2025 Accomplishment Report of PEMSEA

Prepared by the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF)

January 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) entered a pivotal transition year, consolidating gains from the East Asian Seas Congress 2024 while laying the institutional and strategic foundations to accelerate regional action under the Sustainable Development Strategy of the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). Country partner strategic policy guidance, technical inputs and financial contributions continued to serve as the backbone of PEMSEA's operations - sustaining its neutrality, continuity and convening mandate - while enabling the Secretariat to leverage technical partnerships and collaborative activities and substantial financing from external sources.

Country partner support in 2025 enabled PEMSEA, through the PEMSEA Resource Facility, its technical and secretariat arm to maintain core intergovernmental functions essential to regional cooperation, including effective servicing of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council and Executive Committee, coordination of regional monitoring and development of a mid-term review on SDS-SEA Implementation from 2023 to 2025, and facilitation of policy dialogue across ocean governance, youth engagement, climate change, biodiversity and pollution reduction. These strategic role represent shared regional public goods delivered through the PEMSEA Resource Facility on behalf of its partners.

Building on this foundation, PEMSEA successfully continued to mobilize and manage multi-year project financing and technical cooperation with international partners, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), United Nations Office for Project Services(UNOPS), country partners and non-country partners including the National Marine Hazard Management Service (NMHMS) of the Ministry of Natural Resources of China and the Korean Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST) and Korean Maritime Institute (KMI). These partnerships supported flagship regional initiatives on integrated river basin management, marine plastics pollution reduction, and blue carbon—significantly extending the impact of country partner investments.

A defining feature of 2025 was PEMSEA's shift from consolidation toward strategic renewal. Key institutional milestones included the transition to a new set of Executive Committee members for the period of 2025-2028, preparations for leadership succession within the PEMSEA Resource Facility, and the identification of pathways toward the 2027 East Asian Seas Congress. At the programmatic level, partners advanced the review and extension of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan to 2030, strengthened the organization's institutional sustainability and business planning, and endorsed progress toward a harmonized regional framework for blue carbon accounting—positioning the East Asian Seas region to engage more coherently in emerging climate, nature and finance discussions.

Substantive progress continued across the four SDS-SEA pillars. **Effective Governance** was reinforced through sustained country partner engagement, improved regional monitoring systems, and strengthened institutional coordination. Under **Healthy Oceans**, the most notable advances were recorded in integrated coastal management, blue carbon program development, and pollution reduction initiatives. Progress under **Healthy People** and **Healthy Economies** remained uneven, highlighting areas where additional policy support, capacity development, and investment facilitation will be required moving forward.

Overall, 2025 demonstrated the continuing value of country partner contributions as the cornerstone of PEMSEA's effectiveness. By sustaining a proven and trustworthy regional platform, reducing transaction costs for cooperation, and leveraging external finance, PEMSEA enabled its partners to collectively address shared coastal and ocean challenges more efficiently and strategically than could be achieved through national actions alone. Maintaining predictable and sustained voluntary contributions will remain essential to safeguarding PEMSEA's independence, responsiveness, and ability to deliver region-wide benefits in the years ahead.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Objective 1: Secure PEMSEA's financial and operational sustainability for 2024-2025 between USD 3-4 million annually

In 2025, PEMSEA maintained a strong and diversified financial position, ensuring continuity of core Secretariat functions while expanding regional program delivery.

Accomplishments:

- **Secured USD 3mln for CY 2025 from diversified funding sources** (see Table 1 below) **t**hrough:
  a) Sustained annual contributions from China, Japan, Philippines (hosting of PEMSEA Headquarters), RO Korea, Singapore and Timor Leste; and, renewed contributions from Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Indonesia
  b) Execution Fees from the Year 3 budgets of UNDP/GEF./ASEAN/PEMSEA project on Reducing Pollution and Preserving Environmental Flows in the EAS through the Implementation of Integrated River Basin Management in ASEAN Countries (IRBM Project) and the ROK/ODA Marine Plastics Pollution Project
  c) Revenues generated in providing technical services to the UNDP/GEF ASEAN ENMAPs project
  d) Fund Management Fees from the Arafura Timor Seas Ecosystem Action (ATSEA) Program
  e) Income from PRF technical advisory services rendered to WB/UNOPS/ASEAN Southeast Asia Program on Marine Plastics (SEA-MaP)
  f) Grant administration fees from Financial and Training Support to GEF Operational Focal Points in East Asia on Project Oversight

g) Management fees from partnership grants to implement training and capacity development of the PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program
h) Operationalization of training, capacity development, and monitoring services of the PRF in collaboration with the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) and non-country partners (NCPs)

Table 1. Summary of actual revenue sources for 2025 and projected revenue sources for 2026.

Identified Source of Revenue	2025 (in USD)[1]	2026 (in USD)[2]
Cost sharing arrangements with Country Partners		
Cambodia	10,000	10,000
China	138,948.28[3]	139,000
Indonesia	40,000	40,000
Japan	125,000	125,000
ROK	138,012.23[4]	138,000
Singapore	20,000	20,000
Timor Leste	50,000	50,000
Viet Nam	12,000	12,000
Execution/Management Fees from Projects		
ATSEA Program Fund Administration Fee	40,112.00	45,000
IRBM Project Execution Fee	91,408.33	100,549.16
GEF OFP Grant Administration Fee	32,220.00	
ROK ODA Management Fee	132,529.13	55,750.00
ENMAPS Management Fee	11,101.91	19,752,99
SUB-TOTAL PRF Source of Funds[5]	**841.377.88**	**755,052.15**

[1] NOTE: 2025 figures are actual receipts for CSA & actual expenses for Projects
[2] NOTE: 2026 figures for country contributions are projected amounts, subject to change based on actual contributions provided in 2026
[3] Amounts based on USD conversion from CNY
[4] USD conversion from KRW 200,000,000
[5] For PRF operations and HQ maintenance

Identified Source of Revenue	2025 (in USD)[1]	2026 (in USD)[2]
PROJECT FUNDS		
ATSEA Program	421,120.27	405,160.10
IRBM	1,139,561.81	1,576,266.45
ODA	831,601.04	1,496,809.40
GEF OFP	64,844.12	219,242.50
ASEAN ENMAPs	138,773.88	391,767.63
WB SEA-MaP project	44,360	31,700
SUB-TOTAL Project Funds[6]	**2,649,261.12**	**4,120,946.08**
TOTAL	**3,481,639.00**	**4,875,988.23**

Throughout the year, PEMSEA applied rigorous financial management, reporting, and audit procedures in line with international best practices. Independent external audits and regular reporting to the Executive Committee, East Asian Seas Partnership Council and Audit Committee reinforced confidence in the organization's fiduciary integrity and financial stewardship.

Objective 2: Ensure the complete delivery of Year 2 of SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2023-2027

In 2025, the PEMSEA Resource Facility undertook a mid-term review of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 as a major milestone in ensuring the continued relevance, effectiveness and strategic alignment of the regional framework. The review was conducted to assess progress to date, identify emerging challenges and opportunities, and provide the analytical basis for extending the Implementation Plan's timeframe to 2030 to:

- Stay aligned with global goals that end in 2030, such as the SDGs and the UN Decade of Ocean Science;
- Provide more time to deliver meaningful results, especially on climate action,
- marine biodiversity, and pollution reduction;
- Implement the 10 action points of the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration adopted during the 8th East Asian Seas Ministerial Forum in 2024;
- Support PEMSEA's internal improvements in organizational capacity and financial sustainability; and
- Ensure continuity beyond 2027 and avoid gaps before global commitments end.

[6] For implementation of regional/national projects

The review was also conducted in response to initial feedback from the EAS Partnership Council on the utilization of the SDS-SEA M&E Framework and Plan, adopted in 2023, wherein key recommendations included improving the M&E reporting process, and simplifying the monitoring templates. The results of the review, in addition to an additional study which assessed the emerging trends in ocean governance in the region, were utilized to identify updated priorities for action to develop an updated SDS-SEA IP 2023-2030.

Completion of the SDS-SEA IP 2023–2027 Mid-Term Progress Review *(as reported in July 2025)*

The mid-term review applied a structured, evidence-based approach combining desk reviews, partner reporting, supplementary research, and consultations and validations with country partners, non-country partners, PEMSEA networks, and the Executive Committee. The review assessed progress across the four SDS-SEA pillars—Effective Governance, Healthy Oceans, Healthy People, and Healthy Economies—highlighting areas of strong advancement, uneven implementation, and remaining gaps.

The mid-term review also included an assessment of emerging trends in the EAS region, which considered regional commitments and recommendations from the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration and EAS Congress 2024, as well as external factors from evolving regional and global policy landscapes and shifts in ocean governance and blue economy which may influence the pace and effectiveness of SDS-SEA implementation.

High-level findings of the Progress Review are shown below.

2.1 Effective Governance

Goal: To strengthen ocean and coastal governance at regional, national, and local levels while integrating scientific knowledge, capacity-building, gender equality, and sustainability measures into policy and management frameworks.

Priority Program: 5	**Regional Mechanism**			**Policies**		**Capacity Development**		**Knowledge Management**		**GESI**	
Target Outcome: 10	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.A.3	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1	I.D.2	I.E.1	I.E.2

Achieved | On track | In progress (w/ challenges) | Delayed

The accomplishment of annual targets from 2023-2025 for Effective governance are generally on track, particularly in efforts on improving capacity development, knowledge

management and gender mainstreaming in ocean and coastal management activities and programs. Regional and national policies have also continued to advance within the region, with increasing alignment with current international agreements and focus on addressing climate change, biodiversity loss and marine pollution, albeit some challenges to implementation. On the other hand, while the regional mechanism of PEMSEA has been sustained and continues to grow, key challenges on financial sustainability, consistent engagement of partners, and State of the Ocean and Coasts reporting have shown persistent gaps as identified below.

