

Cooperation between Marine Protected Area and Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Quang Nam Province, Viet Nam

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The coastal area is a valuable resource for the Quang Nam province and its management will have a significant impact on several sectors of the economy such as tourism, fishery, agriculture, aquaculture, industry, transportation... However, a historically fragmented and sectoral approach to coastal zone management has left the need for a more effective and integrated management to enable the coast to be used sustainably and ensure its long-term protection. Integrated coastal zone management (ICM) brings together sectors, disciplines, agencies and stakeholders to promote sustainable use of coastal areas and resources. Integration should harmonize existing coastal efforts in order to achieve a more sustainable level of resource use and should occur at all levels to be effective. In connection with local ICM program through the use of marine protected area (MPA) could promote sustainable use of the Quang Nam coast and the effectiveness of the current management system.

The paper focuses on the line of MPA – ICM interaction within the case of Quang Nam, where is a show of a connection between the Cham Islands MPA to the downstream of the Vu Gia – Thu Bon river basin and the Tam Hai coral and sea grass area in the south of the province through some ICM activities. The cooperation between the Cham MPA and the initial ICM program in the Quang Nam coastal area will focus on biodiversity conservation and community livelihood improvement. Multi-stakeholder collaboration and community-participation cut across all component activities in the MPA and ICM exchange, including a) zoning plan development; b) establishment of regulatory mechanism; c) community-based livelihood improvement and impact assessment; d) participatory assessment/monitoring and evaluation; e) initiation of alternative income generation activities; f) participatory management plan development; and g) participatory patrolling and enforcement.

The study focuses on the initial findings of a research activity, which is being conducted to support and strengthen the coastal resources management. The research activity particularly



looked at the a) application of community-based models on environmental and natural resources protection and reasonable use; 2) understanding the co-management theory; 3) building co-management models, and 4) supporting co management activities in the Cham Islands MPA, including community-based garbage management in Cam Thanh commune, Hoi An city, and coral reef conservation and sustainable exploitation in Tam Hai commune, Nui Thanh district.

The study showed that community involvement in all levels and aspects of the management of the MPA and ICM facilitate resolution conflict, sharing of responsibility, rights allocation and ensures sustainable use of resources, as the individuals and communities diverse interests are taken into consideration. The benefits to the communities are enough incentives to sustain public interest and involvement. The local people are not only consulted but are also involved in the planning, implementation and monitoring of activities within the MPA and ICM.

The MPA management can help to achieve the objectives of ICM in Quang Nam by integrating management activities and increase co-ordination and collaboration by promoting a more sustainable approach to using the coastal zone and its resources. And ICM will help MPA to be network in Quang Nam.