

### **Panelist Abstract**

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**Name of Session:** Session IX: Multicountry, National, Local, NGO, Private Sector Participation in IW Programmes Plenary

**Presentation Title:** Building Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

#### **Summary of Key Issues and Best Practices/Lessons Learned**

PEMSEA is the follow-on phase of the GEF pilot phase project on Marine Pollution Prevention and Management in the East Asian Seas Region (MPP-EAS) implemented from 1994-1999. The participating countries include 8 ASEAN plus 3 northern coastal nations (i.e., China, DPR Korea and RO Korea). Both projects have multi-country focus, interdisciplinary and multi-sector in approach in addressing pollution and other coastal management issues.

Several useful lessons were learned during the implementation of the pilot phase project and they form the basis for the design of the follow-on phase. Major lessons are briefly outlined below.

##### *A. Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) provides an effective framework and processes for local implementation of international conventions*

The two ICM projects in Batangas (Philippines) and Xiamen (China) were effective for local implementation of several environment and natural resource related international conventions including GPA, Agenda 21, Biodiversity, London and MARPOL conventions.

##### *B. Public- Private Partnerships (PPP) create policy and investment environment*

The PPP program for integrated waste management in Batangas resulted in the creation of a new consortium of New Zealand companies to invest in waste management in the province. The projected volume of wastes to be converted to methane gas and fertilizers are in the order of 1.5 million metric tons per year. The PPP process enables the creation of investment conditions for private sector to participate in environment management projects such as defining legislation, environmental policy, tax incentives, bank loan guarantees, joint financing, etc.

##### *C. Demonstration project builds local/ regional capacity and promotes perception/ attitude change*

The three demonstration projects in Batangas, Xiamen and Malacca Straits built considerable local/regional expertise and networking in coastal and marine area management through direct involvement in project activities at the project sites and in disseminating information during workshops and conferences, and through publications and reports. The ICM working models enable the replication of ICM programs in other participating countries, thus effectively increasing local capacity to plan and manage their coastal and marine areas.

Perception and attitude changes were detected through study tours of policy and decision makers and senior environmental officials to the demonstration sites in Batangas and Xiamen, often resulting in stronger commitments, mobilization of local financing and implementation of ICM projects in new sites.

*D. Local level institutional arrangements with stakeholders participation strengthens local governance, increases commitments, effectiveness and sustainability*

The multi-sector, interagency councils or committees of Batangas Bay and Xiamen ICM programs were effective institutional arrangements, strengthening the commitments of stakeholders, improving the effectiveness of local governance and sustainability of the ICM programs.

*E. Accessibility of scientific advice at the local level*

Making scientific advice available at the local level remarkably improved management efficiency and effectiveness of management interventions. This was achieved through integrated planning and management of the interface between land and the seas based on scientific information. The integration of scientific inputs in planning and management of the ICM sites and Malacca Straits enabled the three demonstration projects to achieve their goals.

*E. Sea use zoning minimizes multiple use conflicts in coastal areas*

The implementation of sea use zoning in Xiamen resolved several conflicts between fishing/aquaculture and navigation, economic development and conservation of egrets and Chinese dolphins; location of industries and protection of beaches and recreation sites. Functional zoning scheme also ensures optimal use of the coastal and marine resources.

*F. Risks assessment and risks management approach provide a new dimension in environmental management*

The systematic approaches in determining environmental risks and the subsequent prescription of management measures adopted at the Malacca Straits project provide a new dimension in environmental management of international straits, subregional seas and coastal areas.

**Key References**

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