Areas of Progress	**Key Gaps and Challenges**
I.A Regional Mechanism	
Regional governance mechanism was reinforced through: ● Increased voluntary agreements (from 6 Country Partners to 9 Country Partners), financial and in-kind contributions from Country Partners, demonstrating ownership of PEMSEA ● Sustained engagement with Non-Country Partners (i.e, establishment of Blue Carbon TWG, joint proposals developed with PML, joint activities with NMHMS, KMI, KEI) ● Increased membership of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) and PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) ● Continued implementation of multiple bilateral and multilateral projects (i.e., IRBM, Marine Plastics) with pipeline projects expected to commence in 2026 (i.e., Blue Solutions, Biofouling Management, Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation). ● The East Asian Seas Congress and Ministerial Forum 2024 culminated in the adoption of the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, which articulated 10 strategic	**On regional governance** ● Uneven engagement with Partners and Networks, with varying levels of participation and commitment. ● Joint initiatives are short-term or governed by short-term agreements. ● There is a need to ensure that all initiatives remain strategically aligned with the core objectives of the SDS-SEA and PEMSEA's overarching frameworks—particularly on capacity building, stakeholder engagement, and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). ● Identification of the next host of EAS Congress 2027 as early as mid 2025 **On SOC reporting** ● Delay in the target initiation of the 2nd National SOC Reports, including development of Guidelines for incorporating GESI indicators into R/NSOCs, originally scheduled to commence in 2024. ● Limited updated SOC reports from PNLG members with some cited data challenges, budget and personnel constraints.

actions, including commitments directly related to governance reform and whole-of-society approaches. ● Opportunities underway to engage with non-member countries (i.e., Malaysia, Thailand) through PEMSEA projects and capacity-building activities through PNLC ● Collaboration with other regional networks (i.e, COBSEA, CTI-CFF, IOC-WESTPAC, IUCN, ACB) on development of a regional MPA Network On State of the Ocean and Coasts (SOC) reporting: ● Development of 2nd NSOC of Philippines ● Publication of Updated SOCs of Bataan, Philippines and 1st SOC of Jakarta, Indonesia ● Application of other area and thematic-based monitoring tools (i.e., State of the River Basin Reporting, Plastics Analysis and Characterization Study, beach monitoring, and Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool) under PEMSEA projects On Gender mainstreaming: ● More targeted GESI mainstreaming efforts, including genderresponsive project monitoring, initiated and evident particularly in some PRF-managed projects (e.g., ATSEA-2; IRBM)	
I.B National Ocean and Coastal Policies, Legislations and Institutional Arrangements	
● National and regional ocean policies advanced, particularly in support of: ○ green growth and blue economy, ○ marine spatial planning (MSP),	● Inclusion of updated list of national ocean policy, institutional arrangements and legislation in the 2nd NSOCs (development pending, except in the Philippines) and updated RSOC ● Specific demonstration/

○ integrated ocean management, ○ Climate change, ○ biodiversity and habitat protection, ○ Sustainable fisheries, ○ Pollution reduction, and ○ equality and inclusion. ● Institutional changes noted in some PEMSEA Focal agencies (i.e., Vietnam, Indonesia) to streamline processes, while other countries, such as the Philippines have established specialized working groups or task forces dedicated to ocean action. ● Various regional policy forums conducted by PEMSEA ● ICM Implementation and mainstreaming into national and local plans continued, with increased number of ICM sites established through PRF-managed projects	documentation of ICM mainstreaming in national plans and legislative agenda lacking ● Utilization of ICM performance index by the Country Partners to determine level of ICM implementation, effectiveness and impacts.
I.C. Capacity Development	
● Internal review of the Capacity Development Plan (2021–2025) conducted ● Interim Capacity Development Framework established to better structure PEMSEA's capacity-building initiatives ● Capacity Development database created within the SEA Knowledge Bank to consolidate training and learning events ● Over 100 targeted trainings delivered through PRF-managed projects ● Nearly 5,000 participants reached through e-learnings, webinars, and in-person activities ● PNLC continues to provide technical assistance to national and local governments, ICM sites,	● Capacity development activities remain largely **project-driven** ● Lack of a comprehensive PEMSEA Capacity Development Program ● Need to further strengthen PNLC and expert engagement in ICM seminars, regional forums and technical publications ● No dedicated regional action plan on ocean science ● Limited structured collaboration on UNDOS-related trainings ● Need to improve participation of women scientists and experts in capacity development activities

and communities ● PNLC membership expanded to 25 institutions (8 new members since 2023) ● PNLG–PNLC forums, EAS Congress, and World Ocean Week in Xiamen used as key knowledge exchange platforms ● Capacity-building efforts aligned with the UN Decade of Ocean Science (UNDOS) ● Collaboration with the Global Ocean Forum and High Seas Alliance during EASC 2024 sessions	
I.D. Knowledge Management	
● Significant improvements in knowledge management to support SDS-SEA implementation ● Enhanced **Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank (SEAKB)** with better access to knowledge products and integration of project-specific portals ● Use of digital tools to improve data collection and sharing (i.e, GIS mapping, data visualization, real-time collaboration platforms) ● Increased media coverage of major PEMSEA events ● Strengthened collaboration with GEF IW:LEARN for global knowledge exchange and increased visibility of PEMSEA initiatives	● Need to review and update the Communications and Knowledge Management Strategy ● Limited internal mechanisms within PRF to support full implementation of the strategy ● Need to expand strategic media engagement ● SEAKB linkages with regional and global platforms remain limited ● Need for more systematic integration of Knowledge–Attitude–Practices (KAP) surveys beyond current pre- and post-training assessments
I.E. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	
● Strengthened mainstreaming of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) across PEMSEA initiatives under the SDS-SEA IP 2023–2027 ● Development and publication of a GESI Action Plan providing a framework for gender-responsive policies, use of disaggregated indicators, inclusive financing approaches, targeted capacity-building programs	● **Need to fully integrate GESI across all PEMSEA initiatives** ● GESI elements not yet systematically embedded in Regional State of the Ocean and Coasts (R/SOC) reports and National SOC reports ● Limited scale of GESI-focused livelihood programs and specialized training activities ● Need to strengthen policy dialogue

• Project-level GESI integration through project-specific GESI assessments and action plans
• Practical institutional measures implemented:
  ○ update of PEMSEA's Sexual Harassment Policy
  ○ conduct of PRF Sexual Harassment and GESI seminars
• Community-level implementation in PRF-managed projects through awareness campaigns and livelihood programs targeting women and marginalized groups in coastal areas
	on gender-sensitive ocean governance
	• Gaps in systematic GESI data collection and monitoring and reporting mechanisms

2.2 Healthy Ocean

Goal: To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of coastal and ocean governance at regional, national and local levels to achieve healthy and resilient marine and coastal ecosystems in priority coastal and marine and watershed areas.

Priority Program: 4	ICM Scaling Up		Biodiversity and Fisheries		Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction			Pollution, Waste, and Water Use	
Target Outcome: 9	II.A.1	II.A.2	II.B.1	II.B.2	II.C.1	II.C.2	II.C.3	II.D.1	II.D.2

Achieved | On track | In progress (w/ challenges) | Delayed

Under the Healthy Ocean Component, overall progress remains **largely on track**, with most target outcomes showing steady implementation across ICM scaling up, biodiversity and fisheries management, climate change adaptation, and pollution and water management. Monitoring of ICM efforts, particularly at the local level, have faced several challenges, including low report submission of PNLG members' SAP reports due to changes in focal points and reorganization at the local level, and delays in the operationalization of the PNLG Tracking Tool in the Sea Knowledge Bank. Highlights of the key progress and challenges are outlined below.

Areas of Progress	Key Gaps and Challenges
II.A ICM Scaling Up	
• PNLG membership expanded to 60 in 2025, with Central Java, Indonesia being the latest members	• Need to strengthen monitoring and impact reporting of ICM implementation using PNLG Tracking Tool • Limited integration of GESI indicators

● Strengthened institutional collaboration through implementation of the Letter of Cooperation between PNLG and PNLC (2024) with the conduct of a joint technical forum during the 2025 PNLG Forum in Jakarta, Indonesia ● China-PEMSEA Center (CPC) piloted ICM Effectiveness Assessment, supporting expansion of ICM certification training and audit processes for broader regional application ● 6 ICM certifications awarded from 2022-2023 ● Expansion of ICM application across the region through PRF-managed projects after 2021 ● Significant spatial impact achieved through ATSEA-2 and ENMAPS projects with MPA initiatives covering more than 3.4 million hectares and a target to cover 13.3 million hectares of marine corridors ● Regional events and knowledge-sharing forums conducted to promote ICM good practices and support GESI mainstreaming across projects	in SOC reporting ● Need to reinforce ICM certification systems and recognition mechanisms for local governments ● Knowledge-sharing mechanisms require further improvement to sustain ICM implementation and support scaling up across the region
II.B Biodiversity Conservation and Fisheries Management	
● Several Country Partners (China, Indonesia, Japan, RO Korea) updated NBSAPs to include ocean and coastal targets aligned with Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and SDGs ● Other CPs currently undertaking consultations and revisions of NBSAPs ● Strengthened **fisheries management policies** focusing on combating IUU fishing, EAFM, fisheries and aquaculture innovations, food security and livelihoods	● Need to further strengthen PEMSEA's role in supporting CPs in updating NBSAPs and consolidating fisheries plans and programs ● Monitoring frameworks for biodiversity and fisheries need improvement ● Need to better link monitoring efforts with Regional and National SOC reports ● Requirement for a more cohesive tracking system for conservation

