Session 1: State of the Oceans and Coasts

Professor Alistair McIlgorm, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS).
University of Wollongong
Session 1.

- The Blue economy – where are we now?
- Ocean, Coastal economy contributions, ecosystems services
- Risks, threats and Blue economy initiatives
- Role of SOC reports
- Key messages to policy makers
The big picture – the last 50 years

Economic benefits from marine resources
- UN Law of the Sea convention supports national jurisdictions and development of the marine sector commences

Global sustainability
- UN/ Rio 20+ and greening of the oceans and the economy.
- Small island developing states vocal on marine resources

Innovation
- Ecologically based innovation promoted and new marine industries and growth envisaged.

Blue economy …an umbrella term
- A process where LOS rights lead to economic development
Greening the Ocean => Blue economy

Industry sustainability & environment
- External costs of marine industries
- Dependence on healthy environment (Eg SIDS)

Growth in existing marine industries
- Stronger rates of growth than land based industries
- ‘Blue growth’

New Marine Industries and innovation
- Potential for new jobs and competitive advantage
State of Oceans and Coasts Reports
Changwon Declaration Toward an Ocean-Based Blue Economy 2012

Blue economy: sustainable, innovative and inclusive ocean economy

“We understand the Blue Economy to be a practical ocean-based economic model using green infrastructure and technologies, innovative financing mechanisms, and proactive institutional arrangements for meeting the twin goals of protecting our oceans and coasts, and enhancing potential contribution to sustainable development, including improving human well-being, and reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.”
Target 2 of the Da Nang Compact 2015

By 2018, a regional State of Oceans and Coasts reporting system to monitor progress, impacts and benefits, and to continually improve planning and management of SDS-SEA implementation.
Blue economy in international agreements

- **SDG 14**: conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

- **Rio+20**: ocean as natural capital; oceans as good business; oceans as integral to Pacific SIDS; and oceans as small-scale fisheries livelihoods

- **APEC 2014**: fostering economic growth through conservation and sustainable development and management (Xiamen Declaration 2014)

- **Aichi biodiversity targets**: all fish, invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches
Ocean economy and ocean health
- Role of oceans and LMEs
- The people of EAS region (demographic, socioeconomic)
- Coastal and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Ocean economy
- Ecosystem services
- Food security from coastal and marine resources
- Tourism, heritage and cultural sites
- Shipping and ports
- Risks and threats

Blue economy development
- Drivers of transformational change and sustainability
- Innovative and sustainable economic activities
- Best practices & innovations in environmental and resource mgt.

Innovations in blue economy governance and investment opportunities
- Enabling conditions, participation mechanisms, R&D
- LMEs: benefits from shared management
- Business and investment opportunities in blue economy
**Expected outcomes**

The SOC report with Blue Economy theme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved understanding of the role and contribution of the oceans and marine and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coastal ecosystems in the economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased awareness of how human activities, environmental damages, natural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hazards, and climate change can impact the blue economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-based policy- and decision-making aimed at ensuring sustainable activities,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and safeguarding our natural wealth and communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A mechanism to monitor the investment and net returns from ocean activities,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promote growth potential in strategic industries, and identify investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced direction in ocean stewardship and governance, and multi-country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>response to address threats and transboundary issues, and protect and co-manage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shared resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.pemsea.org
Next steps

A template for the SOC report will be developed. The pilot country will be the Philippines. A pilot LME will also be selected.

Consultations with national focal agencies.
Inception Workshops and organization of TWGs

Drafting of the national and regional SOC reports
Regional TWG (Non-country partners) will provide technical guidance and information.

Presentation of Draft SOC reports at a Blue Economy Forum to be held in November 2017.
KPs targeting different audiences will be developed.

Launching of the SOC reports during the next EAS Congress in 2018.
What activities have been done?

**Inception Workshop on Blue Economy Assessment**
- July 2015
- 15 participants from 7 countries

**Workshop on Blue Economy Development**
- EAS Congress 2015 (Nov 2015)

**Regional Workshop on Developing the SOC Report**
- 31 March – 1 April 2016
- 13 int’l/regional organizations

Concept and approach
Initial estimates
SOC outline and available info
Challenges

Country support
- Organizing National TWGs
- Capacity needs
- Willingness to share information

Data concerns
- Data availability
- Data disaggregation
- Harmonization of statistical concepts
- Boundaries in operational terms
- Data accessibility

Resources
- Budget availability
- Technical assistance
- Support of non-country partners
Areas of Collaboration

- sharing of information
- participation in the regional Technical Working Group
- preparing a relevant section of the SOC report, as appropriate
- review of national and regional SOC reports
- participation in related workshops and conferences
Session 1.

• The Blue economy – where are we now?
• Ocean, Coastal economy contributions, ecosystems services
• Risks, threats and Blue economy initiatives
• Role of SOC reports
• Key messages to policy makers
Contact Person:

Ms. Maricor Ebarvia
Project Manager, PEMSEA
Email address: mebarvia.bautista@gmail.com