pakistan.
- Approved Four-month Project on Environmental Education activities with reference to Coral and Coral Reef at Jiwani (Ghizer Bay), funding recently approved by UNEP.

Major New Initiatives

- Biodiversity conservation Project implemented at Jiwani.
- Cetacean conservation program carried out along Sindh & Balochistan coast.
- A Project on monitoring and assessment of Shark catch, landing and trade on Balochistan has been implemented.
- Mangrove Plantation carried out in an area of about 500 ha.
- Conducted underwater surveys at Jiwani & Astola for exploring coral and coral reefs.
**National Coral Reef Task Force**

- National Coral Reef Task Force was formulated in 2007
- Members of National CETF work in cooperation with each other and exchange expertise and information as required.
- Programs of coral reef activities are listed as follows:
  a) The issue of coral reef conservation is considered at national and provincial levels. NGO networks/NGOs and local communities.
  b) Staff/deforestation and regional workshops have been organized by various government organizations. NGOs and local communities.
  c) Declaration of important coral reef areas as "[Name Removed]" or "[Name Removed]".
  d) Community-level training programs/seminars have been conducted.
  e) Training for PNF staff was provided.
  f) Celebration of the annual coastal awareness and associated activities.
  g) Members of National CETF regularly attend regional SACIF meetings.

---

**Coral Workshop**

![Coral Workshop Image]

**Astola**

![Astola Image]

**Marine Life in association with Corals**

![Marine Life Image]
Acknowledgements

1. Mr. Maqsood Arshad and Mr. Abdul Rahman, Pakistan Wetland Program
2. Mr. Muhammad Fizan, WWF Pakistan
3. Mr. Tahir Qureshi, IUCN Pakistan
4. Dr. Rupert Ormond, Marine Conservation International
5. Mr. Arjum Ali, Marine Fisheries Department, Govt. of Pakistan
6. Mr. Riz Ehsan Baloche, Sindh Wildlife Department, Govt. of Sindh

THANKS FROM

SINDH WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
Country Presentation: Sri Lanka
Mr. Anil Premaratne, Additional Director, Coast Conservation Department

New Activities to raise the profile of MCPAs
- Activities of MCPAs in the management of coral reefs have not been coordinated through the MCPA Management Committee in recent years.
- Training has been provided to selected staff in developing countries to assist in raising the profile of MCPAs.
- Proposals have been made to the Government of India for the establishment of an MCPA in their jurisdiction.
- Raising awareness in the local community is essential for the success of MCPA projects.
- Country Task Force has not been formed yet. This activity will be initiated in the forthcoming months.

New Key Policy Developments
- No new policies have been introduced since the last meeting in December 2007.
- Mainstreaming of coral reef issues - The following national plans address coral reef issues:
  1. Coastal Zone Management Plan addresses all aspects of coastal management.
  2. National Environmental Action Plan

Funding Opportunities
- There are severe budget reductions for activities of government departments and therefore external funding is necessary to carry out existing work at the MCPA sites.
- Regional funding opportunities:
  1. Regional organization that can be approached for assistance is the SAGT.
  2. The SAGT has been discussed at this meeting.
- Fund raising for MCPA work, and SAGT.
  1. Lead role should be taken by SAGT and SACRTF.

Major New Initiatives
- No major initiatives taken for the development of MCPAs since the last meeting in December 2007.
- Major issues affecting development of MCPAs:
  1. Lack of funding, dedicated staff, and management staff and equipment are major issues.
  2. Dedicated staff for MCPA is lacking. Furthermore, transferring of trained staff from mainland to terrestrial areas is also affecting the MCPAs.

Institutional strengthening for management
- Review of current management initiatives and identification of gaps in policies and implementation.
- Support received to date from the project, effective use and future needs.
- Improvement of policies with particular emphasis on resource use.
- Institutional strengthening is needed for the effective implementation of existing regulations.
- Importance of sharing experiences within the region and development of appropriate techniques for local conditions.
- Project support for further strengthening of CDM processes.
- Strengthening of institutional linkages for effective management.
Current physical status at the target site

Bar Reef Marine Sanctuary

- The recovery of the marine coral reef has been rapid in the last 4 years. Increase of coral growth is due to the collapse of corals that died during the 1997 bleaching event.

Funding needs for development of the chosen MCPA site

- Development of the Bar Reef Marine Sanctuary and current needs:
  - SEE CEPF completed a SDR with government. This training in livelihood diversification (e.g., culture of seaweed and tourism) needs further emphasis for continued development.
  - Monitoring plan has been developed.
  - Key activities that need support for implementation:
    - Improvement of the MCPA boundary (reserves about 40% were lost).
    - Allocation of personnel (staff).
    - Sustainable funding is needed for this as government funding is very limited.
    - Equipment needed: small craft and associated monitoring equipment.
    - Further training in livelihood diversification with the aim of reducing pressure on resource exploitation.

Research needs for management of coral reef ecosystems

- Continued monitoring of the status of the coral reefs, employing reef resilient methodology in view of changes due to climate change impacts and increasing resource exploitation.
- Oceanographic parameters that are important to predict the changes that may occur to reef habitats
- Monitoring of resource exploitation for adaptive management.
- Determine maximum exploitation levels and their impacts with a view to controlling resource exploitation.
- Impacts of livelihood diversification and development of alternative livelihoods.

Support sought through SACRTF

- Dedicated funding for the development of MCPA sites and for continued research.
- Organise active participation of the Ministers concerned in each country. SACRTF should facilitate this process.
- Identify and seek support through available expertise within regions. (This can initiate regional action for funding of MCPA staff)
- Development of sustainable financing mechanisms through Public and Private partnerships in the activities of MCPAs through tourism, resource use etc. (SACRTF can assist by funding the costs that are necessary for FP partnerships).
UNESCO Efforts in The Field of Coral Reef and Marine Protected Area Conservation”.
Dr. Ram Booijh, Programme Specialist (Ecology & Earth Science) of UNESCO
GCRMN (cont.)
- Works to improve management and conservation of coral reefs by providing manuals, equipment, databases, training, problem solving, and helps with finding funds for reef monitoring
- Works through 17 regional networks of states and countries called nodes
- Ex: The South Asian Node includes: India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Outputs of the GCRMN
Biennial "Status of Coral Reefs of the World:
- 2004 Report: human activities the primary cause of severe degradation of coral reefs worldwide; details many new initiatives aimed at reversing this degradation such as by conserving the biodiversity, the economic value and beauty of coral reefs
- 2006 "Status of Coral Reefs in Tsunami Affected Countries: 2005"

Other publications released in 2008:
- Status of Caribbean Coral Reefs after bleaching and Hurricanes in 2005
- Effective Catchment Management and Coral Reef Conservation: Best Practice Case Studies

GCRMN - South Asia
- Started in 1997
  - First Phase: focus on awareness raising and the development of capacity for biophysical monitoring across the region
  - Second Phase: began in 1999 with an emphasis on recognizing the importance of socio-economic monitoring for the effective management of coral reefs
  - Third Phase: started in 2002; develop the understanding within South Asia of the process of converting information into action in response to the realization that few attempts at using information to inform and influence reach the right people in the right format to stimulate the kind of change that is needed.
GCRMN – South Asia (cont.)

1998 – 2000:
- Regional training programmes in biophysical and socio-economic monitoring to equip researchers and managers with the tools to collect information on not only the status of the coral reefs and the reef stakeholders but also the policies, institutions and processes that affect the decisions and actions made by these stakeholders.
- A database has been developed which in the future is hoped to provide a storage system that will facilitate the horizontal (between the information generators) and vertical (from macro to micro or micro levels) movement of information on coral reefs.

Gulf of Mannar BR

- Legal enforcement and stringent punishment for use of dynamite in fishing
- Community awareness combined with remedial and preventative measures through involving the community – promote forming committees of representatives as their community authorised managers = stakeholder involvement

Gulf of Mannar BR

- Coral mining for cement manufacturing industries, which has been associated to the loss of several islands

Activities:
- Educating coastal communities about the destructive effects of dynamite fishing in the coral reefs, which in addition to the death of the fish also kills the fauna and associated dugong (sea cows)

Conclusion from the activities and experiences of the GCRMN South Asia, 2005

- Coral reef ecosystems in South Asia are under increasing pressure due to among others environmental stress, unsustainable fisheries, coral mining, climate change related coral bleaching
- For long term successful management of the reefs, equitable distribution of benefits among all of the stakeholders, including the poorest in the region, need to be ensured
- The resource management will affect the way people interact with the reefs resources and actively participate in sustaining them
- A holistic development-environment approach with poverty reduction focus is needed

South & Central Asia MAB (SACAM) Network

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Iran
Maldives
Nepal
Pakistan
Sri Lanka
SESSION 3 – Activities of SACRTF

3.1 Sustainable Financing and Institutionalisation of SACRTF

Dr. Arvind Boaz, highlighted the funds to support the initial establishment of the SACRTF have been generously provided by the European Union, through the South Asia MCPA project. After the project close on 31 December 2008, no further funds will be provided to the SACRTF. Participants at the meeting recognised the need to develop a sustainable financing strategy as critical to ensuring the continuation of the SACRTF and the expansion of the network to incorporate national level coral reef task forces in each participating country. Projected budget adopted for the annual operating costs of the SACRTF was presented and at the meeting. (Annex D)

3.2 Development of draft Regional Strategy for coordinated responses to marine and coastal issues within the South Asia region

Participants worked in 2 different groups to discuss the Regional Strategy on marine and coastal areas in the region. Each Group were asked to reflect on the broader context of the issues on Regional Strategy and communication Strategy on MCPA priority areas. The groups were asked to provide guidance to develop a strategy within the region.