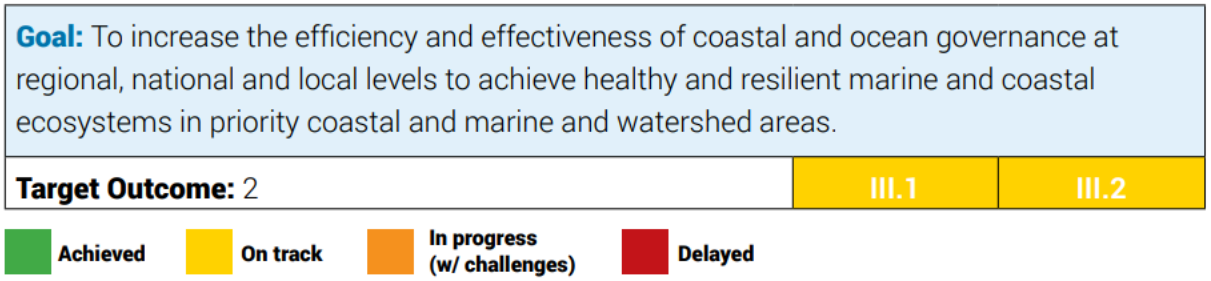
● Subregional initiatives advancing conservation efforts, including the ATSEA-2 Project, ASEAN ENMAPS and CTI RPOA 2.0 ● Progress on MPA expansion and EAFM implementation through ATSEA-2 ● ENMAPS Project expected to further strengthen MPA networks and expand marine corridors in Indonesia, Philippines, and Thailand ● Active PEMSEA engagement in regional dialogues on High Seas Treaty, 30x30 biodiversity targets, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and Marine ecosystem protection and restoration ● Key role in GloFouling Partnerships Project, leading to endorsement of the Regional Biofouling Strategy and Action Plan and adoption at ASEAN level	and fisheries progress
II.C. Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction	
● EAS countries developed CCA and DRR policies aligned with Paris Agreement, Glasgow Climate Pact, Sendai Framework and the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan, including: ○ Updated NDCs incorporating coastal and ocean-related adaptation actions ○ National Adaptation Plans (e.g, Philippine NAP 2023-2050 and Vietnam National Climate Strategy) ○ integration of nature-based	● Need to strengthen convergence between CCA, DRR, and ICM initiatives, particularly at the subnational level, including conduct of consultations to identify priority locations for convergence ● Monitoring and reporting systems require enhancement to track progress and assess climate impacts ● Need to better align CCA/DRR tracking with SDS-SEA IP targets ● Need to demonstrate engagement of communities in the conservation and rehabilitation of blue carbon ecosystems

solutions and coastal resilience measures ○ Integration of loss and damage considerations and promotion of climate finance for adapation ● CCA/DRR integrated as a priority program in the PNLG SAP (2022–2023) supporting SDG 13 ● ATSEA-2 Project established ICM programs in Rote Ndao, Indonesia, PA Barique, Timor-Leste incorporated climate change adaptation, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) and alternative livelihoods ● Publication of Regional Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) for Arafura and Timor Seas ● Guidance Toolkit on local CCA for decision-makers ● Launch of the **PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program**, supporting regional supply-side assessment and harmonized blue carbon accounting protocols ● Blue carbon discussions advanced through regional dialogues EAS Congress 2024 and the PEMSEA Blue Carbon Technical Working Group ● ENMAPS Project initiated to strengthen ecosystem resilience through MPA management and fisheries management ● IRBM Project integrating climate risk assessments into State of River Basin reporting, biophysical and governance assessments	
II.D. Pollution Reduction, Waste Management, and Water Use Management	
● PEMSEA Country Partners continue to advance national policies, plans, and programs addressing marine litter, plastic pollution, waste	● Need to further strengthen consolidation of project outputs, documentation of lessons learned and sharing of best practices across

management and sustainable water use ● 10 EAS countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Viet Nam) have developed dedicated national policies and strategies on marine litter and plastic pollution ● In Timor-Leste, while no standalone marine litter policy exists, pollution reduction is integrated into existing environmental frameworks, including the Zero Plastics Campaign ● Recent updates to water use management policies noted in Timor-Leste and Viet Nam ● PRF-managed projects provided targeted support to improve governance systems, monitoring and reporting mechanisms, capacity-building and public awareness ● The ASEANO Project produced assessments that now serve as reference tools for other pollution reduction initiatives ● The MOF/PEMSEA Marine Plastic Reduction Project (10 sites in the Philippines and Timor-Leste) initiated baseline assessments, plastic waste characterization studies (PACS) and the Marine Environment Protector (MEP) program ● The GEF/UNDP/ASEAN IRBM Project supported 10 river basin and watershed sites across six countries to conduct biophysical, socio-economic, and governance assessments and develop State of River Basin (SORB) reports ● The completed ATSEA-2 Project strengthened oil spill preparedness and response in East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia and Covalima, Timor-Leste through training and development of early warning and response systems ● Adoption of the Strategic Action Plan for Oil Spill Readiness and Response in the Gulf of Thailand (2022–2027) enhanced regional cooperation	countries ● Limited regional mechanisms for systematic knowledge management and cross-country learning on pollution reduction ● Need to enhance dissemination of evidence and tools to national governments, local authorities and coastal communities ● Sustaining pollution reduction efforts requires stronger institutional coordination and long-term financing strategies

among Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam	

2.3 Healthy People



Under the Healthy People Component of the SDS-SEA IP 2023–2027, progress has been made in stakeholder engagement, guided by the GESI Assessment and Action Plan, which provides a structured framework for inclusive participation, particularly for women and marginalized groups. This has been complemented by the PEMSEA Communications and Knowledge Management Strategy and stakeholder engagement approaches integrated into projects such as ATSEA-2 and IRBM.

While these mechanisms are in place, continued implementation and periodic updates are needed to keep pace with evolving priorities. Sustainable livelihood initiatives have been largely project-driven, with ATSEA-2 demonstrating positive outcomes in income generation and community resilience. However, PEMSEA currently lacks a comprehensive regional livelihood strategy and standardized livelihood indicators for ICM sites, limiting scaling and replication. Moving forward, the updated SDS-SEA IP will need to integrate blue food and health considerations, in line with the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, to further strengthen pathways toward a sustainable blue economy.

2.4 Healthy Economies



Guided by the Changwon Declaration, PEMSEA has built a strong foundation for advancing the blue economy in the East Asian Seas region through assessments of ocean sectors, ecosystem services, and investment opportunities. Component IV of the SDS-SEA IP was designed to update blue economy strategies to promote inclusive and resilient growth that secures livelihoods while protecting ocean health, focusing on two outcomes: enabling policies for green recovery and strengthening public–private financing mechanisms.

While most EAS countries do not yet have standalone blue economy policies, blue economy principles are increasingly integrated into national green growth, climate, and post-COVID recovery frameworks, and are reinforced through ministerial declarations, including the Xiamen Declaration (2024). Knowledge exchange has been actively promoted through regional platforms, but implementation of nature-based jobs, low-carbon industries, marine biotechnology, and digitalization remains largely country-led, with varying levels of advancement.

Monitoring of blue economy performance relies mainly on SOC reporting, though updates have been limited, highlighting opportunities to integrate Blue Economy Development Index tools for stronger tracking. Although diverse country-led PPP and blue investment initiatives exist, regional consolidation remains weak, and PEMSEA's sustainable blue financing efforts have focused mainly on knowledge sharing rather than on-the-ground partnerships.

To fully realize Component IV objectives, stronger integration of blue economy initiatives into PEMSEA's planning and financing strategies, closer alignment with PNLG and PNLC action plans, and establishment of formal recognition mechanisms for private sector engagement are needed. These steps will help anchor future actions to the Xiamen Declaration and ensure that blue economy strategies deliver both economic and environmental benefits.

Key Recommendations

While substantial progress has been achieved under the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan, several priority areas require strategic attention to sustain and scale impact. Strengthening monitoring and reporting systems remains critical, particularly through more regular updating of Regional and National State of the Ocean and Coasts reports and improved integration of thematic indicators such as GESI, blue economy, and climate resilience metrics. There is also a need to move beyond project-driven

approaches by developing institution-wide frameworks for capacity development, sustainable livelihoods, and gender mainstreaming to ensure consistency, scalability, and long-term results across the region.

Looking ahead, PEMSEA will need to place greater emphasis on scaling successful pilot initiatives, especially in climate adaptation, pollution reduction, biodiversity conservation, and community livelihoods. Deepening private sector engagement through structured public–private partnerships and recognition mechanisms will be essential to mobilize additional investments for sustainable ocean management. At the same time, strengthening strategic communications and knowledge management will help amplify impact, enhance stakeholder engagement, and position PEMSEA more strongly at regional and global levels.

