



Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP) Project

Second Meeting of the SCS SAP Project Steering Committee

30-31 January 2024, 09.00 – 16.00

Bangkok, Thailand

CHINA





National Coordination and Oversight

- Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC)
Ministry of Ecology and Environment, lead agency
Ministry of Natural Resources,
National Forestry and Grassland Administration
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
DEEs from Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan
- National Technical Working Group (NTWG)
South China Institute of Environmental Sciences, MEE
Experts from other relevant research institutions
- Specialized Executing Agency (SEA)
South China Institute of Environmental Sciences, MEE

Mangroves Targets and Sites



	SCS SAP Project: mangrove targets and sites					
Regional Output	Dongzhaigang, Hainan	Shankou, Guangxi	Zhanjiang, Guangdong	Yangjiang, Guangdong	Huidong, Guangdong	Total
1.1.3 Reform of laws and regulations for the sustainable use of 602,800 ha of mangrove forest	1,700	800	7,200	NA	NA	9,700
1.1.4 Replanting of 21,000 ha of deforested mangrove land	NA	50	200	200	50	500
1.1.5 Biodiversity increased for 11,200 ha of mangrove forest via enrichment planting	NA	800	NA	80	NA	880
1.1.6 Established mechanism for monitoring management, ecological and socio-economic indicators at 26 sites	1,700	800	900	NA	NA	3,400



Progress on sustainable management of mangrove

National level

- The National Action Plan for Mangrove Protection and Restoration (2020-2025) , released in 2020, set an overall target of mangrove replantation and restoration.
- Wetland Protection Law, promulgated In 2021,
- Law of Marine Environmental Protection, revised in 2023

Provincial level

- Hainan, Guangdong, Guangxi province all formulated Provincial Action Plan follow the requirement of The National Action Plan for Mangrove Protection and Restoration (2020-2025).
- Related regulations on mangroves in Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan

Site level

- **Shankou** about **113 ha** of mangroves replanted and **112 ha** of mangroves restored.
- **Zhanjiang** about **200 ha** of mangroves replanted. Regulation on mangrove management was issued.
- **Yangjiang** about **83.7 ha** of mangroves replanted.
- The indicators matrix for effectiveness evaluation of mangrove was developed based on PCU's monitoring framework and evaluation methodology.



Seagrass Targets and Sites

	SCS SAP Project, seagrass targets and sites				
Regional Output	Li'an and Xincun, Hainan	Hepu, Guangxi	Liusha, Guangdong	Yifengxi, Guangdong	Total
1.3.1 Twenty one seagrass areas totaling 25,900 ha under sustainable management with supporting laws and regulations	520	540	900	400	2360
1.3.2 Amended management plans for 7 existing MPAs with significant seagrass areas, to include specific seagrass-related management actions and policy, legal and institutional reforms	520	540	900	400	2360
1.3.4 Established mechanism for monitoring management, ecological and socio-economic indicators at 21 sites [based on SAP results framework]	520	540	900	NA	1960

Progress on seagrass conservation and management

National level

- Seagrass beds are listed as significantly protected typical marine ecosystems and are encouraged to be restored in the revised Marine Environment Protection Law of the People's Republic of China.

Provincial level

- Hainan Province has promulgated policies to promote the inclusion of seagrass bed in protected areas, such as Ecological Protection Red Line Management Regulations of Hainan Province (revised in 2022), and Ecological Protection Compensation Regulations of Hainan Province (implemented in 2020).

Site level

- In cooperation with Shantou University, several field surveys and investigations were carried out in 5 seagrass bed demonstration sites during 2021 to 2023 .
- About 3.6 ha seagrass bed has been restored in Hepu in 2023 and 7.3 ha will be in 2024.
- An indicator matrix was developed based on PCU's monitoring framework and evaluation methodology.