Presentation of the 2 groups outcomes were discussed with all participants and GEER Foundation will compiled those in a draft.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- GEER Foundation will be sending the draft document on Regional Strategy and Communication Strategy on end September, 2008.
- Modality for the commitments from SACRTF Members to implement the strategy is to be develop.
- The possibilities for match funding from country governments and other international funding agencies were highlighted to this targeted initiative.
- It was agreed to identify key actions/ materials to advance institutionalisation of the SACRTF and discussions on the sustainable financing and institutionalisation of the SACRTF in the region with country governments.
- The members of the task force thanked the EU for providing the generous finance for the project and establishment and initial continuation of the SACRTF.
Sustainable Financing of the SACRTF

- Funds to support the initial establishment of the SACRTF have been provisioned by the European Union, through the South Asia MCPA project. The project will close on 31 December 2020 after which period no further funding will be provided to the SACRTF.
- During the 1st SACRTF meeting recognised the need to develop a sustainable financing strategy as critical to ensuring the continuation of the SACRTF and the sustainability of the network for harmonising national level, local and regional level in each participating country.
- Representatives are expected to identify a strategy to advance discussions on the sustainable financing and institutionalisation of the SACRTF in the region. To facilitate discussions and consultation with country stakeholders, a working document is provided to guide the DoA.

Projected Annual Operating Costs of the SACRTF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Accommodation</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and Supplies</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and Capacity Building</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sustainable Approach for Institutionalisation of the SACRTF

- Need to secure sustainable financing for the SACRTF.
- Need commitments of member countries to take initiatives forward.
- Annual financial commitments to meet projected operating costs.
- Raise the profile of coral reefs issues, and successful initiatives in the region in order to garner support from donor community and attract funds.
- Review existing national budget allocations for coral reef conservation and management to identify potential financial support for the SACRTF.

Thank You!
PROPOSED SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL CORAL REEF ACTION STRATEGY
Dr. H.S. Singh

INTRODUCTION
- A Strategy for the SAR
- The Importance of Coral Reefs
  - CORAL REEFS OF THE SA REGION
  - The Status and Value of Coral Reefs of the Western Indian Ocean
- Threats to Coral Reefs of the SAR

REGIONAL CORAL REEF ACTION STRATEGY
- Action Strategy Development Process
- The Goals and Objectives of the Action strategy

How to develop the strategy document?
- Coordinating with nodal officers or nodal institution of the five nations and SACRTF to develop and produce the document.

Background Information
General information about Coral Reef
- Exosphere, their values and conservation significance
- Human dimension and threat to coral reefs
- Present trend of global and regional networks of MCPAs and scope of their expansion
- Recent changes in sea environment, their impact on coral reefs and reef communities, and response to mitigate the impact.

Background continues
- Global and regional responses and initiatives to conserve coral reefs
- International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN), ICRAN and its partnership with UNESCO, SACEP, ISCOR, ICRAI, WWF, TNC, GOOS and other global and regional organizations
- Necessity for developing coordinated action plans and strategies in partnerships with South Asian Nations: an initiative of SACEP/SACRTF

Coral Reef in South Asia
Data Sheet 1: Description of coral reefs in South Asian Countries
- Inventory
- Maps of the coral reefs and other associated ecosystems in and around the reef and MCPAs
- Types of coral reefs, their behavior, etc.
- Reef areas: top, mid, and bottom, and under corals, etc.
- Extent of other associated habitats and their relations with coral reefs
- Prevalent status and general conditions of the reef areas
- Coral and marine plants outside the MCPAs
- Scope of encompassing other coral reef areas under MCPAs
- Gaps in above information

STRATEGIC THEMES
- Theme 1: Understanding Coral Reefs and Associated Ecosystems
- Theme 2: Reducing Threats to Coral Reefs
- Theme 3: Growing Capacity for Conservation and Management of Coral Reefs
- Theme 4: Strengthening Networks and Partnerships
Theme 1: Understanding Coral Reefs and Associated Ecosystems
- Action 1: Mapping coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Action 2: Targeted research on reef processes
- Action 3: Long-term monitoring and assessments of coral reef health
- Action 4: Targeted research on threats to coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Action 5: Targeted research on linkages between reefs and associated ecosystems

Theme 2: Reducing Threats to Coral Reefs
- Action 1: Increasing the effectiveness and coverage of marine protected areas
- Action 2: Reducing destructive fishing, overfishing and other extractive uses
- Action 3: Enforcing regulations to control illegal fishing and other unsustainable harvesting methods
- Action 4: Increasing collaborative management
- Action 5: Promoting the use of responsible fishing practices
- Action 6: Developing a regional code of practice for fishermen

Theme 3: Growing Capacity for Conservation and Management
- Action 1: Increasing support for coral reef and associated ecosystems awareness programs
- Action 2: Increasing institutional capacity to manage coral reefs and associated ecosystems
- Action 3: Developing outreach and environmental education programs
- Action 4: Developing capacity in policy, enforcement and compliance

Theme 4: Strengthening Networks and Partnerships
- Action 1: Strengthening local networks and partnerships
- Action 2: Improving mechanisms for linkages to the Clearing House Mechanisms
- Action 3: Encouraging mechanisms for the exchange and dissemination of information between networks and partners
- Action 4: Encouraging collaborative project development
- Action 5: Developing a Forum for Information Exchange
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
Defining roles and administrative procedures

- SAC-ECOREGION
- Implementing countries
- Management/MPAs level
- Research Institution/NGOs
- Local institutions and local communities
- Fund flow mechanisms

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Data sheet II

Ecological Status
- Species diversity, richness and abundance
- Assessment of the status of reef fish and fisheries to establish a baseline for long-term monitoring and conservation

Uniqueness of the reefs and MPAs
- Critical habitats in and around the MPAs
- Species and ecological, cultural, traditional and economic values of the coral reefs
- Rare and threatened species, global and national

Assessment of threats to the reefs
- Invasive species and methods

Data sheet III

Anthropogenic activities and their impact on coral reefs
- Understanding human dimension related to coral reefs
- Degradation of surrounding habitats and its impact on corals
- Use of coral reef resources, their tools and threat to the reefs
- Pollution and coral degradation
- Identifying activities impacting coral reefs
- Extent of eco-tourism and its impact on reef communities

Monitoring report on damage to corals due to global warming

Data sheet IV

Management and Conservation Status
- Existing legal framework and constraints for conserving the MPAs
- National and local resources and initiatives for coral reef conservation
- Status of awareness at the government and institutional level and also among local communities about the values of coral reefs

Data sheet V

Research and Scientific Management Inputs
- Research activities
- Gaps in understanding coral reef ecosystems, their biological communities, the anthropogenic process, and their health and viability
- Gaps in critical and strategic scientific research
- Gaps and weaknesses in coral conservation awareness activities

Data sheet VI

Collection of data from best practices in prescribed papers and supplementing it from literature review

Collection of data from best practices in prescribed papers and supplementing it from literature review

Collection of data from best practices in prescribed papers and supplementing it from literature review

Collection of data from best practices in prescribed papers and supplementing it from literature review
Lesson learnt from site specific coral restoration programmes
Strategic research
Public education and awareness programmes and their impact
Specific community initiatives on coral conservation and sustainable harvest of resources from coral reefs
Lesson learnt from ecotourism in coral reef areas and lessons
(Collected data from the countries is prescribed problems and implementing IUCN guidelines review)

Gaps, Constraints and weaknesses
Probing about five pages status report from the information extracted from the six data sheets provided by the five nations.
Critically examining gaps, weakness and constraints in managing and conserving MCPAs and Coral reefs
Identifying important institutional gaps, constraints and weaknesses for developing strategy for strengthening and capacity development
Total six (five + one) pages

Strategy for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development Capacity to bring changes in policy, legal framework and creation and expansion of MCPAs
Creating environment through consultation/training/workshop for high level authorities for bringing necessary changes in conservation policy and legal framework and also to create and expand MCPAs encompassing coral reefs
Organising meetings/seminars/workshop for the higher level authority to make them to understand the values of coral reefs and their conservation
(about one page)

Strategy for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development: Scientific and Technical Capability
Scientific capability to develop coral reef health indicators for long term monitoring
Capability of research personnel and managers for long term monitoring of ecological and biological parameters related to coral reefs, reef communities and associated habitats
Technical expertise for coral aquaculture & restoration and remediation
Scientific capability to study and monitor coral bleaching, coral diseases and local ecological changes due to global warming, other changes in environment
Developing technical capability of trained staff to understand linkages between global climate change and coral reef degradation
Scientific capability to document changes in physical, chemical and biological factors in the coral reef
Capacity to establish a system to analyse and interpret monitoring data and communicating the monitoring results to all concerned, involving the international institutions and the manager of MCPAs in South Korea Initiative
Capacity building to develop coral reef data bank
(about one page)

Strategy for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development: Coral Reef Conservation Planning and Management
Improving knowledge of the managers to understand ecological values of the reef and imparting this knowledge by them to stakeholders and local communities
Improving technical and managerial capacity to design conservation plan of the MCPAs
Improving capacity to develop coordinated and integrated action plans-capacity to bring together diverse groups and stakeholders to work for common goal
(about half to one page)

Strategy for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development: Local communities and local institution
Improving capacity of small to medium sized local communities to manage coral reefs and using it sustainably
Improving capacity of local communities for joint Coral Reef Conservation
Improving capacity of local community and local institutions for monitoring coral reefs
Improving capacity of community institutions by providing financial assistance as a seed money
(about half to one page)
Strategy for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development - Education and Communication

Developing pro-forma for collecting information on annual coral conservation activities in a center and exchanging them among the South Asian nations.

Annual meeting and workshop of the managers of South Asian countries to exchange information and also to exchange knowledge about the management practices, especially those of best practices.

Collecting and processing all the information and experiences and communicating them in the form of a document.