More detailed results and recommendations of the progress review may be viewed through the following link: SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 Mid-Term Progress Review

Status, Trends, and Transitions in Coastal and Ocean Governance and Ecosystems Report

The *Status, Trends, and Transitions* report was conducted in parallel with the mid-term progress review to identify emerging trends and opportunities on ocean and coastal governance in the regional and global scale. The report finds that the East Asian Seas (EAS) region is increasingly affected by the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, now compounded by economic instability and geopolitical pressures. Coastal and marine ecosystems are under growing stress from sea-level rise, ocean warming, acidification, habitat degradation, and marine pollution, yet they also present major opportunities through blue carbon restoration, renewable energy, sustainable fisheries, and marine biotechnology.
The report highlights uneven SDG progress across the region, reflecting differences in governance capacity and institutional readiness. Encouragingly, regional momentum is building around global commitments such as 30x30, including the formation of a Regional Collaborative Network of MPAs by nine major organizations during the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, following momentum from the EAS Congress 2024 and Our Ocean Conference 2025.

The analysis also identifies persistent **structural challenges**, including fragmented governance across land–sea interfaces, gaps in data and monitoring systems, unequal access to technology, and major financing shortfalls—particularly for SDG 14. Social vulnerabilities are deepening, especially among coastal and small-scale fishing communities, underscoring the need for more inclusive governance and community empowerment . At the same time, the report emphasizes the **growing importance of regional coordination** to address transboundary challenges and scale solutions, positioning PEMSEA's long-standing work on Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) and network-building as a strong foundation for future action.

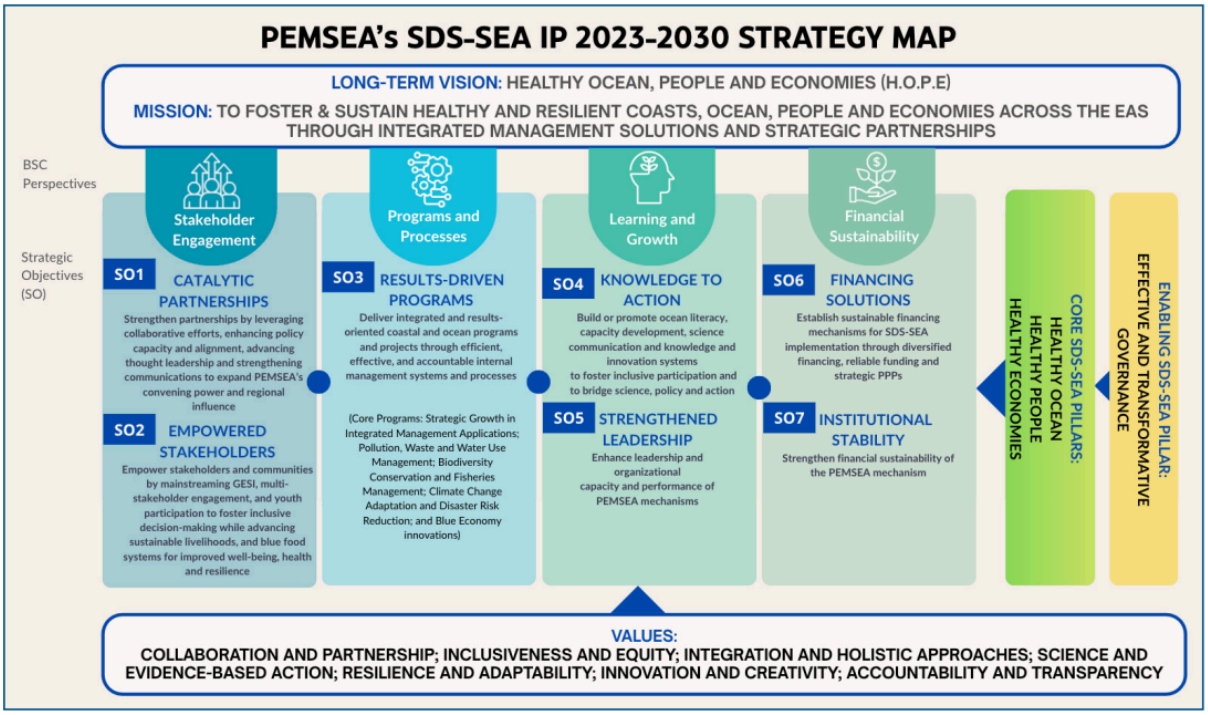
Overall, the report calls for more integrated, science-based, and collaborative approaches to translate global commitments into coordinated national and local action across the EAS region.

The detailed report may be accessed here.

SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2023-2030

Building on the Mid-Term Progress Review and Status and Trends Report, the PRF, in consultation with the East Asian Seas (EAS) Partnership Council (PC), identified key priority areas for action to update the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 and extend its timeframe to 2030. The updated SDS-SEA IP underscores the need to sustain PEMSEA's niche and value-added role in coastal and ocean governance in the EAS region while addressing organizational gaps, leveraging emerging opportunities, and responding to external pressures.

To enhance organizational effectiveness, financial sustainability, and operational efficiency of PEMSEA, while laying the groundwork for long-term SDS-SEA initiatives beyond 2030, the updated SDS-SEA IP adopts the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) framework. This includes a high level Strategy Map (see diagram below) and Balanced Scorecard (BSC) with four key perspectives (Stakeholder Engagement, Programs and Processes, Learning and Growth, and Financial Sustainability) to guide strategic alignment with the SDS-SEA IP pillars and decision-making, supported by a detailed Strategic Results Framework (SRF) for operational planning, monitoring and performance tracking.



The updated SDS-SEA IP retains most of the priorities and targets from the 2023- 2027 plan, while refining their structure and categorization (including some merged or

realigned targets) and incorporating new ones to reflect the 10 synergistic actions of the Xiamen Declaration, findings from the mid-term review, recent status and trends research, results and recommendations from an Organizational Capacity Assessment of PRF, and insights from the PC workshop (July 2025) and PRF workshop (September 2025).

The SRF retains all four components/pillars of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027, with Pillar 1 enhanced from 'Effective Governance' to 'Effective and Transformative Governance'. This update underscores PEMSEA's commitment to build on over three decades of progress and to align with the global emphasis on ocean governance that actively shifts toward sustainability through innovation, inclusivity, and systemic change.

Key changes to the IP are outlined in pp. 2-4 of the plan. The updated Implementation Plan may be viewed here.

Objective 3: Secure strategic partnerships and other high profile collaborative activities to implement SDS-SEA

- Forged new partnerships with:
  - The Advanced Institute for Ocean Research (AIOR, SUSTech) /Shenzhen Ocean University Preparatory Office, to develop collaborative activities to enhance youth engagement for ocean action;
  - Central Java, Indonesia as the 60th member of the PEMSEA Network of Local governments.
  - Nine regional organizations[7] with the establishment of the East Asian Seas Regional Marine Protected Area Collaborative Network, which aims to improve synergies, joint action, and cooperation towards accelerating 30x30 in the East Asian Seas. The partnership was agreed during the 10th Our Ocean Cnoference in Busan, RoKorea and globally launched at the UN Ocean Conference 3 in Nice, France.
  - University of Hawaii and Burapha University in Chonburi, Thailand (PNLC member, who provided grant support on the Training on Integrating Blue Carbon into the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Framework with PNLC early career professionals, in partnership with University of Hawaii and Burapha University. Proceedings can be found here.

- Strengthened existing partnerships with the:
  - Establishment of the Blue Carbon Technical Working Group (January 2025)

[7] Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Program (ATSEA), ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission - Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (IOC-WESTPAC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asia-Pacific, North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN), Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), South China Seas – Strategic Action Programme (SCS-SAP) Project

with PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners and the PNLC to provide technical guidance on the development of a Regional Blue Carbon Accounting Protocol and implementation of the Blue Carbon Ecosystem Services Management Mechanism.

- Memorandum of Agreements signed between PEMSEA Resource Facility (the project's executing agency) with the Ministry of Environment (MOE) of Indonesia; Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the Philippines; and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) of Vietnam, formally launching the GEF/UNDP/ASEAN IRBM project in their respective countries and increasing the number of agreements to 5 out of 6 participating countries. Cambodia and Lao PDR signed MOAs in 2024, while Malaysia is expected to sign the MOA in early 2026.

- Reaffirmation of partnership with Timor-Leste through a signing of a revised Memorandum of Understanding for the MOF/PEMSEA ODA Project on Reducing Marine Plastics in the East Asian Seas Region.

- Securing Busan, RO Korea as the next host of the PNLG Forum 2026

- Successful conduct of and/or participation in high-profile collaborative activities, including:
  - A side event co-organized with COBSEA on establishing a Regional Collaborative Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) at the 10th Our Ocean Conference in Busan, RO Korea and global launch of the network at the UNOC 3 in Nice, France.

  - The GEF Oversight Training for the East Asian Seas Region with GEF Operational Focal Points from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) secretariat.

  - The 2025 PNLG Forum in Jakarta, Indonesia, co-organized with the Jakarta Provincial Government and the PNLG Secretariat, bringing together more than 200 local leaders and coastal managers from nine countries across the EAS region to share good practices on translating commitments into concrete actions for climate resilience and sustainable development.

  - The inaugural Blue Wave Conference in Shenzhen, China with the China Ocean Mineral Resources R&D Association (COMRA), Advanced Institute for Ocean Research (AIOR, SUSTech) /Shenzhen Ocean University Preparatory Office, the Shenzhen Institute of Guangdong Ocean University (SIGOU), the Global Ocean Capital Promotion Council of Shenzhen, and the Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme (ECOP Programme). The pioneer youth-led conference aimed to promote youth-driven marine stewardship and international cooperation in support of the United Nations Ocean Decade goals.

  - A side session, "Rising Tide, Rising Leaders: Youth Science and Action for

a Resilient Ocean" during the Blue Wave Conference, discussing challenges and opportunities for youth engagement in ocean governance , specifically on integrated coastal management in the EAS region.

