

## **6<sup>th</sup> Geo Blue Planet Symposium on Digital Solution for Sustainable Ocean Community**

back-to-back with

### **PEMSEA Learning Exchange on Good Practices in Implementing Biodiversity Conservation-Focused Ecosystem and Area-based Management Approaches**

and the

### **3<sup>rd</sup> PNLC General Assembly Meeting**

**Dates:** October 31 - November 2, 2023

**Venue:** Ambassador Pullman Hotel, Ramada Seoul Dongdaemun, Seoul, South Korea

#### **Rationale:**

This program covers three back-to-back activities, as follows:

- (1) The 6<sup>th</sup> Geo Blue Planet Symposium on Digital Solution for Sustainable Ocean Community
- (2) PEMSEA Learning Exchange on Good Practices in Implementing Biodiversity Conservation-Focused Ecosystem and Area-based Management Approaches
- (3) The 3<sup>rd</sup> PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) General Assembly Meeting

#### **The 6<sup>th</sup> Geo Blue Planet Symposium on “Digital Solution for Sustainable Ocean Community – October 31, 2023**

The Republic of Korea, through Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), is hosting the Geo Blue Planet's Asia Regional Secretariat, which was launched in 2022. RO Korea is hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Geo Blue Planet Symposium where among the targeted activities is the establishment of a network of experts in Asia. As their core activities, GEO BP operates through seven working groups, including marine litter, coastal change, fisheries, climate adaptation and oil spills where each working group will discuss their activities and achievements. A new working group called digital MSP will also be proposed.

#### **PEMSEA Learning Exchange on Good Practices in Implementing Biodiversity Conservation-Focused Ecosystem and Area-based Management Approaches – November 1, 2023**

In December 2022, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)<sup>1</sup> was adopted by 196 nations at the UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP15) in Montreal, Canada. With goals

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/article/cop15-final-text-kunming-montreal-gbf-221222>

and action-oriented targets particularly focusing on reducing threats to biodiversity (Target 3) and tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (Target 20).

In March 4, 2023, a historic agreement under the purview of UNCLOS was reached at the United Nations in New York on a new treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) known as the High Seas Treaty<sup>2</sup>. The treaty's objective to establish large scale marine protected areas directly contributes to the Kunming-Montreal GBF 30 x 30 conservation target.

In the context of the healthy ocean's component and enabling capacity programs of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia Implementation Plan 2023-2027, this seminar jointly organized by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, PEMSEA Resource Facility and the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and Korea Institute of Ocean and Technology (KIOST) will elucidate on the implementation requirements of the Kunming-Montreal GBF (and BBNJ) in consideration of national circumstances, priorities and capacities in relation to coastal and marine biodiversity management in the EAS region. It will highlight the practical experiences in the region in implementing area-based management approaches such as integrated coastal management (ICM), marine spatial planning (MSP) and other approaches as measures to operationalize the GBF requirements in line with the commitments made by the countries.

As one of the pioneering countries in East Asia to promote the implementation of ICM, the Republic of Korea has established a full-fledged national ICM system by enacting the Coastal Management Act in 1999 and adopted an ICM Plan in 2000. In 2018, the Marine Spatial Planning and Management Act was enacted to establish a marine spatial plan that integrates the coastal management plan and establish new systems such as the marine spatial data system, marine use zone, marine space characteristics evaluation, and marine suitability consultation. Speakers from KMI and KOEM will share RO Korea's experiences and future plans in establishing a system of MSP and marine and coastal management methods that facilitate the integration of various area-based approaches in RO Korea, including the conservation and management of marine protected areas and current status in implementing the ecological axis management under the Natural Environment Conservation Act of 1991 as part of other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM).

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) General Assembly Meeting, Nov 2, 2023**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly (GA) of the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) will also take place on 2 November 2023 and will (1) Brief members on PNLC Secretariat Transition Plan; (2) Discuss the highlights of PNLC survey results and opportunities for engagement of PNLC members; (3) Present the evaluation process for new applicants to PNLC membership; (4) Share and exchange work/events relevant to PNLC and identify other activities/schedules; (5) Review the draft 2024-2025 workplan.

### **Objectives of the back-to-back activities:**

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.un.org/bbnj/sites/www.un.org.bbnj/files/draft\\_agreement\\_advanced\\_unedited\\_for\\_posting\\_v1.pdf](https://www.un.org/bbnj/sites/www.un.org.bbnj/files/draft_agreement_advanced_unedited_for_posting_v1.pdf)

- **GEO Blue Planet Symposium objectives:**
  - Share GEO Blue Planet’s Working Groups’ (WG) progress and introduce a new WG on ‘Digital MSP’.
  - Identify actions that may contribute to Geo Blue Planet’s target to create a network of experts in Asia. More specifically for PEMSEA and PNLC, to introduce GEO Blue Planet to PNLC members and help establish GEO Blue Planet network in Asia to strengthen data-based marine and coastal management capabilities.
  