(About half to one page)

Communication and Educational Strategy at Grass-Root

Understanding local ecological, cultural and traditional values related to coral reefs and integrating them in management practices.

Preparing educational literature, including documentaries in local language to improve knowledge and understanding about the coral reefs.

Conducting educational programmes for schoolchildren around the MCPAs and exposing them to best sustainable coral reef resource use and conservation practices.

(About half to one page)

Developing inventory of resources - resources persons and institutions

Preparing a list of:

- Coral reef experts and marine biologists for South Asian countries
- International experts on corals, marine environment and related subjects

- Inclusive institutions/organizations/universities for high quality training and education on the subject relevant to the subject as discussed for capacity building.

(About two pages at minimum)
SESSION 4 – SACRTF ADMINISTRATION

SACRTF administration issues:

4.1 Official launch of the SACRTF Logo

A Logo competition was launched across the region to develop a unique and exciting logo for the SACRTF. Dr. Boaz unveiled the logo which was finalised by the 3 member committee of the SACRTF.

4.2 Meeting/Event Calendar mapping and opportunity

Dr. Boaz pointed out the actions taken to identify regional and international fora that SACRTF should be engaging with (e.g. ICRS, ITMEMS and draft time table of key regional/international fora that SACRTF will be engaging with over 2008) by the SACEP.

4.3 Further development of promotional and outreach materials

SACRTF web portal was launched at the meeting and further proposed development of outreach materials such as Leaflets, Brochures, Posters, Video Clips, Newsletters etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were agreed upon during the course of discussions:

- Incorporate the effective application of information for coral reef management into capacity building training under the project.
- SACRTF Members are asked to find the opportunities and send their consent for the related Regional and International meetings and workshops.
- Establish collaboration partnerships with regional stakeholders to encourage regular sharing of information and resources. Obtain feedback from target audience on relevance and user-friendliness of site
- SACRTF representatives were agreed upon the display the selected logo for every publications of SACRTF. (see AnnexG)
- Second week of October 2008, as appropriate date for a third regional meeting of the SACRTF which will be hosted by the Government of India suitable venue for the meeting will be notify soon.
- Country Governments are asked to contribute to the Beach Cleaning Day on 3rd week of September.
- Create National plan of action for engaging with education/community outreach initiatives by with parallel to the in collaboration with national focal points and committees.
Meeting/ Event Calendar mapping

International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) is a partnership among governments, international organizations, and non-government organizations. It strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems by implementing Chapter 21 of Agenda 21, and other relevant international conventions and agreements.

The IUCN World Conservation Congress

About the World Conservation Congress

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is the world’s largest and most important conservation event, held every four years. The Congress aims to promote conservation of the world’s natural environment for human, social and economic development.

The Congress will take place from 30 September to 11 October, 2017, at the Centre de Convencions Internacional de Barcelona (CCIB) in Barcelona, Spain. More than 6,000 leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, businesses, UN agencies and social organizations will discuss, debate and decide solutions for the world’s most pressing environment and development issues.

The Congress starts with the four-day Forum, run by IUCN members and partners discussing cutting-edge issues, thinking and planning. The Forum leads into the Four-day IUCN Members’ Assembly, a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs.

Meeting/ Event allocation of SACRTF budget

- MCPA Managers Exchange Programme
- SACRTF Meeting, Colombo (After 6 Months)
- Date should be decided by the Members
- Any other suggestions

Thank You!
Annexure

Annex A  SACRTF Work Plan and Priority Actions for the SACRTF
ANNEX B  Environmental Education Call For Action
ANNEX C  International Year Of The Reef (IYOR)
  ANNEX C-01  Year Planner Published to celebrate the IYOR-2008
  ANNEX C-03  IYOR News
  ANNEX C-02  South Asia Web Portrait of IYOR
ANNEX D  financial sustainability: Projected Annual Operating Costs of the SACRTF
ANNEX E  SACRTF ADMINISTRATION
ANNEX F  SACRTF Nominated Representatives
ANNEX G  Approved Logo SACRTF
ANNEX H  SACRTF Implementation Plan
ANNEX I  MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR
ANNEX J  Mangers Training Programme
ANNEX K  Call for Proposals - Enforcement Equipment
ANNEX L  Workshop Agenda
ANNEX M  List of Participants
1.1 SACRTF Work Plan

A suite of management plans, policies, and national and international strategies exist to support the management of marine and coastal resources in the South Asia region. However, the realisation of policy and strategies at the ground level is often poor. As such, the SACRTF has been established with the following mission statement:

‘To actively participate in, and support, the effective implementation of existing national regulations, action plans and strategies for the management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, and to promote the development of strategic linkages for enhanced regional cooperation, and the establishment of an effective, networked system of marine and coastal protected areas in the South Asia region.’

A list of broad priority actions was endorsed at the second regional workshop to form the basis for the annual SACRTF work plan – Annex A. Representatives are requested to identify specific activities that can be undertaken in support of each action, a lead party, and a timeframe for implementation.

The SACRTF are also requested to consider the following opportunities in the elaboration of the work plan:

1.1.1 COMMUNICATION

Regional Information Portal
Following stakeholder consultations, a regional information portal will be developed through the South Asia MCPA Project to house key resources, tools and information critical for managers across the region. Design of the site is currently underway and it is hoped to launch the site soon. In the meantime, details of the SACRTF and activities can be accessed from the SACEP and ICRAN websites. Representatives may wish to provide further guidance on additional materials and the preferred web presence of the SACRTF.

Capacity Development Training for MCPA Managers
IUCN Asia and ICRAN are leading the adaptation of the highly successful ‘Western Indian Ocean toolkit for managing MPAs’ for the South Asia context. The modular toolkit will provide simple reference materials on a wide range of subjects relevant to effective management. Case studies are currently being collated from across the region to showcase the successful activities already underway, and regional training for MCPA managers will be conducted in Nov 2008 on the use and application of the toolkit in MCPA management.

SACRTF Managers Exchange Programme
The SACRTF was established with a key strategic objective to promote the effective implementation of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) and to advance the concept and discussions of a network of MCPAs in the South Asia region.

To develop the capacity of resource managers at existing MCPAs in preparation for network development, and in order to meet the objectives of the South Asia MCPA Project under which the SACRTF is established, the SACRTF will establish and coordinate a programme of exchange or exposure visits for MCPA managers and policy makers from across the region, allowing countries and sites to benefit from each others experiences and management efforts, and demonstrating management challenges and successes at MCPA sites.

The exchange/exposure visit programme should focus initially on the 5 MCPA sites selected for inclusion in project activities. SACRTF representatives are requested to identify a suitable mechanism for participant selection, and a supportive administration structure.

Representatives may wish to consider the development of a more comprehensive programme and strategy to continue this activity beyond the life of the South Asia MCPA project.

Communication- Priority Actions for the SACRTF

- Improve, and better coordinate reporting mechanisms nationally and within the region on all coral reef work with the aid of the South Asia MCPA Project website and other media.
- Encourage, and support the development of capacity building and training opportunities, materials, and manuals for groups involved in coral reef programmes through skills transfer and exchange programmes.
• Identify strategic partnerships and linkages at the regional and international level (e.g. ICRI), and review recommendations and other relevant information from regional and international initiatives, in order to develop responsive and informed action plans.

• Increase awareness of environmental conservation and management among decision and policy makers through lobbying and exposure visits.

1.1.2 POLICY

ICRI
The development of linkages to the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), and the attendance of a SACRTF representative (in addition to the Member Secretary) at each ICRI General Meeting were identified as key opportunities to feed regional information into government and policy processes, alongside raising the profile of the SACRTF among the international donor community. The chairman and the Member Secretary attended the ICRI General Meeting held in Washington from 10th -12TH July 2008.

SACEP Governing Council
The SACEP Governing Council (GC) is the principal deliberative and review body responsible for determining policies, strategies and programmes of SACEP. It is represented at the ministerial level and periodically meets to take decisions of strategic significance. Since becoming a legal entity in 1982, SACEP has held eight regular GC meetings and three special sessions. The establishment of the SACRTF was officially endorsed at the SACEP GC meeting held in Nepal in January 2007 by all participating country governments.

Meeting Harmonisation
Provision has been made in the SACRTF budget to facilitate the attendance of SACRTF representatives at meetings of strategic importance for regional/local priorities, and the work plan priorities of the SACRTF. In order to ensure good representation at international meetings, raise the profile of SACRTF activities, and effectively administer the limited funds available, representatives are requested to review the calendar of events and meetings presented and inform the Member Secretary of any events to which their attendance is already planned. This exercise will help to ensure effective allocation of the SACRTF budget, and can facilitate the identification of a suitable date and location for the next SACRTF meeting. (The calendar of events is detailed in Annex I.)

Policy- Priority Actions for the SACRTF
• Undertake a review of existing policy related to coral reef management and conservation in the region, in collaboration with the SACRTF Patron, and present the findings to authorities to influence the review of existing legislation and policy change at the national level as appropriate.

• Elevate the South Asia experience to the international level by engagement in IUCN World Conservation Congress.

• Raise awareness of the need for political engagement in coral reef management through high-level political segment meetings. The SACRTF will present specific agenda items at each SACEP Governing Council meeting to raise awareness of needs, and develop political will in support the SACRTF.

International Year of the Reef 2008
The International Coral Reef Initiative designated 2008 as the International Year of the Reef (IYOR 2008). IYOR 2008 will be a year long global campaign to raise mass awareness on the importance of coral reefs and the need for their sustainable management.

A number of regional organisations have already generated work plans and organisational profiles in support of IYOR objectives and will conduct activities over the course of 2008 (CARESS, SDMRI).