- Authored a section on progress and key challenges in ocean and climate action in the EAS region on the Global Ocean Forum fGlobal Report on Assessing Progress in Ocean and Climate Action: 2024 - 2025 that was launched at the UNFCCC COP 30 Virtual Ocean Pavilion.
- Sharing PEMSEA's experience in building enabling environments for Small and Medium Enterprises engagement in sustainable blue economy at The Blue Way for SMEs in Asia and the Pacific Consultation Webinar co-organized by the Asian Development Bank and the UN Environment Programme.
- Participating as resource speaker in the Commemoration Ceremony and Conference of the 20th Year Anniversary of Total Pollutant Loading Management System (TPLMS) implementation in Korea, highlighting the impacts of ROK-supported Regional Twinning Programme and Networking Arrangements on knowledge and experience sharing of innovations in ecosystem-based management in coastal and marine areas in the region.
- Delivering status of ICM advancements in the EAS region at the ICM and Maritime Economy Session organized by the by the Fujian Institute for the Sustainable Ocean (FISO) for the 3rd Marine Spatial Planning Cooperation Workshop for the Maritime Silk Road Partner Countries sponsored by China Oceanic Development Foundation held in Beijing, China.
- Participation as resource speaker in the Southeast Asia Conference on Nature-based Solutions: Unlocking Financing and Local Action for Climate-Ready and Biodiversity-Positive Cities, organized by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability in Singapore, emphasizing local governments' critical role in the protection and restoration of coastal ecosystems.
- Promoting localization of blue carbon action in the EAS region during the "Enhancing Blue Carbon Partnerships: A China-EU Collaboration for Climate Action" side event in UNOC3, highlighting PEMSEA's Blue Carbon Program.
- Emphasizing the critical importance of science-based management and strategic partnerships in addressing regional marine challenges at the Nikkei Forum Future Asia panel in Tokyo, Japan.
- Successfully organized the Mayors' Conference on Reducing Marine Plastics in the Philippines in Manila, securing local commitment to stronger collective action and local governance to reduce marine plastic pollution.

More details on key activities and accomplishments are detailed in the workplan

below.

OUTCOME 1

The Secretariat to be effectively led and commanding sufficient financial and human resources to deliver on the strategic priorities of the SDS-SEA taking into account relevant international commitments and national and local priorities and needs

Output 1.1. *Effective delivery of core services to ensure that the Secretariat can achieve the targets of SDS-SEA IP for CY 2025& 2026 , the Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration & Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, various project documents and EASC 2024 recommendations and conclusions.*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
1.1.1.a	Strengthen revenue generation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, risk management and financial management of PEMSEA based on the decisions of the 17th EAS Partnership Council in response to the relevant recommendations of Preah Sihanouk & Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, EASC 2024 conclusions and recommendations and SDS-SEA 2023-2027	Completed	PEMSEA maintained a robust financial position throughout 2025, successfully securing funding for core operations through 2026. Incoming projects also provide additional sustainable and diverse funding sources. PRF continues to work with partners to ensure the sustainability of PEMSEA and mitigate institutional and financial risks
1.1.1.b	In line with the renewed country commitments as contained in the Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration & Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, PRF to facilitate the effective implementation of Voluntary	Ongoing	In 2025, the following countries provided voluntary contributions to PEMSEA: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, RoKorea, Singapore, Timor Leste, and Vietnam (see Table 1) Additionally, the following countries provided in-kind support: a. Philippines, through the hosting of the 17th EAS

	Contribution Agreement by all Partners		Partnership Council Meeting in Manila b. Indonesia, through the hosting of the 2025 PNLG Forum in Jakarta c. China, through the hosting of the 2nd Blue Carbon TWG Meeting in Haikou
1.1.1.c	Present and seek approval on the 2024 accomplishment report of SDS-SEA IP at the 17th EAS PC	Completed	Decision 3.60 of the 17th EAS Partnership Council meeting, approves the Executive Director's report, which comprises the 2024 PRF accomplishments of implementing the SDS-SEA IP
1.1.1.d	Seek approval on the TOR for the SDS-SEA review as part of broader institutional and financial strengthening of PEMSEA in the run up to 2030 and beyond	Completed	Decision 3.20 of the 33rd Executive Committee meeting approved the TOR for the SDS-SEA review

Output 1.2. *Effective planning and servicing of the EAS Partnership Council annual meeting and the biannual meetings of the Executive Committee, including the preparation and dissemination of documents in accordance with the PEMSEA Rules of Governance*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
1.2.1.a	Provide relevant documentation to Partners, Chairs and Co-Chairs ahead of the 17th EAS Partnership Council and the 33rd and 34th Executive Committee meetings	Completed	
1.2.1.b	17th Partnership Council and 33rd and 34th Executive Committee meeting reports published in electronic form and distributed on time to all Partners and uploaded into the pemsea.org	Completed	The proceedings of these meetings can be found here: 17th EAS PC, 33rd EC Meeting, and 34th EC Meeting
1.2.1.c	2024 Annual Report and ED's Intersessional report are produced in high standard and circulated to Partners in time for the 17th EAS Partnership Council meeting	Completed	A copy of the 2024 Annual Report can be found here
1.2.1.d	Commence the performance review of SDS-SEA with the view to accelerate achievement of targets and commitments in the run up to 2030	Completed	The mid-term progress review was conducted from March 2025 - June 2025, through a combination of desktop research and country and partner validation workshops. The results of the review are outlined under Objective 2 of this report, and may be accessed here

1.2.1.e	Seek approval of EAS PC on the recruitment/selection of new PRF ED for CY 2027/8 onwards		Decision 5.15 of the 17th EAS PC Meeting approved the TOR for the new PRF ED with refinements. Refined TOR was published here; copy of the TOR may be accessed here
1.2.1.f	Conduct elections of EAS Partnership Council and ensure smooth leadership transition		Decision 4.15 of the 17th EAS PC Meeting approved the roster of EAS PC officers and Co-chairs for July 31, 2025 - July 30, 2028. Publication can be found here

Output 1.3. *Effective and regular consultations and interactions with Partners.*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
1.3.1.a	Organize the annual Audit Committee	Completed	Recommendations by the Audit Committee have been addressed by PRF.
1.3.1.b	Report the results of Audit Committee to the 33th EC and 17th EAS PC	Completed	Agenda 9.0 of the 33rd EC Meeting discusses the results of the 2024 Audit Committee Meeting and PEMSEA Audit Report. The Proceedings of the Meeting were disseminated to the 17th EAS PC for information.

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
1.3.2.c	Implement 2025 Audit Plan recommendations	Completed	
1.3.2.d	Conduct consultations with senior representatives of Country and Non- Country Partners re: hosting and preparation of EASC 2027	Ongoing	Senior-level consultations were undertaken to explore hosting options for EASC 2027. While Lao PDR later conveyed formal regrets due to national priorities, the process of exploring hosting options strengthened partner engagement and clarified key hosting requirements to guide the search for the next host and next steps. Senior officials in Indonesia expressed openness to hosting and discussions will be pursued in early 2026.

OUTCOME 2

The Secretariat execute projects and initiatives aligned with SDS-SEA with country, non-country partners and local governments for 2024-2025

Output 2.1. *Perform PEMSEA project management, technical, capacity building, monitoring services through key initiatives for effective action and scalable solutions at the regional, national and local levels*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
2.1.1	Transition from ATSEA 2 project to ATSEA program ● Operationalization of the Regional Secretariat in line with agreed 2025 work plan and RGM Transition Plan ● Delivery of countries' financial and in-kind commitments to support the Regional Secretariat operations ● Complete staff onboarding and office set up ● Development and signing of Host country agreement (with clear provisions on status of the organization and international and local staff including tax obligations, e.g., taxable or tax exempt) ● Development of RS processes, SOPs; Program management and monitoring system; Financial control and	Completed	The First Consultative Meeting of the ATSEA Regional Coordination Committee (RCC), which was held virtually on 25 June 2025, demonstrated a spirit of collaboration and open discussion aimed at building consensus on key actions to operationalise and institutionalise the ATSEA Regional Governance Mechanism (RGM) and facilitate the implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) Strategic Action Programme (SAP) 2024-2033 and supporting National Action Programmes (NAPs). The Second RCC consultative meeting, conducted virtually on 21 August 2025 endorsed the development of a Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gears (ALDFG) and discussed the development of a GEF Medium-Sized Project (MSP).

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
	management system; staff manual/guidelines; Code of ethics and disciplinary measures, and other management and governance guidance documents ● Coordination of activities to implement the SAP and NAPs in accordance with the 2025 work plan and budget ● Recognition of the 'legal personality' of ATSEA in each country; official arrangements for country participation in ATSEA as inter-governmental organization ● Development of ATSEA funding and financial management mechanisms including 1) funding sources and mechanisms to receive and disburse funds (from countries, donors/partners, innovative financing mechanisms); 2) legal Personality of ATSEA and the Regional Secretariat to transact financially in the host country; and 3) financial reporting and audit processes		The Second RCC Meeting, held on 3-4 December 2025, agreed to pursue a hybrid institutional arrangement for RGM in strategic association with CTI-CFF (to be trialed from 2027), strengthen coordination through consolidated contact points, secure Indonesia's LOE for ATSEA-3 MSP PIF submission, advance the ALDFG RAP through extended consultations and a February 2026 intersessional meeting (including funding options), approve Coral Triangle Center as the new Strategic Development Partner, adopt the 2026 Work Plan and Budget with staffing adjustments, and mandate the iRS to submit a detailed 2025 Financial Delivery Report by end-January 2026.
2.1.2	Implement Year 3 of the Marine Plastics ODA project Component 1: ● 10-year Marine Plastics Management Strategy developed for 6 sites of the PH Component 2:	Ongoing	Three Baseline Assessment Reports on Marine Plastics for the Philippines, Timor-Leste and Regional Synthesis were published in August 2025. The assessments included: o Plastic Analysis and Characterization Studies (PACS); and o Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) Surveys.