Wetlands Targets and Sites



	SCS SAP Project: wetland targets and sites				
Regional Output	Danzhou (Xinyingwan) Hainan	Maoweihei, Guangxi	Pearl River estuary (Jitimen), Guangdong	Dahu, Guangdong	Total
1.1.3 Integrated management plans developed and under implementation for at least 3 lagoons (15,579.69 ha), 1 estuary (4,854 ha) and associated policy, legal and institutional reforms	4468.91	4222.88	4854	6887.9	20433.69
1.1.4 Adoption of a regional estuary monitoring scheme and its national implementation	NA	4222.88	4854	6887.9	15964.78

Progress on management of wetland

National level:

- The Wetland Protection Law of the People's Republic of China was promulgated in 2021.
- In 2022, the Measures for the Management of Invasive Alien Species was implemented, and the List of Invasive Alien Species under Key Management was issued.

Provincial level:

- The regulations on wetland protection in Hainan Province came into effect in January 2024.
- The Regulations of Guangdong Province on Wetland Protection was promulgated in 2021.
- The Comprehensive Environmental Remediation Plan of Maowehai was issued and implemented.

Site level:

- The Comprehensive Environmental Remediation Plan of Maowehai was issued and implemented, and illegal aquaculture ponds and floating rafts in Maowehai were cleaned up, and ecological mariculture pilot projects were carried out.
- the survey of biodiversity and the status of invasive alien species, as well as the survey of macrobenthic animals in the Dahu site, and monitoring and coastal cleanup of marine litters.
- The evaluation index system and method of coastal wetland management effectiveness were established.





Pollution Management

Action plan for water pollution prevention and control in Pearl River Estuary (PRE)

- Acts on management and control of nutrients (total nitrogen) in rivers flowing into the key sea
- Acts on point pollution source control for coastal urban area
- Acts on non-point pollution source control for agricultural area
- Acts on pollution control for port and harbors

Coastal aquaculture pollution control

- Wastewater discharge standard for aquaculture in provinces
- Recommended processing technique for aquaculture discharge water

Pollution source control for directly discharge into the sea

- Implementation for investigation and rectification of sewage outfalls into water bodies
- develop information registration and management system for sewage outfalls
- Strengthen supervision and management of sewage outfalls

Integrated management practices on land-based pollution

- Maozhou River Watershed Management Practice in Shenzhen, Guangdong;
- Integrated water environment treatment of Lianjiang River in Guangdong;
- Integrated Qing'ao Bay watershed management practice, Shantou, Guangdong;
- Integrated watershed management practice in Qinjiang River, Guangxi;
- Wuyuan River Watershed management practice in Haikou, Hainan.

Overall Status and Challenges

Status



40 %

of work plan
implemented



29%

of budget
implemented

>> Main achievement 2023 linked with project outcomes

1. About 396.7 ha of mangroves planted at Shankou, Yangjiang, Zhanjiang; and about 112 ha of mangrove restored at Shankou site under financial support of Ministry of Finance and relevant local governments
2. Completed the reports of survey and evaluation at 5 seagrass sites
3. Completed surveys of 4 wetland sites and 5 Mangrove site, and the integrated plan of Maowehai site, and ecological monitoring of Shankou site
4. Training workshop on the implementation of the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand Strategic Action Plan (SCS SAP) held in Guangzuo, China

>> Expected accomplishments for 2024

- About 100 ha of mangroves replanted
- Performance report of mangrove management at 3 sites
- Performance reports of seagrass management at 5 sites
- Performance reports of wetland management at 3 sites

Overall Status and Challenges

Challenges

Mangrove

- Invasive species, pest control, conflicts between mangrove protection and livelihood development, and the effective management in mangrove restoration.

Seagrass

- seagrass facing with multiple threats, such as the development and construction projects, fishery activities , land source pollution and invasion of exotic species, e.g. *Spartina alterniflora*.
- The public generally lacks the necessary protection knowledge of seagrass.

Wetland

- Invasive alien species distributed in the coastal wetlands.

Land-based pollution

- concerns about marine plastic pollution are growing.



Conclusion

- **Revision of relevant Laws and regulations, and formulation of relevant action plans on mangrove, seagrass, wetland and land-based pollution at national and local levels**
- **Enhancement of capacity building for mangrove, seagrass and wetland management at priority sites, e.g. Training workshop on the implementation of the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand Strategic Action Plan (SCS SAP) held in Guangzhou, China**
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Thank you for your attention!

