

PEMSEA at 30: Commemorating Three Decades of Partnerships for the Seas of East Asia

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) started as a regional marine pollution project implemented by the United Nations Development Programme and the International Maritime Organization, with funding from the Global Environment Facility in 1993. The success of the project has paved the way to solidify a partnership among countries and non-country partners to work together to develop and implement a joint regional framework called the ‘Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia,’ and create a regional coordination mechanism with its own international legal personality.

Thirty years of inclusive sustainable development work in the coastal and marine areas of the EAS Region have brought significant benefits and lasting impacts. These include but is not limited to the implementation and adaptation of integrated coastal management (ICM) system in 10 countries covering 40% of the region’s coastline with ICM; 10 national governments implementing and refining national coastal and ocean policies; engagement of 53 local governments with technical support from 18 learning centers in the region. Another noteworthy accomplishment is the development of state of ocean and coasts reports at the regional, national and some local levels which offers a baseline assessment and planning and monitoring tool on the state of play of ecosystem habitats, services, ocean economy and policies and programs. These successes and more would not have been possible without the active engagement and commitment of many individuals and organizations.

The Humans of EAS

As part of the activities to commemorate PEMSEA’s 30th anniversary, we are launching the search for Humans of East Asian Seas (EAS). Adapted from the concept of Humans of New York¹, the Humans of EAS will honor and celebrate the work of local coastal and marine champions from among the many local personalities and partners in the last 30 years of collaborative actions of PEMSEA.

For PEMSEA, inspiring stories from 30 individuals or organizations from local/coastal communities will be selected based on the following criteria:



¹ <https://www.humansofnewyork.com>

- **Direct engagement with PEMSEA (20 points):** The nominee should be directly involved in any PEMSEA initiative or project.
- **Foster inspiring or success story (40 points):** The participation and engagement of the nominee to PEMSEA must showcase result and impact.
- **Contribution to local/national/regional actions and community (30 points):** The nominee should be able to demonstrate her/his contribution to local/national/regional actions, projects, or initiatives linked to supporting PEMSEA's work.
- **Familiarity with PEMSEA (10 points):** The nominee should be connected and/or know about PEMSEA and its work in their respective country/community or in the region.

Nomination

1. The call for nomination will be opened from September 8, 2023 to December 7, 2023, 11:59 PM, (GMT+8). This will be formally announced through email marketing and social media channels of PEMSEA.
2. All nominations should be submitted using the official nomination form or the [online form](#).
3. An individual or organization can only nominate a **maximum of two individuals**.
4. Previous and current PEMSEA staff, officials, and council committee members are not eligible for nomination.
5. Additional validation and reference check may be done by the PRF Secretariat, if needed.
6. Selected nominees will be formally contacted by PRF.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will be composed of selected PEMSEA Resource Facility Technical Committee and invited independent external reviewers.

The Selection Committee will evaluate each nomination based on the criteria and point system. Each committee member will individually score the nominee based on the merit of nomination. The cumulative points of the nominee from all members of the Selection Committee will be the final score, which will be used as the basis for final deliberation.

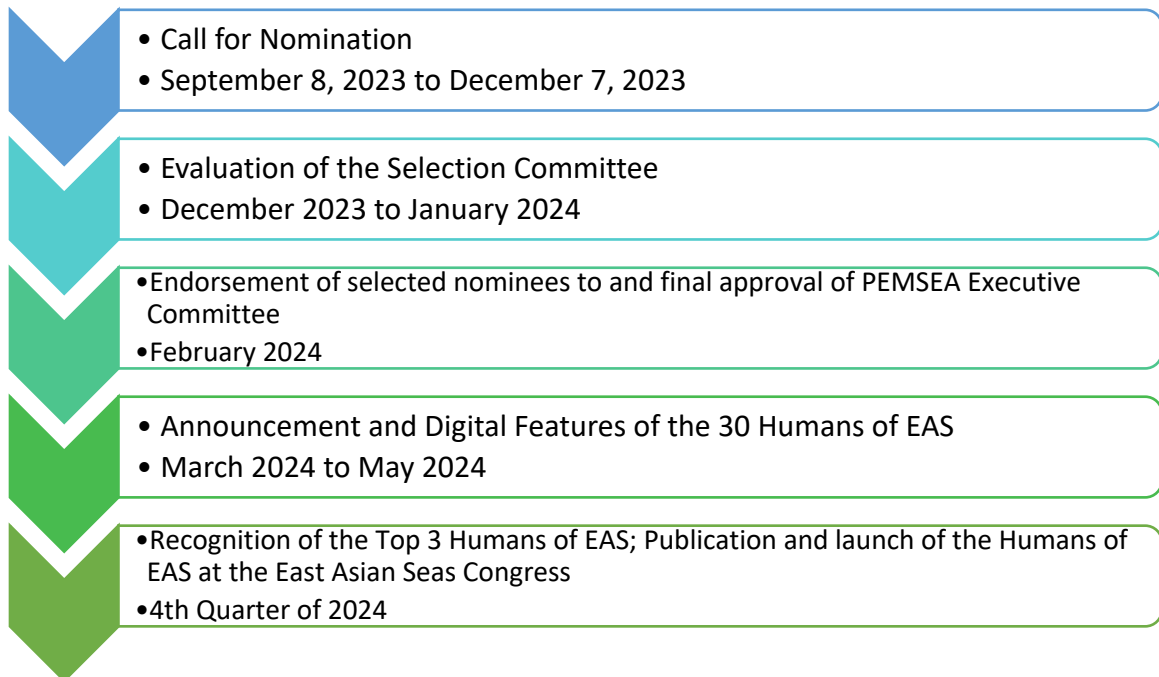
The Selection Committee will convene once all scores are consolidated to review the result. The 30 nominees with highest cumulative points will be endorsed to the Executive Committee for final approval.

Incentives

The selected 30 Humans of EAS will be featured in PEMSEA’s communication channels and in the digital publication of PEMSEA, which will be launched in the 2024 East Asian Seas Congress.

From the list of 30 Humans of EAS, the top three who garnered the highest scores will be invited to participate in the 2024 East Asian Seas Congress where they will be formally recognized during the Partnership Night. They will have the opportunity to present their work, participate in the various sessions, and engage with coastal and ocean experts and leaders from the region. Travel and travel related expenses for the top three Humans of EAS will be covered by PEMSEA.

Timeline



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