



**1st Workshop for the Development of a Regional Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy for the South Asian Seas Region
8 to 10 July 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

In 2010, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted a new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This is now being translated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs). As recommended by the CBD, in order to strengthen the NBSAPs processes and address challenges that require regional solutions and collaboration, SACEP and UNEP initiated the process of developing a Regional Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy for the South Asian Seas Region.

The aim of the Regional Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy is to facilitate the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity targets relevant to marine and coastal environments at national and regional levels in the South Asian Seas region. The Strategy will be used as a framework for coordination and collaboration between South Asian countries in their efforts towards developing and implementing NBSAPs and applying ecosystem approaches for the protection and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services.

As part of this process, SACEP, with the support of UNEP and other partners, is organizing a three-day workshop to take stock of relevant existing information and discuss the Zero Draft of the Strategy, including its structure as well as development of regional targets and implementation plan. The main output of the workshop will be a First Order Draft (FOD) of the Strategy, which, after a consultation period, will be further revised at a second regional workshop, prior to being presented for endorsement by the South Asian Seas Inter-Ministerial Meeting in 2015.

Workshop Dates and Venue

8 to 10 of July 2014 - Colombo, Sri Lanka

Tentative Agenda

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CBD and NBSAP process - overview of ongoing activities by countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of relevant existing global, regional and national initiatives and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of a First Order Draft Marine and Coastal Biodiversity in

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine and Coastal Biodiversity in the SAS region – status overview, main pressures and potential regional responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> processes - Regional targets and priority actions – tentative identification and defining a process for their further development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAS, including tentative regional targets and implementation plan
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Participants

- National Governments representatives (NBSAPs and coastal and marine departments) of SACEP countries, namely Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Research institutions
- International Organizations
- Environmental NGOs