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
	• Pilot projects on Best Practices and Innovative Solutions for marine plastics management developed for 6 sites of the PH and 4 sites of TL • Pilot projects implemented in at least 2 sites of the PH • Small Grant Program developed and implemented Component 3: • Beach monitoring on marine plastics conducted at 10 sites of the PH and TL for 4 times • Assessment report on Beach Monitoring published Component 4: • MEP program implemented at 10 sites in the PH and TL • 2nd Learning Exchange Program implemented during the 10th Our Ocean Conference in Busan, RO Korea • Mayors' Pact conducted in Sept 2025 • Project Management • 3rd Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting conducted (December 2025)		o Surveys covered key coastal areas across ten sites in the Philippines and Timor-Leste. Pilot project development commenced in September 2023 and concluded in October 2025. Project concepts were approved by the 2nd RSC Meeting, and detailed designs were approved during the Intersessional RSC Meeting. LGU administrative and financial commitments were secured through Sangguniang Bayan Resolutions and formalized via MOAs signed in October 2025. Small Grant Program (SGP) The initial RFP was released in July 2025 and closed in September 2025, receiving five submissions. All submissions were deemed ineligible due to similarity with existing MEP proposals. The SGP will be revised and re-advertised in January 2026, with two awards targeted for early 2026 The Q4 2025 survey is scheduled for mid-December, with consolidated analysis to be uploaded to the EAS Marine Plastics Data Center. The 2nd LEP, which was conducted in Busan, Republic of Korea, from April 28 to May 2, 2025, alongside the 10th Our Ocean Conference. Mayor's Conference on Reducing Marine Plastics in the Philippines. During the conference, the mayors signed: • The Mayor's Compact; • A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PEMSEA and LGUs for ODA Project implementation; and

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) for pilot project implementation. o MOUs between participating governments and PEMSEA have been successfully concluded: ● The MOU between PEMSEA and the Philippines was signed in July 2025. ● The Government of Timor-Leste requested revisions to the MOU originally signed in November 2024. The revised MOU was signed in October 2025. Intersessional RSC Meeting (17 September 2025). Regarding the recommendations made during the Intersessional RSC, the RPMU has taken the following actions: ● A comprehensive implementation plan for the Philippine pilot projects was developed. ● The 2026 budget was confirmed by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) in October 2025 and 2026 work plan was developed reflecting the confirmed budget. ● The RPMU conducted a visit to MOF in November 2025 to report progress and discuss strategies for restoring reduced 2026 budget allocations in the 2027 budget request.
2.1.3	Implement Year 3 of the Integrated River Basin Management project ● MOAs with Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam signed ● Project inception workshop in 4 AMS conducted	Ongoing	IRBM Project Joins The Pavilion for People's Discussion on Women and Oceans at the 2025 World Economic Forum

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
	• 7 SORB reports completed and published • Guidance toolkit on water uses and implications to Water-Energy- Food nexus finalized and published • 7 river basin level GESI Action Plans finalized and published • 7 river basin level Environmental and Social Impact Assessments completed • 7 river basin level Environmental and Social Management Plans completed; Grievance and Redress Mechanisms established • Coordinating mechanisms in the 7 river basins operationalized • Detailed baseline assessments and feasibility studies completed in priority hotspot locations in 7 river basins • Solution templates to support IRBM pilot project implementation presented and agreed with countries/river basin sites • Regional and national review and assessment of good practices in governance and management related to S2S, IRBM, IWRM and ICM programs completed; Technical Report incorporating recommendations for improved IRBM governance and management		IRBM Project Collaborates with EnviroStrat to Develop a Framework and Solutions Templates for Pilot Project Development in the Seven Priority River Basins Lao PDR PSC Approves 2025 Work Plan and SORB Report for Nam Tha River Basin IRBM Project Holds Stakeholder Validation Workshops for the State of River Basin Reports for the ImusYlang Ylang, Rio Grande Rivers, and Pasac-Guagua Watershed IRBM Project Launches Grievance Redress Mechanism to Ensure Project Partners' Voices Are Heard Third IRBM Project RSC Meeting Convenes in Bali, Indonesia. The proceedings can be found here IRBM Project Hosts ASEAN Workshop to Introduce the REWEFe Toolkit IRBM Project Completes Mission for River Basin Pilot Project Development and Implementation Integrated River Basin Management Project Launched Successfully in Viet Nam WEFE Workshops Conducted in IRBM Project Sites to Strengthen Water Resource Management

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
	prepared. ● Review of monitoring tools, methodologies and approaches and evaluation of monitoring capacities completed; Guide to support IRBM program development and implementation prepared ● IRBM learning centers operationalized in 6 AMS; networking among the learning centers facilitated ● 3 river basin profile stories developed and shared with IWLEARN and disseminated ● River basin level good practices documented, shared and disseminated in various KM platforms, including IWLEARN ● IRBM e-portal operationalized ● Third RSC meeting organized alongside AWGWRM meeting ● 2025 Project Implementation Report prepared and submitted to UNDP and GEF ● Quarterly progress reports, including FACE forms prepared and submitted to UNDP ● Independent Mid-Term Evaluation conducted		DENR and PEMSEA Sign MOA for the Implementation of the IRBM Project in the Philippines IRBM LEARNING CENTERS: Creating SciencePolicy Interfaces for River Basin Management IRBM Project Mission to Malaysia Strengthens Partnerships for Kedah River Basin Stakeholder Consultations Shape IRBM Pilot Projects in Pasac-Guagua Watershed and ImusYlang-Ylang–Rio Grande Rivers IRBM Project Highlights Lessons on Project Oversight at the GEF Operational Focal Points Training for East Asia IRBM PMU Showcases Visual Storytelling at GEF IW:LEARN Webinar Relevant documents and publications may be accessed here: LINK

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
2.1.4	Implement final year of Biofouling special project ● Final year of Biofouling project implemented through completion of Malaysia national rapid assessment report; submission of any remaining deliverables ● Final technical and financial report in February 2025 submitted to IMO ● Attendance at the Final GloFouling Partnerships Project Meeting in Feb 2025 ● Project proposal for GloFouling II in EAS region developed and submitted to UNDP/GEF	Completed	PRF supported the development, approval and finalization of the Biofouling Management in the Seas of East Asia Regional Action Plan, which was adopted during the 46th MTWG Meeting in Vietnam. Draft project proposal for GloFouling II can be available upon request from the ED. The project document for a full GEF II project is pending completion with IMO
2.1.5	Operationalize PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program ● Harmonized Regional blue carbon methodology presented for discussion and review ● Blue carbon program funding proposal developed with strategic partners and discussed with potential donors		Establishment of Technical Working Group Committee under the Technical Session of the EAS PC and convened 3 TWG meetings last February 25, 2025, June 5-6, 2025, and September 12, 2025. Conducted Training on Integrating Blue Carbon into the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Framework with PNLC early career professionals, in partnership with University of Hawaii and Burapha University. Proceedings can be found here. Development, review and/or publication of blue carbon reports in relation to the development of the certification program and PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program including: ● PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			Project Accounting ANNEX A Mangrove v2.3.docx • PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon Project Accounting ANNEX B Seagrass v2.1.docx • PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon Project Accounting ANNEX C Salt Marsh v2.2.docx • PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon Project Accounting ANNEX D Mapping BCEs 2.2.docx • PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon Project Accounting ANNEX E Environmental Parameters.docx • PEMSEA Regional Methodology for Blue Carbon Project Accounting MAIN v2.1.docx Publications can be found here
2.1.6	SEA-MaP TAO Year 3 • Workplan for 2025 agreed with UNOPs RISU • Inputs/advice to draft reports various outputs (plastics waste trade, single use plastics, recycled wastes, financial instruments, knowledge platform) submitted and discussed with project team • Participate in project meetings, stakeholders meetings and AWGCME as needed	Completed	As a technical service provider to the implementing agencies, PRF is not at liberty to provide copies of draft reports and communication, inputs on knowledge products such as Regional Platform on Innovation & Investment and Handbook on Financial Instruments with UNOPS-RISU, the World Bank team and ASEAN Project Management Unit until the ASEAN relevant bodies will have approved them for final circulation. For more information on SEA-MaP, please check the official link Key events participated:

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			1st Innovation Expo at K.L. Malaysia 14-18 October 2025 1st Technical Consultation for Development of the Regional Guidebook on Financial Mechanisms for Investments in Plastic Waste Management under the SEA-MaP Regional Project last December 3-4 Innovation Expo II at Bangkok, Thailand 16-19 December 2025
2.1.7	ASEAN- ENMAPS collaboration operationalized ● Baseline assessment report, validated and finalized and used to inform training and capacity development programs for pilot MPAs ● Pilot testing of training module/ program conducted in priority MPA sites (1 per country), generating draft updated integrated ICM/MSP/EAFM/MPA plans or recommendations for updating existing plans ● Identifying potential investment projects and sustainable livelihood opportunities that can be scaled up to support the Blue Economy objectives of the project ● Coordinating the engagement of national consultants and partners to support the implementation of	Ongoing	*On baseline assessment*: The baseline and capacity needs assessment report for the Togean Islands National Park (TINP) in Indonesia was updated after the conduct of site validation in April 2025. Considering the confirmed capacity needs, an integrated ICM/MSP/EAFM training program for TINP was developed to promote the application of integrated approaches for enhancing the governance and management of the conservation area. The training program includes a 7-part Webinar Series, a High-Level Dialogue followed by a Technical Staff Discussion, and a 6-day Onsite Training. For the Tarutao National Park (TNP) in Thailand, the site validation was rescheduled to January 25 to 30, 2026 in view of adverse weather conditions in the third and fourth quarter of 2025 that limited access to the islands in the TNP. Considering the initial (desktop) baseline assessment for TNP, an outline for the integrated ICM/MSP/EAFM was developed that includes an Onsite Training and High-Level Dialogue, and development of training modules has been