The potential role of the SACRTF in leading a regional level response to IYOR was highlighted by participants at the second regional workshop of the South Asia MCPA Project, as an excellent mechanism to not only generate political will for coral reef conservation and management, but also to raise the profile and visibility of the SACRTF within the region. Only one other region is currently presenting a coordinated regional response to the IYOR. (AnnexC.)
1.1.3 FUNDRAISING

Fundraising - Priority Actions for the SACRTF

- Raise the profile of coral reefs issues, and successful initiatives in the region in order to garner support from donor community and attract funds.
- Identify and package existing or new activities to create a regional effort in support of the International Year of the Reef 2008, and other mass awareness raising campaigns (e.g. Earth Day, World Environment Day).
- Find support for the budget projection for the annual maintenance of the SACRTF that was presented to country government earlier this year and to advance the identification of a sustainable structure and funding mechanism to ensure the continuation of the SACRTF.
- Map a meeting calendar of coral reef forums, venues and meetings, against the movements of SACRTF representatives to maximise representation of the SACRTF regionally and internationally, and facilitate linked meetings of the SACRTF where the quorum of representatives will be reached.
- Review existing national budget allocations for coral reef conservation and management to identify potential financial support for the SACRTF.

Environmental Education at MCPA Sites

A Call for Action was released in September 2007, through the South Asia MCPA Project, to request short proposals from each of the 5 participating MCPA sites for activities that raise awareness among coastal communities of the importance and value of coral reefs, and which help to demonstrate the role of MCPAs in their sustainable management. Recognising the strategic value of aligning the resulting activities with IYOR 2008, and the SACRTF, it is request from that SACRTF representatives to identify a strategy for the assessment of the progress. (Further proposed site activities under the Call to Action is included in Annex B.)

Coral Reef Livelihoods Initiative (CORALI)

Under the South Asia MCPA project, activities are underway with field teams and coastal communities in the 5 participating countries to develop and test a globally appropriate approach to sustainable livelihood enhancement, diversification and change in the context of coral reef management. Detailed information on the approach, and case studies to demonstrate the impact and success of the approach with communities from sites across the region, are available with the partners IUCN and IMM. Further information on CORALI can be viewed at www.coraliweb.org

Coordination - Priority Actions for the SACRTF

- Lead and facilitate the development of strong multilateral linkages for all aspects of coral reef management within and between countries by engaging strategic stakeholders in SACRTF activities, and providing a focal representation for coral reef management.
- Work alongside key national stakeholders to establish national Coral Reef Task Forces (CRTF), with multi-sector representation, to support the development of local capacity in research, management and government, coordinate communication at the national level, and serve as a platform to share information with regional initiatives.
- Examine capacity needs, evaluate and review existing mechanisms for coral reef conservation and management, and where appropriate encourage each country to design national action plans or equivalent strategies, under the umbrella of the regional action strategy.
- Prepare a regional coral reef action strategy, incorporating the key findings on the development and implementation of a networked system of MCPAs across the South Asia region, and identify supporting frameworks for effective implementation.
- Initiate discussions regarding the development of a coordinated regional mandate or mechanism to more effectively respond to natural and man made disasters.
- Designate institutions as a focal point for coral reefs to increase coordination potential.

Research and Monitoring - Priority Actions for the SACRTF

- Identify the strengths in each country in all aspects of research and monitoring related to coral reefs. Develop a mechanism to ensure knowledge and training is shared and exchanged among the participating countries in accordance with needs.
- Encourage each country to effectively establish national monitoring programmes for coral reefs and associated ecosystems, and recommend better coordination within and between countries in the region in the design and implementation of monitoring programmes.
- Promote both biophysical and socio economic assessment/monitoring and more effective coordination with regional and international monitoring programmes.
Proposals Environmental Education Call for Action

GOAL: To raise awareness of the importance and value of Coral reefs and associated ecosystems, and to explain to the public the long term, sustainable benefits of the MCPA.

ACTION: With the support of the South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF), five small action grants are facilitating for environmental education and outreach activities at the participating MCPA sites

1. St.Martins Island Bangladesh
2. Mahatma Ghandi National Park, Andaman island India
3. Baa Atoll, Maldives
4. Jiwani (Gwater), Pakistan
5. Bar Reef, Sri Lanka

Five short proposals were selected from MCPA site management staff, in collaboration with local partners, community groups, and conservation NGOs.

General Information of the Projects

1. Environmental Education for Conservation of Threatened Coral Resources in the St. Martin’s Islands

   Activities to be undertaken

   I. Preparation of script of the folklore drama productions - A script on the importance and the beneficial aspect of the corals and associated ecosystem will be prepared involving experts/ groups.
   II. Organize training for the folklore performers
   III. Folklore drama performance on the conservation of coral resources (10 performances)
       Awareness through folklore drama is one the most useful and accepted communication and awareness tools for reaching the target stakeholder group. Under this contract, 10 folklore performances will be held on the island and in the Cox’s Bazar where the corals are exploited. One local group will be trained to prepare and implement similar performances so they can continue to raise awareness in future.
   IV. Development of Nature Club - One nature club will be developed on the island for continuing the awareness activities. An action plan will be developed for the Nature Club so they can effectively contribute to, and complement biodiversity conservation activities ongoing on the island.
   V. Develop awareness materials - One booklet on the coral resources and the importance/role of it in the ecosystem will be produced for creating awareness among tourists and the local population. Three Bill boards will be developed and erected at key locations across the MCPA and within the community to display conservation messages and MCPA regulations.

2. Awareness Generation Programme for local stakeholders in Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

   Activities to be undertaken

   I. Organize Workshop and Awareness campaign for local fishermen and PRIs*
       It is proposed to take up various awareness generation activities like organization of workshops for local fishermen and PRIs to sensitize them about the significance of biodiversity conservation, eco-development processes and on how the conservation efforts in Park will help in uplifting their economy through generation of new employment opportunities.
   II. Two nature camps will be organized for local fishermen, PRIs. Other extension activities will also be taken up with schoolchildren, tourists and general public.
   III. Film on the conservation of coral resources (10 performances)
       Awareness through Film show is one the most useful and accepted communication and awareness tools for reaching the target stakeholder group. Under this contract, 10 local Schools will be selected to held Film on Coral Reef Conservation, where the corals are exploited. One local group will be
trained to prepare and implement similar performances so they can continue to raise awareness in future.

IV. Two Nature Camps - 2 nature camps will be held on the area for continuing the awareness activities. An action plan will be developed for the Nature Camp so they can effectively contribute to, and complement biodiversity conservation activities ongoing on the area.

V. One Drawing competition and awareness campaign for schools - creating awareness among 10 Local Schools across the MCPA.

3. Building Youth Constituency to Conserve Coral Reef Ecosystem In Maldives’ Baa Atoll
Activities to be undertaken

I. Training 25 empowered and informed young people to run and support awareness activities at three island of Baa atoll within a period of three months: the age group will be students studying at grades 8 and 9 of secondary schooling.
II. Field trips to protected areas and photography of globally significant species in Baa atoll with the trained young people
III. Design and production of awareness materials, toolkits for conducting Awareness Island level workshops by the trained young people.
IV. Partnering with NGO’s and environment clubs to mobilize the trained agent for change in awareness activities within Baa Atoll.

4. Environmental Education Activities with reference to Coral and Coral Reefs in Marine and Coastal Protected Area, Site, Jewani (Gwater Bay)-Pakistan
Activities to be undertaken

I. Preparation of Education Materials:
   - Photographs of different species of corals will be used for printing of posters carrying attractive messages and catchy captions in English and local languages The posters will be distributed amongst students and displayed in schools and other educational and cultural institutions.
   - A brochure with first hand information on importance of corals and coral reefs and their occurrence in Pakistan particularly in Gwater Bay will be produced for raising public awareness and to increase the profile of corals at that MCPA site. These brochures will be printed in English and in local languages as well.
   - Promotional items like T-shirts depicting dominant coral species found in the proposed project area with convincing message for conservation of marine environment will be produced in different sizes and distributed amongst local communities specially students when they are participating in the educational program for raising the importance of coral reefs and the associated ecosystem.

II. Production of Documentary Film
   - A documentary film is a useful tool for spreading conservation message in communities and general public. The duration of the documentary will be 15-20 minutes with background commentary in English and local languages. The documentary covering potential coral reef areas with different species of corals will be prepared with the assistance of a professional under water film producer and expert divers. It will be shared with other representative countries of SACRTF.

III. Development of signboards
   - Education and publicity for environmental projects will be enhanced by erection of attractive signboards with beautiful pictures and meaningful messages. Few signboards with colorful paintings of coral and coral reefs in their habitat will be developed using non corrosive galvanized metallic sheet and wooden frame carrying easily understandable conservation captions and slogans in English and local languages with phosphorescent paints for highlighting the importance of the species and area. These signboards will be installed at important sites along Jewani coastal area.

5. Awareness and Capacity Building Programme for The Effective Management of Marine Resources in the Bar Reef Marine Sanctuary, Sri Lanka
Activities to be undertaken
I. Awareness Phase
Briefings will be provided to DWLS staff to provide background information on the objectives and target of this program and identify implementation mechanisms.

II. Capacity Building—Enhance capabilities of wildlife officers for conservation of coral reef ecosystem at the area
Upgrade knowledge and skills of Field managers (WILDLIFE OFFICERS) in order to enable and empower themselves to efficiently discharge their duties. Apart from the formal basic training in biodiversity conservation, which is essential for all staff for laying the foundation, the field staff will be provided opportunities for ‘on the job’ and “in service” training.

List of components for basic training for the field staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Components</th>
<th>Training Elements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community outreach</td>
<td>• Basic concepts of coral reef conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Role of DWLC in wildlife protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Role of MCPAs in resource protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Participatory planning methodology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iii. Awareness Programme for Local community
An awareness programme will be conducted to educate the local community in and around the Bar Reef Sanctuary those who are involved in fishing and illegal activities. In addition, school children awareness programme will be conducted.

