



Concepts and Planning for a 2017 Ecosystem Management and Ocean Governance Conference

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LME:LEARN Project Document

Sub-Activity 4.4.2:

Organisation of Conference on ecosystem management and ocean governance

Sub-Activity 4.4.3:

Publication of Conference and Workshop Proceedings based on sub-Activity 4.4.2.

Outputs:

- Participation of GEF ecosystem-based LME/ICM/MPA project community and practitioners in regional and global conferences.
- Conference on ecosystem management and ocean governance held, preferably in association with UNEP Regional Seas Programme
- Conference and Workshop proceedings published and disseminated
- Global GEF LME-ABNJ science community networked

Discussions and Thoughts So Far

To aim for a meeting of the GEF oceans and general IW ecosystem-based community in late 2017 to be organised by IW:LME:LEARN

The purpose of such a meeting would be three -fold:

1. To bring together the IW ecosystem-based management community (including the freshwater and inland waters stakeholders) to discuss closer collaboration between the various agencies and players and to dispense with the current 'fragmented' approach to such management
2. More specifically, to discuss how to anchor the LME approach and the SAP Implementation more effectively alongside the Regional Seas Programmes so as to avoid any duplication of effort and in order to institutionalise and legitimise the LME SAP process
3. To hold our next LME Consultative Meeting back-to-back with this process (more cost-effective)

One suggestion has been to hold this in Cape Town South Africa pending the support of the South African government

Discussions and Thoughts So Far

There is now a real possibility for the LME:LEARN Project and UNEP to collaborate in the planning of Conference so as to address the need for closer collaboration within the marine ecosystem-base management community and specifically to address the SAP ‘anchoring’ topic

One early suggestion for a Conference title has been “**Advancing the Implementation of SAPS for Sustainable Ecosystem Based Management and Governance of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems – 20 Years of Successful Progress**” – Other suggestions and thoughts would be welcome

In order to then take advantage of having its LME community all present, IW:LME:LEARN can then plan and organise its next 19th Consultative meeting to coincide

Next Steps

To open these ideas up to discussion here at the Consultative Meeting of LMEs and Coastal Partners for consideration and feedback

To start the planning for a meeting in Cape Town and to discuss synergies and logistic for amalgamation/ cooperation

To further the development of this process in early 2017 and to report back to the various ecosystem-based management communities, LME projects and Regional Seas Programmes on progress and to seek input as necessary.....

Over to you!