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
	capacity development and technical support initiatives in support of integrated approaches for MPA/network planning and management, and development of blue economy investments and sustainable livelihoods ● Progress reporting to ACB		initiated. The training outline and materials will be refined considering the results from the site validation. For the Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape (TBPPS) in the Philippines, pending the signing of the Special Presidential Authority (SPA) for the implementation of the ASEAN ENMAPS Project, a project introduction and initial site validation was conducted on October 13-17, 2025 as part of the approved pre-implementation activities for the project. The initial site validation covered four out of the 18 local government units (LGUs) in the TBPPS. A series of online validation meetings have been scheduled for the 14 LGUs from January 21 to February 27, 2026. Considering results from the initial site validation, development of the integrated training course is being initiated, to be further refined/updated after completing the consultations with all the LGUs and key stakeholders in the TBPPS. *On pilot testing*: For Indonesia, the Webinar Series was conducted from September to mid-October 2025, followed by the High-Level Dialogue and Technical Staff Discussion in Palu, Central Sulawesi on October 23, 2025, and the Onsite Training in Ampana, Tojo Una-Una Regency, Central Sulawesi from October 27 to November 1, 2025. The training generated recommendations and a roadmap for harmonizing the implementation of management plans and spatial plans at the provincial, district/regency, biosphere reserve and national park levels. It also generated proposals that could be considered in updating the TINP management and zoning plans and designing follow on capacity building activities in the site.

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			For Thailand, considering the rescheduling of the site validation in Tarutao National Park due to the weather conditions in the area, the training has been moved to April 2026. For the Philippines, considering the need to complete the validation of capacity development needs of the remaining 14 LGUs in the TBPPS, the training has been scheduled for April 2026 as well. *On identification of potential investment projects and sustainable livelihood opportunities* Review of existing and potential alternative livelihood programs/ investments in the 3 pilot sites was undertaken as part of the initial desktop baseline assessment. Potential alternative livelihood programs/ investments in the Togean National Park in Indonesia and TBPPS in the Philippines were updated following the site validation activities in April and October 2025, respectively. Recommendations on potential Blue Economy investments and biodiversity-friendly and resilient alternative livelihood opportunities were also gathered during the webinars and on-site training in Indonesia. Further information are expected to be gathered as the PRF completes the site validation activities in TBPPS (Philippines) and Tarutao National Park (Thailand) Regional and national consultants will be engaged in 2026 to develop the BE investment and sustainable livelihood targets of the project.

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			Regional and national consultants will be engaged in 2026 to develop the BE investment and sustainable livelihood targets of the project. *On coordinating the engagement of national consultants and partners:* With guidance from PRF and in consultation with the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, and the ASEAN ENMAPS Project Management Unit (PMU) and National Implementation Unit (NIU), the development and pilot testing of the integrated ICM/MSP/EAFM training course to strengthen MPA/network governance and management in Indonesia was supported by the Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies of IPB University (PKSPL-IPB) in Bogor, Indonesia, which is hosting the PNLC Secretariat. PKSPL-IPB will continue to support the refinement of the training modules and materials in the first quarter of 2026 based on the results of the pilot testing. For Thailand, the PRF has engaged the support of the Prince of Songkla University (PSU), one of the PNLC members in Thailand, to support the development and pilot testing of the integrated training course for the Tarutao National Park in collaboration with the Office of Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and the ASEAN ENMAPS PMU and NIU. Development of training materials has been initiated, for pilot testing in April 2026. For the Philippines, initial coordination has been undertaken with the DENR-BMB-CMD for the joint development and delivery of the training materials with the

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
			PRF and its key partners and with the ACB-PMU. Potential support from PNLC members in the Philippines will also be considered. *On reporting to ACB:* The PRF has undertaken periodic progress review and activity planning meetings with the ACB Project Management Unit, and submitted quarterly reports for Q1, Q2, and Q3-Q4 2025.

OUTCOME 3

The Secretariat to be proactively exploring and developing new opportunities for new partnerships, projects and other collaborative activities with Partners and other collaborating organizations and institutions to strengthen PEMSEA and to add value to SDS-SEA implementation 2023-2027.

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Output 3.1. *Development and maintenance of a pipeline of forward- looking projects and innovative research- policy targets/issues ripe for effective action and scalable solutions*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
3.1.1.a	Update fundraising strategy and plan to include new proposals in the pipeline and other new fundraising opportunities	Completed	Updates on the implementation of the PEMSEA Sustainability Plan were discussed during the Intergovernmental Session of the 16th EAS PC Meeting under Agenda 12. Links to relevant documents may be found here: LINK. Discussion on the agenda may be found in the 16th EAS PC Meeting proceedings: LINK
3.1.1.b	Develop new and/or nurture working relationships/project initiatives with funding sources on the revised SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 and other new and emerging priorities	Ongoing	On blue carbon: ● Development of Blue Carbon roadmap ● Establishment of technical working group on Blue Carbon ● Development, review and/or publication of blue carbon reports in relation to the development of the certification program and PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program, including: ○ Assessing the supply side of blue carbon in ICM and other local sites in the East Asian Seas region ○ Regional blue carbon accounting protocols for coastal ecosystems in East and S.E. Asia ○ Comparative analysis of blue carbon accounting protocols for coastal ecosystems in the EAS region Strategic Agreement with ACB on the implementation of ENMAPs

			project formalized PRF as project support partner of DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the CI-GEF PRICELESS project (Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services) confirmed In consultation with PML for PRF to support AI for Health Project Proposal In talks to develop short training courses for PNLG and PNLC with University of Hawaii and FISO of Xiamen University. BLUEPASS proposal for GEF-9 funding underway, currently seeking endorsements from relevant country partners.
3.1.1.c	Update inventory of relevant funding sources for SDS-SEA and other new and emerging funding sources	Completed	
3.1.1.d	Continue proposal development and negotiations with GEF and GCF and other bilateral donors	Ongoing	Application to become an accredited regional entity pending with GCF. This is becoming more and more difficult to secure. A meeting is planned around Our Ocean Conference in Busan to discuss next steps with GCF.

Output 3.2. *Facilitate uptake of priority projects with Partners, donors, and other potential sources of scientific, technical and financial assistance*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
3.2.1.a	Implement commitments agreed with new partners	Completed	LOC with Advanced Institute for Ocean Research, Southern University of Science and Technology/ Shenzhen Ocean University Preparatory Office
3.2.2a	Implement the IKI funded maritime GHG emission reduction project (tbc on timing)	Ongoing	Project proposal, while approved in principle, is still pending formal approval due to changes in political structure and pending election results in Germany
3.2.3a	Conduct a joint PNLG-PNLC Learning Event during the PNLG GA in Jakarta, Indonesia which serve as platform for dialogue and information-sharing on existing initiatives on relevant to a key emerging issue, such as water resources use and conservation Organize a trainers training on ICM/MSP for PNLC members in collaboration with FISO & PNLC Secretariat The course aims to create awareness among top local executives and policy makers on the importance of the	Completed	PNLG-PNLC Technical Session during the PNLG Forum in Jakarta, Indonesia. Proceedings can be found here. FISO & PNLC Training on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Application in the Scaling-up of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) was conducted last April 2025. The proceedings can be found here.

	coastal resources, need for an integrated approach for the management of coastal resources and provide them with management options applicable in their respective areas		
3.2.3.b	Mobilize PEMSEA Regional Centers of Excellence as recognized research and education institutions assisting in the implementation of SDS-SEA policy and decision making at the national and regional levels	Completed	IGES is engaged as consultant-adviser to the IRBM project on developing the State of the River Basin reports in 6 countries and developing the regional template. UP MSI and COMI-Xiamen University are active members of the Blue Carbon Technical Working Group of PEMSEA UP MSI developed the MPA baseline report commissioned by PEMSEA, COBSEA and the South China Sea Project on behalf of the Regional Collaborative Network of MPAs. The report will be shared to country partners at the 18th EAS Partnership Council in July 2026.