List of components for basic training/awareness programme for the local community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Training Elements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness programme for local community, and school children on</td>
<td>• Introduction to coral reef and species in the ecosystem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance of Coral reef conservation</td>
<td>• Importance of coral reef &amp; fishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Videos/films</td>
<td>• Importance of coral reef protection and release of by caught turtles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sustainable Fishing-use of fishing nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art competition and exhibition for school children</td>
<td>Themes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Coral reef conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Turtle conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Importance of marine ecosystem and the role of MCPAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sustainable fishing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iv. Production of awareness/educational materials
Two posters will be produced to aware the general public on importance of coral reef and existing ecosystem. A leaflet will be produced to identify the coral species and their importance. These educational materials will be helpful in educating the local people and school children.
### Summery of the sanctioned Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>NAME OF THE PROPOSAL</th>
<th>REQUESTED AMOUNT (US$)</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>1.1 Department of Environment Nature Conservation Management (NACOM)</td>
<td>Environmental Education for Conservation of Threatened Coral Resources in the St. Martin's Islands</td>
<td>5400</td>
<td>Government MCPA Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>2.1 Department of Environment and Forest</td>
<td>Awareness Generation Programme for local stakeholders in Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands, India</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>Government MCPA Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Baa Atoll, Government of Maldives</td>
<td>Building Youth Constituency to Conserve Coral Reef Ecosystem In Maldives’ Baa Atoll</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>Government MCPA Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Sindh Wildlife Department.</td>
<td>Environmental Education Activities with reference in Mari Costal Protected Area.</td>
<td>5494</td>
<td>Government MCPA Authority.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IYOR 2008 Activity and Events

Below are some suggestions of events and activities that you might like to organise taken from the IYOR website www.iyor.org

• Organise and host a special 'Day of the Coral Reef' in 2008 - this could involve a public festival or street parade with a focus on celebrating coral reef. Invite local dignitaries and the media to take part!
• Invite a celebrity who is interested in coral reef to be a IYOR Ambassador. Use their status to increase public awareness of coral reefs.
• Develop a range of IYOR merchandise such as, calendar, T-shirts, caps, or drink holders. Ask if your postal service could produce a IYOR stamp (pictured at right). Use this merchandise as giveaways or as rewards for participation in conservation activities.
• Produce leaflets, brochures, pamphlets, stickers and posters in your native language to educate the public about the value of coral reef.
• Encourage local journalists to write features about issues important to coral reef in the media.
• Organise a coral reef competition (or photo competition) that encourages participation of local school students and the general public.
• Promote the IYOR by linking your web site to the IYOR web site (www.iyor.org) Participate to beach clean up.
• Encourage the next generation to care about coral reefs - organise educational visits to local schools and introduce coral reef biology and conservation into the school curriculum.
• Identify and nominate sites that are important for coral reef in your country, and lobby for their protection.
• Organise a community clean-up day and coral reef survey. Invite local schools to participate.
• Develop a code of practice for sustainable tourism - build relationships with coastal resort developers and tourism authorities and encourage them to ensure that their resorts are 'coral reef'. Offer training for resort staff and develop (or re-print existing) educational material on coral reef for tourists.
## ANNEX C-01

**Year Planner Published to celebrate the IYOR-2008**

### SOUTH ASIA CORAL REEF TASK FORCE

**SACRTF YEAR PLANNER 2008**

![Planner Image]

**Description:**

South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) is a platform for countries of South Asia engaged in coral reef protection and conservation. Its primary focus is to promote collaborative action on the conservation and sustainable management of coral reefs and to address the challenges posed by coral bleaching and other environmental threats. The planner aims to educate and engage the public on the importance of coral reefs and the role of SACRTF in protecting them.

### Year Planner 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SACRTF Objectives

- **Conservation:** Promote the conservation of coral reefs through collaborative efforts.
- **Education:** Educate the public on the importance of coral reefs and the threats they face.
- **Sustainability:** Foster sustainable practices to ensure the long-term health of coral reefs.
- **Research:** Support research to better understand and manage coral reefs.
- **Policy:** Influence policy decisions to protect coral reefs.

**Contact Information**

SACRTF Coordinating Committee (SCC)

- **Phone:** +94 11 269 696
- **Fax:** +94 11 269 697
- **Email:** sacrtyr@icrc.org
- **Website:** [http://www.sacrtf.org](http://www.sacrtf.org)
SACEP as the Focal Point of IYOR Activities in the South Asia Region
News about the International Year of the Reef:


* **News from Mexican**: to celebrate IYOR, three phone cards will be released by Telmex / Ladatel. Telmex is the largest telecommunication Company in Latin America. These cards will be distributed nation wide during the months of May and June.  
http://www.iyor.org/focalpoints/countries/mexico/

* To celebrate the IYOR 2008 the **Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies is pleased to announce an online seminar series** on the future of the world’s coral reefs. Leading international researchers cover the latest science which supports the sustainable management of coral reefs.  
http://www.iyor.org/spotlights/coralcoe.asp

* **Professional surfer James Pribram joins the International Year of the Reef** campaign as spokesperson to help the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) to raise awareness about coral reefs with a focus on the following theme: "Every Act Counts."  
http://www.iyor.org/spotlights/pribram.asp (please contact me if you would like to contact James Pribram) or http://www.iyor.org/news/press.asp#mn

* **World Water Monitoring Day (WWMD)** – As you know the World Water Monitoring Day (WWMD) is pleased to partner with the International Year of the Reef (IYOR) in 2008 in a joint effort to highlight the importance of water quality to marine wildlife. Kits are now available online. The kit includes everything you’ll need to test your waterbody for pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature and turbidity and is designed to be an accurate, yet accessible technology for all levels of experience.

The World Water Monitoring Day encourages participation from Low- and Middle-Income countries through the donation of monitoring kits. For more information, please contact wwdmd@wef.org.

The WWMD test kit now includes instructions in both English and Spanish. Instructions in French, Portuguese and Chinese are available for download from the WWMD website (www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org)

**Some news about the International Year of the Reef 2008 :**

**The World Ocean Day (June 8th, 2008):**  
This Year’s theme is “helping our climate / helping our ocean" with a special focus on coral reefs, to take advantage of International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008. We encourage you to participate in the World Ocean Day in order to promote the International Year of the Reef. More information at: www.iyor.org/WOD

**IYOR U.S. Public Service Announcement**  
NOAA, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, UrbanArts Institute at Mass College of Art and other Marine and Ocean Conservation NGOs are supporting the production and distribution of a series of 30 second TV PSAs to educate the US public concerning ocean-coral reef and coastal environmental education. 5 PSAs are now available at www.iyor.org/TV

**IYOR Creative**  
NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation have worked together to develop a united U.S. IYOR Messaging Campaign 2 new action
messages are now available and FREELY downloadable into print advertisements. More information at www.IYORcreative.com

**IYOR at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9)**
The ICRI secretariat will be holding an ICRI-CBD side event on "Marine Biodiversity and the International Year of the Reef" (www.iyor.org/cbd). An IYOR 2008 presentation will be also made at the CBD CEPA Fair (www.iyor.org/cbd/CBD_CEPA.asp).

**11th International Coral Reef Symposium**
IYOR 2008 will be celebrate at the 11th ICRS during a showcase of IYOR activities taking place around the world. Presentations will include an overview of the Year and highlights from activities around the world (www.iyor.org/icrs). If you are interested in presenting your activities, please contact the IYOR coordinator (fstaub@iyor.org). Space for educational posters is also available at the educational center. If you want yours to be displayed, contact the IYOR coordinator (fstaub@iyor.org).

In addition to the formal launch in Washington, DC on January 24, many other activities and launches have happened around the world and many more are underway: http://www.iyor.org/news/launch.asp

Please remember to add your events to the calendar and share your activities with the IYOR Coordinator (info@iyor.org) or to post your videos on the IYOR youtube: www.youtube.com/iyor2008
### ANNEX D

**FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY: Projected Annual Operating Costs of the SACRTF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>No. of Units</th>
<th>Total US$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Travel (Flights) for SACRTF meetings (regional) - Based on average flight costs of US$600. 20 people flying from within the region for each meeting. 2 meetings per year for the SACRTF.</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>24000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSA for SACRTF meetings (regional) - Based on SACEP Per Diem for Sri Lanka US$110 per day and 3 days DSA (accommodation and food and local travel costs included) for each person (25 people per meeting)</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>16500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Travel for other meetings and conferences of strategic value to SACRTF efforts (flights) - Meetings of strategic importance, internationally and locally to promote SACRTF efforts and SA situation based on an average of US$800 per flight</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSA for other meetings and conferences - As above, based on SACEP DSA rate of US$110 per day, 3 days per meeting</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting/Convention Attendance or Visa Fees - Based on an average meeting or conference fee of US$200 (e.g. ITMEMS registration)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACRTF Secretariat (SACEP) - Consider hiring a staff member to work specifically on coordinating SACRTF efforts within SACEP and act as support to the Member Secretary. Based on annual salary for medium grade candidate</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (telephone, office supplies)</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Materials (design, production &amp; dissemination)</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange/Exposure Visit Programme – Based on a grant of US$1000 to each candidate for all costs (8 candidates per year)</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities Fund - to allow the SACRTF to undertake activities in line with the work plan each year</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>73,650</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Charges (SACEP administration) 15%</td>
<td>11047.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>11047.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>84,697.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chairperson
At the First meeting of the ASCRTF, the house unanimously decided India as the Chairperson for the SACRTF. The agreed SACRTF constitution states that the Chairperson must serve for a period of one year.