- **PEMSEA Learning Exchange on Good Practices in Implementing Biodiversity Conservation-Focused Ecosystem and Other Area-based Management Approaches:**
  - Share practical experiences in implementing biodiversity-focused area-based management approaches, including gaps and challenges and areas for improvement;
  - Share emerging/new developments and directions in mainstreaming various area-based approaches;
  - Identify synergies in plans and programs in support of the GBF (and BBNJ) targets;
  - Identify opportunities for capacity development and networking as well as transformative actions that would highlight the region’s contribution to achieving the relevant GBF (and BBNJ) targets, and
  - Share RO Korea’s experiences and future plans in establishing a system of MSP and marine and coastal management methods that facilitate the integration of various area-based approaches in RO Korea, including the conservation and management of marine protected areas and current status in implementing the ecological axis management under the Natural Environment Conservation Act of 1991 as part of other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM).  
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- **PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) General Assembly objectives:**
  - To update the network on the PNLC status and progress of activities, including the PNLC Secretariat transition to CCMRS-IPB;
  - To identify potential engagements of members and activities of the network;
  - To review/develop PNLC workplan for 2024-2025.

**Target Participants (number and composition):**

- **Geo Blue Planet Symposium** is targeting the participation of 200 persons from government agencies, academic institutions, international organizations, and coastal countries in Asia and other parts of the world.
- **PEMSEA Learning Exchange on Good Practices in Implementing Biodiversity Conservation-Focused Ecosystem and Other Area-based Management Approaches will be attended by 21 ICM partners** from the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC)- other Geo Planet participants are welcome to join.
- **The 3<sup>rd</sup> PNLC General Assembly will be attended by 21PNLC members.**

### Activity design and approaches

- Symposium
- Presentations / Sharing of programs
- Discussion-Workshop
- Field trip

### Programme

Day 1: 31 October 2023 Geo Blue Planet Symposium Program		
Time	Activity	Other details
8:00-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:30	<b>Welcome notes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KMI President Jong-doen Kim</li> <li>• Minister of Oceans and Fisheries Seung-Hwan Cho</li> <li>• US Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg</li> <li>• EU Ambassador Maria Castillo Fernandez</li> </ul>	
9:30-10:30	<b>Introductory keynote presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction to Ocean and Coastal Observations  <i>Audrey Hasson</i> Head GEO Blue Planet European Office</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamic Oceans and Blue Economy  <i>Young Tae Chang</i> Professor Emeritus Inha University, Korea</li> </ul>	
10:30-11:00	Break	
11:00-12:00	<b>Plenary Session 1:</b> Ocean and Coastal Challenges and Priorities in Asia and Pacific Region	To be co-chaired by Aimee T. Gonzales, PEMSEA and Rory Scarrot, University of Cork
12:00-13:00	<b>Plenary Session 2:</b> Introduction to the GEO Blue Planet Initiative	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	

14:00-16:00	<b>Plenary Session 3:</b> Digital Solutions for Sustainable Oceans	
16:00-18:00	<b>Plenary Session 4:</b> Introduction to K-MSP	
18:00-20:00	<i>Welcome reception</i>	
<b>Day 2: 01 November 2023 PEMSEA Learning Exchange Program</b>		
Time	Activity	Other details
9:00-09:15	<b>Opening Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening remarks</li> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Rationale and Objectives of the Program</li> </ul>	PEMSEA
09:15-10:15	<b>Session 1: Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationalizing the Different Management Frameworks and its Implications to the SDS-SEA Plan Implementation</li> <li>• Introduction and presentation on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the BBNJ and its implications for coastal and marine biodiversity management.</li> </ul>	Ms. Nancy Bermas, PRF
10:15-10:30	Break	
10:30-12:00	<b>Session 2: Sharing</b> Participants present and share models and good practices on their implementation of ecosystem and area-based management frameworks, approaches and tools in addressing biodiversity targets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ)</li> <li>• Inter-country / transboundary</li> <li>• National-scale</li> <li>• Provincial or inter-jurisdictional</li> <li>• Ecosystem-based</li> <li>• Site-based</li> </ul>	PNLC Members
12:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-17:00	<b>Session 3: Ecosystem Management</b>	

	<p><b>and Blue Carbon Initiatives</b></p> <p>3.1. Conservation and management of marine protected areas</p> <p>3.2. Marine ecosystem axis as Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM)</p> <p>3.3. Blue carbon research and contribution to policy in Korea</p> <p>3.4. Blue carbon capacity development in Korea</p> <p>3.5 Blue carbon Initiatives from PNLC members</p>	
<p>Day 3: 02 November 2023</p> <p><b>PEMSEA Learning Exchange Program</b></p>		
Time	Activity	Other details
9:00-11:00	<p><b>PNLC General Assembly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates on the PNLC Secretariat Transition</li> <li>• Presentation of PNLC survey result highlights and opportunities for PNLC member engagement</li> <li>• PNLC Sustainability Plan and Workplan for 2024</li> <li>• PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program</li> <li>• Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank (SEAKB) re-launch</li> </ul>	
11:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-onward	Field Trip	

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