Several PRF and ATSEA-2 staff participated in major global, regional and national events where they presented findings of PEMSEA projects and studies. The list of events where PRF staff participated as resource speakers can be accessed here

OUTCOME 4

Communications and Knowledge Management

Output 4.1. *Readily accessible PEMSEA knowledge products and services*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
4.1.1.a	Promote PEMSEA and its programs and knowledge products in key international/regional fora; monthly e-bulletin, social media, and SEA Knowledge Bank platform and social media, and promote PEMSEA initiatives, products and services as well as in participating in key ocean-related global and regional fora and events, twinning/knowledge events	Completed	PEMSEA continues to share updates on its initiatives on relevant social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Linkedin, Instagram, X) and through its monthly e-bulletins. Furthermore, PEMSEA was able to promote its current initiatives through the SEA Knowledge Bank Platform for IRBM project A summary list of PEMSEA's engagements in key international and regional fora may be seen in p. 40 of this document

Output 4.2. *Promote the engagement of youth and young professionals in environmental action and decision-making*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
4.2.1.	Manage and market the SEA Knowledge Bank as the region's interactive online platform on coasts and seas	Completed	Updates on specific sections of SEAKB completed. See LINK SEAKB was featured in EAS Congress as well as in e-bulletins and has been presented in various project meetings and outreach to relevant stakeholders and in IWLEARN publications.
4.2.2.	Disseminate PEMSEA knowledge products produced by projects and programs	Completed	Knowledge products of the ATSEA-2 project may be found here: LINK IRBM launched a series of knowledge products on GESI and SORB reporting, and river basin profile stories which may be read here: LINK The Marine Plastics project established a data center under the SEAKB, which highlights key knowledge products, campaigns and data of the project activities: LINK
4.2.3.	Disseminate lessons learned, case studies, and other knowledge products produced by PEMSEA SDS-SEA, products of ATSEA	Completed	see 4.1.1.a

4.2.4.	Incorporate youth engagement and opportunities in PEMSEA trainings and other learning opportunities	Completed	PRF collaborated with AIOR–SUSTech in the organization of the Blue Wave Conference. PEMSEA convened the session “Rising Tides, Rising Leaders: Youth Science and Action for a Resilient Ocean,” which showcased the work and impact of four youth speakers from the East Asian Seas region. PRF is currently reviewing how to formalize the PEMSEA Network of Youth Leaders and promote capacity building of early career ocean practitioners in the region.
4.2.5	Organize and conduct internship/ traineeship program within the PRF on coastal and ocean governance and management for young professionals from the region.	Ongoing	Development of a PEMSEA Youth Program underway.

OUTCOME 5

The Secretariat to be effectively coordinating the review, assessment and reporting of SDS- SEA Implementation Plan and specific projects’ deliverables and outcomes

Output 5.1. *Fulfill the reporting requirements of donors and sponsor*

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
5.1.1	Quarterly and annual project accomplishment reports submitted as scheduled and in a high standard to donors and sponsors	Completed	

Output 5.2. Continue to manage the reporting system for SDS-SEA Implementation that is accessible to Partners, sponsors and other interested stakeholders

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
5.2.1.a	National, sub- regional and regional SOC/SORB reports are published and disseminated in various fora and social media. SOC findings are incorporated in national and local strategic annual plans and help inform national and local budget planning. Results are also incorporated in public speeches, presentations, etc.	Ongoing	PRF is willing to provide technical assistance in the formulation, validation and monitoring of SOCs but the main responsibility is to devel SOCs lie with governments. In terms of uses, SOC and DORB data have been referenced and cited not only in speeches but in reports by policy makers, media etc. For 2025: Philippines completed its second SOC. Jakarta province, Indonesia luanched their SOC in September 2025 Romblon province, Philippines conducted a validation workshop of their SOC in Oct. 2025 Cambodia and Lao PDR SORB are under review for release in 2026 Pampanga River Basin's SORB is under development SOC and SORB methodologies and templates are available in pemsea.org
5.2.1.b	ICM certification review of select ICM sites	Ongoing	The China PEMSEA Center, with the guidance of PRF, is currently advancing the ICM System Certification for Qingdao West Coast New Area—a key district of Qingdao City, Shandong Province. CPC is collaborating with the Marine Development Bureau of the West Coast New Area and the Ocean Decade International

			Cooperation Center to push forward ICMS Level 1 Certification. In the second half of 2025, CPC completed the document collection and review, and filled out the required certification checklist. The domestic audit in China is expected to be completed by March 2026, and will then be submitted to PRF for final review and certification.
5.2.1.c	Plastics Monitoring in select sites upscaled and replicated in other PEMSEA locations	Ongoing	Analysis of results of beach monitoring has been presented to Marine ODA RSC meeting in Dec 2025. Analytical report will be provided to EMB, DENR, Philippines and MOET in Timor Leste for replication and/or comparison of findings with other similar plastic monitoring initiatives by KOICA, UNEP, CSIRO to promote effective and strategic upscaling and replication.
5.2.1.d	Implement the M&E recommendations on GESI & ESG plans in SDS-SEA and PRF operations	Ongoing	A detailed GESI annual workplan based on the GESI operational plan will be developed in early 2026.

OUTCOME 6

Effective and timely administration and human resource management provided

Output 6.1. Staff, HRM and procurement policies and regulations applied effectively and consistently across the organization.

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No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
6.1.1.a	Implement staff regulations and policies and make regular reports to the Management Committee on staff matters	Completed	
6.1.2.a	Guide and implement the application of PEMSEA procurement regulations and processes with the Procurement Committee.	Completed	
6.1.2.b	Review and assess staff rules and policies to reflect best practice and make regular reports to the Management Committee.	Completed	PRF staff rules and regulations were updated to include GESI and anti-sexual harassment policy, refined procurement policy, IT and security protocols
6.1.2.c	In collaboration with the Management Committee, analyze staffing and post descriptions to ensure staff capacities/ responsibilities are aligned with priorities.	Ongoing	An Organizational Capacity Development consultant was commissioned to look into the capacity development and learning objectives of PRF. Human Resource specialist was recruited in December 2025 to look into the findings of the organizational capacity assessment and

			review staffing and post descriptions and is expected to start in 2026.

Output 6.2. Staff planning, performance appraisal and learning and development conducted.

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No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
6.2.1.a	Organize and conduct regular staff appraisals across the PRF.	Completed	Performance appraisals were conducted in October and November 2025
6.2.1.b	Review the results of staff appraisals and recommendations regarding Staff remuneration with the Management Committee.	Completed	Fixed term and general service staff salaries and compensations have been adjusted based on 2023 UN salary rates under the same salary grade. The last salary review was conducted in 2017 with salaries adjusted based on 2013 salary rates. Non fixed term staff were provided with a cost of living allowance increase..
6.2.2.a	Develop and implement a learning and development program for staff based on a staff survey which is part of org cap devt review.	Ongoing	The first part of the organizational capacity assessment work was completed in 2025. Results of the OCA work can be found on

Output 6.3. Property and management administration delivered

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
6.3.1.a	Implement the annual building and assets management plan as approved by Management Committee.	Completed	

Output 6.4. Accurate and timely project and program management financial reports provided to the Executive Director and Program Managers

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
6.4.1.a	Provide financial statements and data for the year 2024 to external auditors for auditing.	Completed	The Financial Statements for 2024 were submitted to the external auditor, Isla Lipana and Co. for auditing. LINK
6.4.1.b	Facilitate audits to ensure unqualified audit opinions are received for the year 2024 for submission to the Audit Committee for endorsement to the EAS Partnership Council.	Completed	Audited Financial Statements for 2024 may be viewed here.
6.4.1.c	Monitor the organization's cash flow and balances and provide relevant recommendations to Management Committee.	Completed	Monthly financial report is presented by Administration and Finance Specialist for discussion at MANCOM monthly meetings
6.4.1.d	Consolidate budget estimates for 2025 -2026 in an accurate and timely manner for inclusion in the 2025 work plan and budget	Completed	Budget estimates of each project were collated and presented together with the 2025-2026 workplan during the 16th EAS PC Meeting
6.4.2.a	Hire new/renew existing internal auditor following review and advertisement of internal auditor post	Completed	Romano Mendez and Co. was renewed as PEMSEA's Internal Auditor

6.4.2.b	Provide on time, high quality financial reports for all donor requirements.		
6.4.3.a	Oversee PEMSEA's on-line financial management system and advise Management Committee of any administrative, financial or policy matters concerning its effective and efficient operation.	Completed	
6.4.3.b	Provide quarterly financial reports (budget, commitments, expenditures) on all projects to the Management Committee.	Completed	
6.4.3.c	Advise the Management Committee of PRF staff time logs (expenditures and commitments) on a quarterly basis.	Completed	
6.4.3.d	Monitor monthly budget and staff time log reports and provide relevant advice to the Executive Director	Completed	

Output 6.5. The EAS congress to be effectively organized and executed as a high quality regional ocean event

No.	Activity	Status	Major accomplishments/remarks
6.5.1.a	Continue the dissemination/communication of reports on the proceedings, outcomes and impacts of the EASC 2024 and 8th Ministerial Forum	Completed	Proceedings of the EASC 2024 and 8th Ministerial Forum may be accessed here.
6.5.1.b	Monitor and collaborate with partners and various congress collaborators in responding to the recommendations including on coordinating joint initiatives agreed during EASC 2024	Ongoing	
6.5.1.c	Monitor and coordinate with country partners in implementing/acting on the commitments made at the 8th Ministerial Declaration	Completed	Monthly financial report is presented by Administration and Finance Specialist for discussion at MANCOM
6.5.1.d	Review and assess the benefits and impacts of EASC 2024 in its current format in light of the many global conferences taking place on the ocean and costs post SDG implementation (part of institutional and financial strengthening review).	Completed	Discussions held across various governance meetings underscored the value and strength of the EAS Congress as the premier triennial event on coastal and ocean issues in the region. The Congress attracts global, regional, and local stakeholders, serving as a platform to showcase state-of-the-art knowledge, foster networking with regional partners, and build lasting partnerships and networks while mobilizing resources. Unlike large global conferences that can be overwhelming for participants, the EAS Congress is widely regarded by local and regional stakeholders as their own. Its optimal scale attracts the right mix and number of participants, enabling meaningful

			engagement and reaffirming collective commitment to the shared vision of **“Healthy Oceans, People, and Economies.”**
6.5.2.e	Scout and seek consensus of new congress host	Ongoing	PRF to send invitation letter to host the EAS Congress 2027 to Indonesia and the Philippines