Member Secretary
The Director General of SACEP will serve as the Member Secretary of the SACRTF to provide continuity and administration support to the SACRTF.

Sustainable Financing of the SACRTF
Funds to support the initial establishment of the SACRTF have been generously provided by the European Union, through the South Asia MCPA project. The project will close on 31 December 2008 after which point no further funds will be provided to the SACRTF. Participants at the second regional workshop recognised the need to develop a sustainable financing strategy as critical to ensuring the continuation of the SACRTF and the expansion of the network to incorporate national level coral reef task forces in each participating country. Representatives are requested to identify a strategy to advance discussions on the sustainable financing and institutionalisation of the SACRTF in the region. To facilitate discussions and consultation with country governments a projected budget for the annual operating costs of the SACRTF is presented in Annex D.

Coordination and Communication
Representatives will need to identify the most suitable way to remain in communication in between SACRTF meetings, and should set a regular contact schedule to promote coordination.

MCPA Site Representatives
In the agreed organisational structure of the SACRTF it was noted that a temporary representative from each selected MCPA site may participate in the SACRTF while national level iterations of the task force are established. SACRTF representatives will need to agree on a representative from each MCPA site, if not already done so and ensure that they are included in all future SACRTF correspondence and meetings.

SACRTF Logo
A Logo competition was launched across the region to develop a unique and exciting logo for the SACRTF. (Approved Logo is in Annex G)
Constitution based on country nominations and decision of the 2nd Regional Workshop

SACRTF-Composition

1. Government Representative(s) from each country (12)
2. Coral Reef Ecosystem Expert, one from each country (5)

**Country: Bangladesh**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Role in the SACRTF</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Name / Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1   | Member - SACRTF             | Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests,    | Mr. Reza Ul Kabir  
Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Room No. 1309, Building No. 6, Dhaka  
Bangladesh.                                           |
| 2   | Member - SACRTF             | Director General, Department of Environment        | Dr. Khandekar Rashiedul Haue  
Director General, Department of Environment,  
Paribesh Bhabar, E-16, Agaragon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar,  
Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh.                               |
| 3   | National Expert             | Mr. Md. Jafar Siddique                             | Mr. Md. Jafar Siddique, National Project Director, Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project (CWBMP), Room No-501, Paribesh Bhaban,  
Agargaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh.                           |

**Country: India**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Role in the SACRTF</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Name / Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Member - SACRTF</td>
<td>Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest</td>
<td>Ms. Meena Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi, 110 003 India.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2   | Member - SACRTF             | Secretary, Ministry of Ocean Development           | Dr. P.S. Goel, Secretary, Ministry of Ocean Development  
Mahasagar Bhawan Block 12, C.G.O. Complex  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003, India.                                   |
| 3   | Member - SACRTF             | Scientist E, Ministry of Ocean Development         | Mr. Madeswaran, Scientist E, Ministry of Ocean Development  
Mahasagar Bhawan Block 12, C.G.O. Complex  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003, India.                                   |
| 4   | Chairman-SACRTF             | Joint Secretary                                    | Dr. B.P. Nilaratna, Ministry of Environment and Forest,  
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi, 110 003 India  
Tel: +91 11 24361712 Fa: 91 11 24362127  
nilaratna007@hotmail.com, jbpn-mef@nic.in                        |
| 5   | National Expert             | Dr. K. Venkataraman                                 | Dr. K. Venkataraman, Secretary- NBA  
NBA, #475, 9th South Cross Street, Neelankarai,  
Chennai 600 041 India.                                                |
### Country: Maldives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Role in the SACRTF</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Name / Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Member - SACRTF</td>
<td>Director General, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water</td>
<td>Dr. Mohamed Zuhair, Director General, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water, 3rd Floor, Fen Building, Ameenee Magu, Male, Republic of Maldives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>National Expert</td>
<td>Mr. Mohamed Faiz</td>
<td>Mr. Mohamed Faiz Assistant Director General, Fisheries Development and Extension Unit, Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Marine Resources, Male. Republic of Maldives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Country: Pakistan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Role in the SACRTF</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Name / Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Member - SACRTF</td>
<td>Secretary, Ministry of Environment</td>
<td>Mr. Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi Secretary, Ministry of Environment CDA, Block No.4 Civic Centre, G-6, Islamabad Pakistan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Member - SACRTF</td>
<td>Director Zoological Survey of Pakistan</td>
<td>Mr. Hamid Iqbal Javed Director, Zoological Survey Department, Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan CDA Block No. IV, Old Naval Headquarter, Islamabad, Pakistan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Country: Sri Lanka

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Role in the SACRTF</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Name / Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Member - SACRTF</td>
<td>Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources</td>
<td>Mr. M.A.R.D. Jayathilake, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, “Sampathpaya”, 82, Rajamalwatte Road, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Core Member</td>
<td>Director, Coast Conservation Department</td>
<td>Mr. Nilanka Perera, Director, Coast Conservation Department, New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. CRTF Representative, one from each country (5) –(Till the National Task Force are formed, Temporary Members of the Selected MCPA Project sites to be nominated by the governments will work on the Task Force)
4.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>MCPA Project Site</th>
<th>CRTF Representative (till formation, Temporary members of selected MCPA Project Sites)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Bangladesh -St. Martins Island</td>
<td>To be nominated by the Country Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii</td>
<td>India- Mahatma Gandhi National Park and Andaman Islands</td>
<td>To be nominated by the Country Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii</td>
<td>Maldives-Baa Atoll</td>
<td>To be nominated by the Country Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv</td>
<td>Sri Lanka- Bar Reef</td>
<td>To be nominated by the Country Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. International NGO or Agency  UNEP

6. Member Secretary (1)  Dr. A.A. Boaz, Director General, SACEP

7. Patron (1)  Justice C.G. Weeramantry, former Vice President, International Court of Justice
Key objective of the SACRTF is to help participating countries to work together to safeguard their essential coral reef, mangrove and sea-grass habitats for the benefit of the people of South Asia, and to encourage coordinated management and conservation approaches, and information exchanges between the maritime countries of the region.

An open logo completion was held in the five member maritime countries of the South Asia region. Entries were requested through wide publicity via country governments and websites of the SACEP and the concerning ministries.

Out of the entries received, the committee consisting of Patron-SACRTF Hon. Judge C. G. Weeramantry, Hon. Chairman of the SACRTF, Dr. B.P. Nilratna, and Member Secretary, Dr. A.A. Boaz selected the logo that conformed to the parameters decided by the SACRTF.

The SACRTF congratulates Mr. Akash Boaz, a student of B.E., Karuaya University India for designing the above logo. The Task Force expresses its gratitude for the honorary service rendered by him.
# SACRTF Implementation Plan

## SACRTF Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinate</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Coral Reef Focal Points Appointed in each country</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, Country Governments</td>
<td>Institutions designated as focal points for coral reefs to increase coordination potential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build SACRTF Network - Formal introductions of members to focal points</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP</td>
<td>Develop a short-list of focal point contacts within international and regional bodies of relevance. Contacts made available on the SACEP, ICRAN and project websites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine national capacity needs, evaluate and review existing mechanisms for coral reef management</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF, SACEP to lead</td>
<td>Produce a summary brief with a view to using this information to develop a comprehensive regional action strategy development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare a regional coral reef action strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF - lead by SACEP</td>
<td>Strategy will incorporate key findings on the development and implementation of a networked system of MCPAs and identify supporting frameworks for effective implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of Environmental Education Proposals for implementation at 5 project sites</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF, SACEP, ICRAN</td>
<td>Contracts to be developed directly between SACEP and successful recipients to expedite funds to site level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of Environmental Education activities at sites</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP &amp; local partners</td>
<td>Environmental education activities to be conducted in line with successful proposals at the 5 participating MCPA sites.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Fundraising

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of a challenge grant for launch at the SACEP GC</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF Chair, ICRAN</td>
<td>Sustainable financing is critical for the continued operation of the SACRTF beyond 2008. The challenge grant will request and match financial commitments from all participating countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of key materials (e.g. annual budget projection for the maintenance of the SACRTF) for country governments</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF Chair, ICRAN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review existing policy, and gaps in coral reef management and preparatory materials generated for SACEP GC</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACEP Governing Council Meeting -</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF, ICRAN</td>
<td>Special session on the SACRTF conducted and challenge grant launched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position Papers generated building on recommendations from SACEP GC</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF, IMM, IUCN</td>
<td>Statement on the importance of coral reefs and need for improved management Statement on coral reefs and livelihoods generated and disseminated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raise the profile of coral reefs among country governments and lobby for enhanced support for their effective management</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF, SACEP, National Coral Reef Focal Points</td>
<td>Dissemination of SACRTF briefs and position statements generated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Communication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Participants for MCPA Managers Exchange Programme Selected</th>
<th>Knowledge Exchange - create opportunities for knowledge exchange between MCPA managers/practitioners through site exposure visits (US$8,000)</th>
<th>Raising Awareness - Generation of awareness raising materials for dissemination to the general public</th>
<th>Lead a regional response to mass environmental awareness raising campaigns (Earth Day, IYOR, World Environment Day (WED))</th>
<th>Establish a SACRTF Profile on the IYOR website to showcase the efforts of the region</th>
<th>Develop an action plan for engaging with education and community outreach efforts to raise the profile of coral reefs</th>
<th>SACRTF Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>这套交流活动的参与者是MCPA经理和实践者。</td>
<td>SACRTF, lead by India</td>
<td>SACRTF, with support from ICRAN</td>
<td>SACRTF, with support from ICRAN</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
<td>SACRTF Member Secretary</td>
<td>National Coral Reef Focal Points, SACRTF</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>知识交流活动旨在通过现场访问提高MCPA经理和实践者的意识。</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>提高公众的意识</td>
<td>通过网站展示区域活动。</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>通过教育和社区宣传活动提高珊瑚礁的知名度。</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research & Monitoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Identify the strengths of each participating country related to research and monitoring. Prepare a summary for dissemination</th>
<th>Develop and promote a mechanism to ensure knowledge and training is shared and exchanged</th>
<th>Develop linkages with national, regional and international research agencies and monitoring programmes</th>
<th>SACRTF Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>这项研究活动的目的是识别每个参与国的研究和监测能力，并准备一份综述。</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
<td>SACRTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>并推广机制以确保知识和培训的共享。</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>开发与国家、区域和国际研究机构和监测项目之间的联系。</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SACRTF Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Standardised Reporting Format developed</th>
<th>Progress Reports Submitted to SACRTF Members and ICU</th>
<th>Finalise MCPA Representatives to participate on the SACRTF</th>
<th>Finalise the logo and branding of the SACRTF to use in future publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>标准报告格式的开发</td>
<td>SACRTF Member Secretary, with support from ICRAN</td>
<td>SACRTF Member Secretary</td>
<td>SACEP with country government support</td>
<td>Standardised presentations for SACRTF members, and logos of all sponsors and contributors referenced on materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>进度报告提交给SACRTF会员和ICRAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>确定参加SACRTF的MCPA代表</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>最终确定SACRTF的标识和品牌用于未来出版物</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Activities to be carried out**

