

# Network of Learning Centers

## **PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers**

**The PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC)** is a network of well-recognized professionals and scientific experts who collaborate and share their experience in Integrated Coastal Management.

Currently, the network is comprised of several universities and scientific institutes across the East Asian Seas Region, including PEMSEA's Regional Centers of Excellence (RCoEs) and ICM Learning Centers. These Centers are strategically located within the region and provide technical support in scaling up ICM efforts and assist in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA).

Over the years, the Centers have assisted in on-the-ground transfer of ICM practice, skills, knowledge, tools and methodologies. In May 2015, PEMSEA in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, and the Center for Coastal and Marine Resource Studies of Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia, successfully brought together representatives from the ICM Learning Centers and other scientific institutes for a Regional Workshop on Strengthening the Capacity to Scale up the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). To begin developing the required training and technical support services that will be available across the EAS region, the Centers and other representatives were again brought together in August 2015 for the Regional ICM Training of Trainers Workshop held in Batangas, Philippines.

To continue building on these successes, PEMSEA established a network to further harness the region's plenitude of expertise. By linking multiple scientific institutions and providing a platform for them to engage with one another in beneficial knowledge sharing, the network enhances development of good practices and efficient dissemination of sound information in several areas associated with sustainable development of coasts and oceans.



The PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers provides technical advice and assistance to national and local governments, ICM project sites, nongovernmental organizations, local communities and the private sector for SDS-SEA implementation across the region through the following:

- Undertaking studies and projects on coastal and ocean management;
- Monitoring and reporting of changes and trends;
- Mentoring and training of planners, managers and practitioners; and
- Conducting local, national and regional training courses.

To date, PEMSEA has partnered with ICM Learning Centers and Regional Centers of Excellence in six partner countries:

#### **ICM Learning Centers**

- Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)
- Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI), Xiamen University
- Kim Il Sung University
- Center for Coastal and Marine Resource Studies, Bogor Agricultural University
- Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan
- De La Salle Lipa
- · University of the Philippines Visayas
- University of Danang

#### PEMSEA Regional Centers of Excellence (RCoE)

#### **RCoE** on marine pollution:

Centre for Marine Environmental Research and Innovative Technology (MERIT) of Hong Kong

RCoE on coral reef research and marine protected areas management:

Marine Science Institute (MSI) of the University of the Philippines

### PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers Areas of interest and expertise

Member institutions of the network have extensive experience in:

- Integrated coastal management (ICM);
- · Marine protected areas management;
- Habitat restoration and biodiversity conservation;
- Integrated river basin and coastal area management;
- Fisheries management and alternative livelihoods;
- · Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction;
- · Ocean policy and governance; and
- · Water resources conservation and management.







(http://beta.seaknowledgebank.net). This is where members of the network share their knowledge, experiences and scientifically sound materials. Members have access to an online forum where they can hold online discussions based on their current or proposed activities. The forum also serves as a gateway for further transfer of knowledge with other environmental practitioners by providing a venue to engage with network members in a "Solution Exchange" helpdesk where practitioners can submit questions for the listed experts.





Annual face-to-face meetings are also arranged within the region to gather the network, to identify constraints and opportunities, and to further enhance collaboration and partnership building among its members.

### **Benefits of the PNLC**

- · Linkage of multiple scientific institutions;
- Improved knowledge and strengthened capacity in the EAS region;
- Efficient problem solving;
- Focused collaborations within strategic areas of importance; and
- Enhancement of the core capabilities of EAS countries in coastal and ocean management.

### **Membership requirements**

Membership to the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers is by invitation only through PEMSEA. For inquiries, please contact us at *info@pemsea.org* 



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