- Attendance of SACRTF members or appropriate regional stakeholders at international meetings, and share SACRTF outputs and achievements with project partners and the general public where appropriate.
- Provide coordination assistance and technical support for the timely completion of actions as defined in the 2008 implementation plan for the SACRTF (Annex H).
- Develop the SACRTF network by engaging strategic stakeholders in SACRTF activities, and developing regional, multilateral linkages for coral reef management.
- Examine national capacity needs, evaluate and review existing mechanisms for coral reef management to ensure SACRTF work plan builds on past efforts and experiences within the region.
- Coordinate the development and printing of a regional coral reef action strategy, incorporating key findings on the development and implementation of a networked system of MCPAs across the South Asia region.
- Raise the political and public profile of coral reefs and the SACRTF through the development and distribution of promotional materials, briefs and position statements.
- Assist the SACRTF in the establishment, operation and promotion of a sponsorship fund to support exchange/exposure visits for MCPA managers, practitioners, student researchers, and policy makers.
- Coordinate the discussion and presentation of a regional communications strategy to streamline the flow of information to and from MCPA sites, and across the region.
- Lead the development and implementation of a sustainable financing strategy to ensure the continuation of the SACRTF beyond 31 December 2008.
- Lead the preparation and dissemination of a strategy for improved regional communication pathways between sectors and organisations involved in MCPA management and operation.
- Select successful candidates to lead a suite of environmental education activities (via the released call for proposals) at each of the 5 project sites (St. Martins Island, Mahatma Ghandi NP, Baa Atoll, Bar Reef, Jiwani Bay). Prepare appropriate contracts to ensure the dissemination of funds directly to local partners, and facilitate the implementation of activities.
- Provide reports and feedback, including full outputs, resulting from the environmental education activities at each site, and showcase this on the SACEP, and ICRAN websites.

**Expected results/ outputs to be achieved in line with the implementation plan (Annex A)**

- The regional South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF) will be maintained with core and associate members.
- A minimum of two (2) SACRTF meetings will be conducted before 31 December 2008, coordinated by SACEP, to bring together the quorum of SACRTF members.
- SACEP will support the attendance of a minimum of ten (10) South Asian representatives at national and international meetings of importance for the SACRTF, before 31 December 2008. To include both SACRTF members and non-members as appropriate.
- National Coral Reef Focal Points established and promoted in each country.
- A list of focal point contacts within international and regional bodies of relevance to the SACRTF developed and displayed on the SACEP, ICRAN and project websites.
- A summary brief produced of national capacity needs, and evaluation of existing mechanisms for coral reef management to guide SACRTF beyond 2008.
- A regional coral reef action strategy drafted and reviewed, incorporating key findings on the development and implementation of a networked system of MCPAs across the South Asia region.
- A summary report/brief presented to country governments on regional communication gaps and improvements, detailing cooperation actions and the role of the SACRTF, and made available on SACEP and ICRAN websites.
- A total of eight (8) managers will participate in the exchange/exposure visit scheme during 2008.
- A focused SACRTF session conducted during the 2008 SACEP Governing Council Meeting and a challenge grant launched by India for the sustainable financing of the SACRTF.
- Establish a SACRTF profile on the IYOR 2008 website.
- Awareness raising event for the general public conducted with associated materials to highlight the importance and value of coral reefs and the role of the SACRTF.
- Successful environmental education proposals selected before 31 March 2008 and ICRAN notified.
- Action plan prepared for SACRTF engagement with education and community outreach in the South Asia region beyond 2008.
- A summary brief produced of national strengths in research and monitoring of participating countries.
- Three (3) progress reports submitted to SACRTF, ICRAN and other project partners by SACEP Member Secretary before 31 December 2009.
- SACRTF Logo endorsed.
- Environmental education activities conducted at each of the 5 project sites (St. Martins Island, Mahatma Ghandi NP, Baa Atoll, Bar Reef, Jiwani Bay).
- 5 reports and all outputs prepared, detailing the impacts of environmental education activities, for showcasing on the SACEP and ICRAN websites.
**ANNEX I**

**MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR**

Different SACRTF Members will participate in the following meetings to raise the profile of the SACRTF and coral reefs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meetings</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conference and Events</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Training – Toolkit for MPA Managers in South Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN ELG, ICran, IMM</td>
<td>SACRTF Representative to attend as observer, and facilitate the attendance of target constituents (where appropriate e.g. visa etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification Policy Forum (linked to May SACRTF Meeting)</td>
<td></td>
<td>IMM, IUCN-ELG</td>
<td>SACRTF Representatives to attend, and facilitate the attendance of target constituents (where appropriate e.g. visa etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COP 9 - Bonn, Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SACRTF Representative to attend and present information on the objectives and activities of the SACRTF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACRTF Members Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF</td>
<td>Quorum of SACRTF Representatives to attend to review progress of the work plan and sustainable financing strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;11th International Coral Reef Symposium (11th ICRS 2008)&quot;*</td>
<td>7-11</td>
<td></td>
<td>The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICRI General Meeting - Florida, USA</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>SACEP/ SACRTF</td>
<td>Presentation on SACRTF activities and progress since January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;22nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology*</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th IUCN World Conservation Congress</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Conference on Marine Biodiversity</td>
<td>11-15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy Level Targets and Meetings</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACEP Governing Council Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP, SACRTF, ICRAN</td>
<td>Presentation on session on the SACRTF done and challenge grant launched. Members of GC, SACP, updated on progress of SACRTF.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Africa Coral Reef Task Force Meeting (date tbc)</td>
<td></td>
<td>SACEP/ SACRTF</td>
<td>Share experiences with EACRF, and learn about the regional action strategy being released in WIO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA**

Web: [www.nova.edu/icri/11icrs/](http://www.nova.edu/icri/11icrs/)

**World Conference on Marine Biodiversity**

Valencia, Spain

[http://www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings](http://www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings)

**Barcelona, Spain**

5-14


**Valencia, Spain**

11-15

The deadline for sessions is April 1st 2008. (registration opens in November, 08).

---

**ICRI General Meeting**

Fl. Lauderdale, Florida, USA

Web: [www.icrforum.org](http://www.icrforum.org)

**Jul 12-13**

----

**"22nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology"**

Jul 13-18

---

**4th IUCN World Conservation Congress**
## Provisional Agenda Managers Training Programme

Provisional Agenda Managers exchange program in the Marine National Park in the Gulf of Kachchh, Jamnagar, India.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day-1 (3rd November, 2008)</th>
<th>Venue – GEER Foundation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inaugural Session</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 - 1030</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030 - 1145</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Inauguration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1145 - 1200</td>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical Session – I</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 - 1245</td>
<td>Relevance of conserving marine and coastal bioresources in south-east Asia- perception of threat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1245 – 1330</td>
<td>Management issues and action plans for coastal bioresources in south east Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1330 - 1430</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical Session – II</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1430 - 1515</td>
<td>Managing mangrove ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1515 - 1600</td>
<td>Biodiversity of coral reefs in South East Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 - 1630</td>
<td>Discussions and Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1630 - 2100</td>
<td>Visit to Indroda Park, Gandhinagar / Science City / Ahmedabad Dinner at Ahmedabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day-2 (4th November, 2008)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical Session – III</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0900 - 0945</td>
<td>Institutionalizing community participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0945 – 1030</td>
<td>Mass awareness for conserving marine bioresources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030 - 1045</td>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical Session – IV</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1045 – 1315</td>
<td>Experience sharing and presentation by participating country (Presentations – 20 min. Discussion – 10 min.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Bangladesh- 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• India- 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Maldives - 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pakistan - 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sri Lanka - 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1315 - 1400</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400 - 1500</td>
<td>Introduction to IUCN Tool Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500 hrs</td>
<td>Tea &amp; Move to Jamnagar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Day-3 (5th November, 2008)

- Visit to Gulf of Kachchh Mangrove and Coral areas
- Field exercises in groups
- Interaction with local staff and communities
- Back to Jamnagar
- Visit to Jamnagar City

### Day-4 (6th November, 2008)

- Visit to Narara mangroves- plantation
- Presentation by various groups regarding field exercises
- A cultural evening at Jamnagar

### Day-5 (7th November, 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0900 - 1000</td>
<td>Use of remote sensing for planning and monitoring of marine bioresources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 - 1100</td>
<td>Preparing conservation action plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100 - 1115</td>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1115 - 1200</td>
<td>Elements of conservation action plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 - 1245</td>
<td>Group exercise and presentation pertaining to Elements of action plan by groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1245 - 1345</td>
<td>Country specific action plan points &amp; country specific discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1345 - 1430</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1430 - 1515</td>
<td>General discussion and feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1515 - 1545</td>
<td>Valedictory &amp; summing up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1545 - 1600</td>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 - 2100</td>
<td>Visit to Dwarka and Poshitra Corals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2100 hrs</td>
<td>Dinner at Dwarka- Halt at Jamnagar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Under the South Asia MCPA Project, five small action grants are available (US$15,300) to support participating MCPA sites (St. Martins Island, Bangladesh; Mahatma Ghandi National Park, Andaman Islands, India; Baa Atoll, Maldives; Jiwani (Gwater), Pakistan; and Bar Reef, Sri Lanka) in the enforcement of protection measures and regulations. Short proposals are invited from MCPA site management authorities, local partners, community groups, and conservation NGOs for technical enforcement equipment (e.g. VHF Radio, Mooring Buoys, Signage), and/or capacity developing programmes (e.g. Establishment of Patrol Teams, Training).

The project will provide financial assistance to MCPA sites for the purchase of technical enforcement equipment (e.g. VHF Radios, Mooring Buoys, Signage) and capacity developing programmes (e.g. Establishment of Patrol Teams, Training) to support the enforcement of protection measures and regulations at participating MCPA sites. The objective is to improve the capacity of MCPA sites to enforce protection measures and regulations in their area, thereby contributing to the conservation of marine and coastal resources.

The call for proposals is open to all MCPA sites participating in the South Asia MCPA Project. Proposals should be submitted to the project office by 31st December 2008. Successful applicants will be notified within four weeks of the deadline. Awards will be made to projects that meet the criteria and are deemed to have the greatest potential for success.
### AGENDA 2nd Meeting South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF)

**31st August, 2008 Hulhule’ Island Hotel Male’**

#### SESSION 1 – INTRODUCTORY SESSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Participants &amp; Guests take their seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Arrival of Chief Guest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Introduction and Progress of SACRTF from the 1st Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Environmental Education Call for Action Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Progress of IYOR Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15</td>
<td>Report on the progress in Preparation of the managers exchange programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to be hosted by the GEER Foundation in October,2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>EU project Update and Progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SESSION 2 – COORDINATION AND INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

Review of progress and major initiatives related to MCPAs/ coral reefs and the SACRTF workplan since the 1st meeting of the SACRTF e.g.:
- New activities which raise the profile of MCPAs
- New key policy developments
- New funding opportunities
- Major new initiatives
- Milestones for the next year and potential role of the task force to advance them.
- Establishment of National Coral Reef Task Force (NCRTF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.45</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>&quot;UNESCO Efforts In The Field of Coral Reef and Marine Protected Area Conservation&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.10</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SESSION 3 – Activities of SACRTF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13.30</td>
<td>Sustainable Financing and Institutionalisation of SACRTF Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• lead by Dr. Arvind Boaz, SACEP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identification of key actions/ materials to advance institutionalisation of the SACRTF with country governments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.30-15.30</td>
<td>Development of draft regional strategy for coordinated responses to marine and coastal issues within the South Asia region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• General discussion on the proposed the action strategy (which includes a communication strategy) and its relevance to science, management and policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Commitments from SACRTF Members to implement the strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NB Breakout groups to review the framework and content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.15–15.30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30–16.30</td>
<td>Continued regional strategy discussion and report back</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SESSION 4 – SACRTF ADMINISTRATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.30–17.30</td>
<td>SACRTF administration issues:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Official launch of the SACRTF Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Meeting/Event Calendar mapping and opportunity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Purpose and message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Further development of promotional and outreach materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Next Venue and Date of the SACRTF Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.30</td>
<td>Meeting Close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX M
List of Participants

Bangladesh

Mr. MM Sultan Mahmud,
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests,
Bangladesh Secretariat, Room No. 1309, Building No. 6,
Dhaka, Bangladesh
MOEF, Dhaka, Bangladesh
M: +08801711 231 637
Tel: +880 2 7167912 (Dir),
Fax: +880 2 7169210
dsenv2@moef.gov.bd

Mr. Muhammad Shorab Ali,
Deputy Director, Department of Environment,
Paribesh Bhabar,
E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh.
Tel: +8802-811-246 Fax: +880-2-911-8682
krh@doe-bd.org

Mr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman
Project Manager
Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project
(CWBMP)
Department of Environment
E-16 Agargaon, Sher e Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207
Bangladesh
Tel: 880-2-9125701; ext:11
Cell: 880-171-1 340 930
mahbuburrahman@doe-bd.org

Dr. Mostafa Kamal Farooque,
Deputy Director (Natural Resources),
Department of Environment. Paribesh Bhaban,
16-E Agargoan, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Mob: 880-1711564806 880-2-9129864 (Tel)
880-2-9118682 (Fax) farooque@doe-bd.org

India

Dr. B.P. Nilratna,
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest,
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi, 110 003
India.
Mobile 91-98-106-14775 Tel: +91 11 24361712 Fa: 91
11 24362127
nilratna007@hotmail.com,
jsbp-mes@nic.in

Dr. B.R. Subramanian
Project Director
National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
Campus, Pallikaranai, Chennai 601302, India.
NIOT
+91 44 2246 0274 +91 44 2246 0657
brs@icmam.gov.in; brsche@yahoo.co.in

Dr. K. Venkataraman,
Secretary- NBA,
NBA, #475, 9th South Cross Street, Neelankarai,
Chennai 600 041
India. Mobi: +91 9444018146
(O Tel: 91 44 24491390 (O/ F)
91 11 24401335 nba_india@vsnl.net
Venkyzsl56@yahoo.com

Dr. J. R. Bhat, Director, Ministry of Environment and Forest,
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi, 110 003, India. Mobi: +91
9871 520 622
Tel : +91 11 2436 3962 jrbhatt@nic.in

Maldives

Mr. Mohamed Zuhair,
Director General,
Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water, 3rd Floor, Fen Building, Amenees Magu,
Male,
Mobil +960 7776800 +960 3324861
F:+960 3322 286 Email: env@environment.gov.mv
mohamed.zuhair@environment.gov.mv

Mr. Ibrahim Naeem, Director
Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water, 3rd Floor, Fen Building, Amenee Magu, Male’
Republic of Maldives
Mobile: +960 7781461 Phone: 960 3324861
Fax: 960 3322286
Email: ibrahim.naeem@environment.gov.mv, naeembe@hotmail.com
Mr. Hussein Zahir, Senior Research Officer  
Marine Research Center  
White Waves, Henveiru, Male’ Maldives  
Tel. No. +960 3322242 Fax No. +960 332209 Mobile phone  
No. +960 9900911  
e-mail – info@mrc.gov.mv  
Tel: +8802-811-246 Fax: +880-2-911-8682

Pakistan

Dr. Fehmida Firdous  
Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sindh Wildlife  
Department, Government of Sindh,  
Block A, Shahbaz Building,  
Hyderabad, Karachi, Pakistan  
Mobi: 0092-3072258925 Offi: 0092-21-9204951 / 2  
fehmidafirdous01@yahoo.com Fax: +880 2 7169210

Sri Lanka

Mr. Anuruddha Tennakoon, Environment Management  
Officer,  
Ministry of Environment,  
“Sampathpaya”, 82, Rajamalwatte Road,  
Battaramulla,  
+94 077 455633 Fax: +94 773 637361  
anuruddha_mails@yahoo.com

Mr. Anil Premaratne  
Additional Director Coast Conservation  
Coast Conservation Department,  
New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Colo 10  
M: 0773 102723 Tel: +94 11 2386469/ 2449197  
Fax: +94 11 2438005  
e-mail: apremaratne@fisheries.gov.lk

Weeramantri Canter

Hon. Judge C. G. Weeramantry,  
Hon. Patron-SACRTF, Weeramantry International  
Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER),  
5/1, Roland Tower, Dharmaraja Mawatha, Colombo 03.  
Tel: +94112500229, Fax: +94 114720480 Email:  
wicper1@sltnet.lk

Mr. C. Rankothge  
Weeramantry International Centre for Peace  
Education and Research (WICPER), 5/1,  
Roland Tower, Dharmaraja Mawatha, Colombo 03.  
M: 077 5371839 Tel: +94112500229, Fax: +94 114720480 Email: wicper1@sltnet.lk

International

Dr. Ram Boojh  
Programme Specialist (Ecology & Earth Science)  
UNESCO,  
B-5/29, Safdarjung Enclave  
New Delhi 110 029  
India.  
+919910020449 r.boojh@unesco.org  
Tel: + 91 11 267 13000 Fax: + 91 11 26713001 / 2  
newdelhi@unesco.org

Dr. H. S. Singh,  
Chief Conservator of Forests  
In-charge Director  
Gujarat Ecological Education and Research  
(GEER) Foundation, Indroda Nature Park, P.O.  
Sector -7, Gandhinagar-382 007,  
Gujarat, India.  
hss1954@hotmail.com hss.ifs@gmail.com  
dir-geer@gujarat.gov.in  
Resi phone: 91-79-23256616  
Mobile: 91-9978406188 M+91 9978406188  
(O) +91-79-23254117 , F:+91-79-23254128
SACEP Secretariat

Dr. A.A. Boaz,
Director General,
South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme,
No 10, Anderson Road,
Colombo 5,
Sri Lanka.
Tele:  +94 11 2589787 Fax: +94 11 2589787
E-mail: draboaz@yahoo.com

Mr. Hiran Tillekaratne,
Programme Officer,
South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP),
No 10, Anderson Road,
Colombo 5,
Sri Lanka.
Tele:  +94 11 2552761 Fax: +94 11 2589369
E-mail: po_sacep@eol.lk