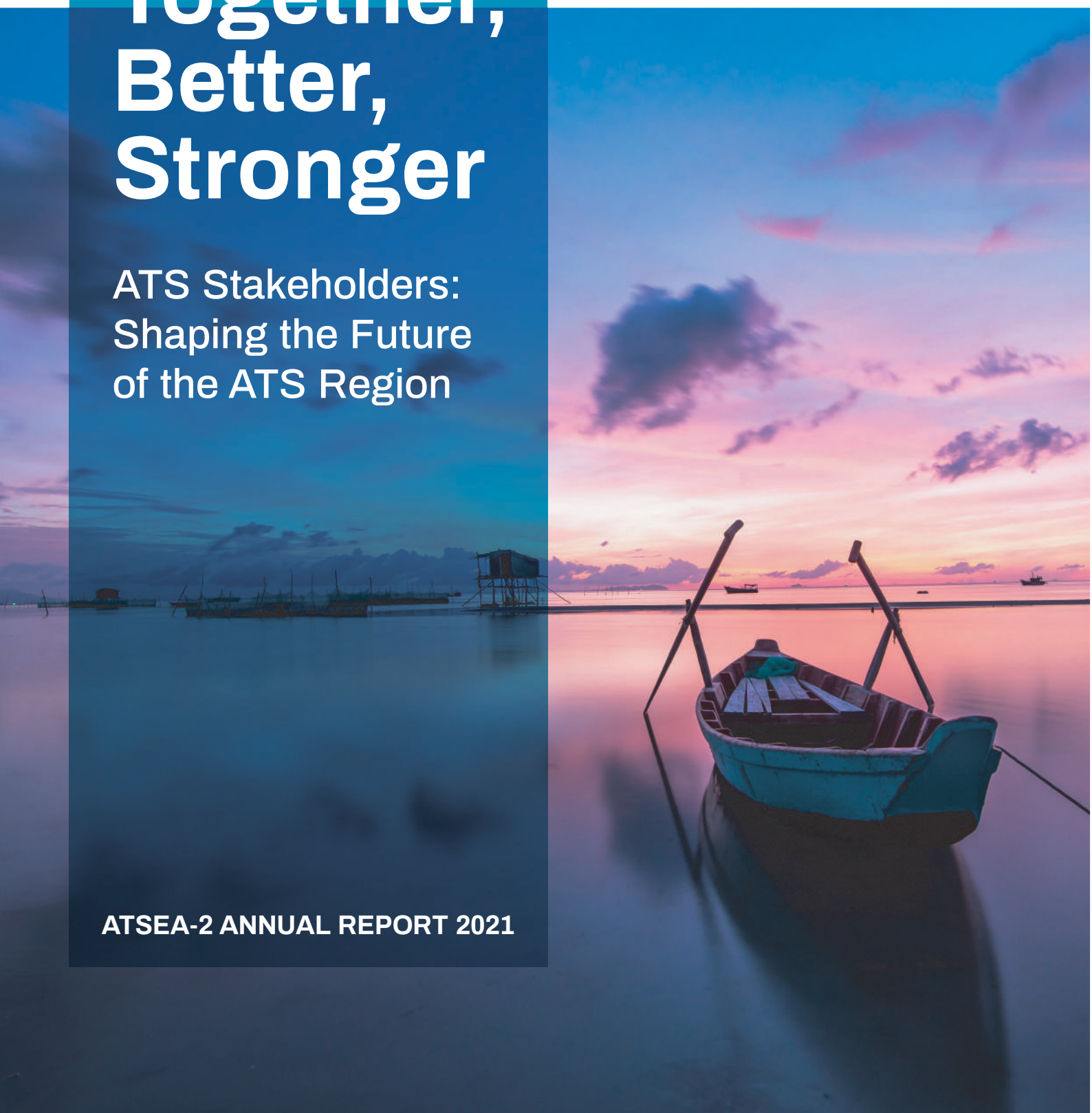




Together, Better, Stronger

ATS Stakeholders:
Shaping the Future
of the ATS Region

ATSEA-2 ANNUAL REPORT 2021



ATSEA-2 Annual Report 2021: Together, Better, Stronger

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Suggested Citation:

ATSEA-2. 2022. ATSEA-2 Annual Report 2021: Together, Better, Stronger. Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase II (ATSEA-2), Bali, Indonesia. 104p

The activities described in this report were made possible with the generous support from our sponsoring organizations – the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and United Nation Development Programme (UNDP).

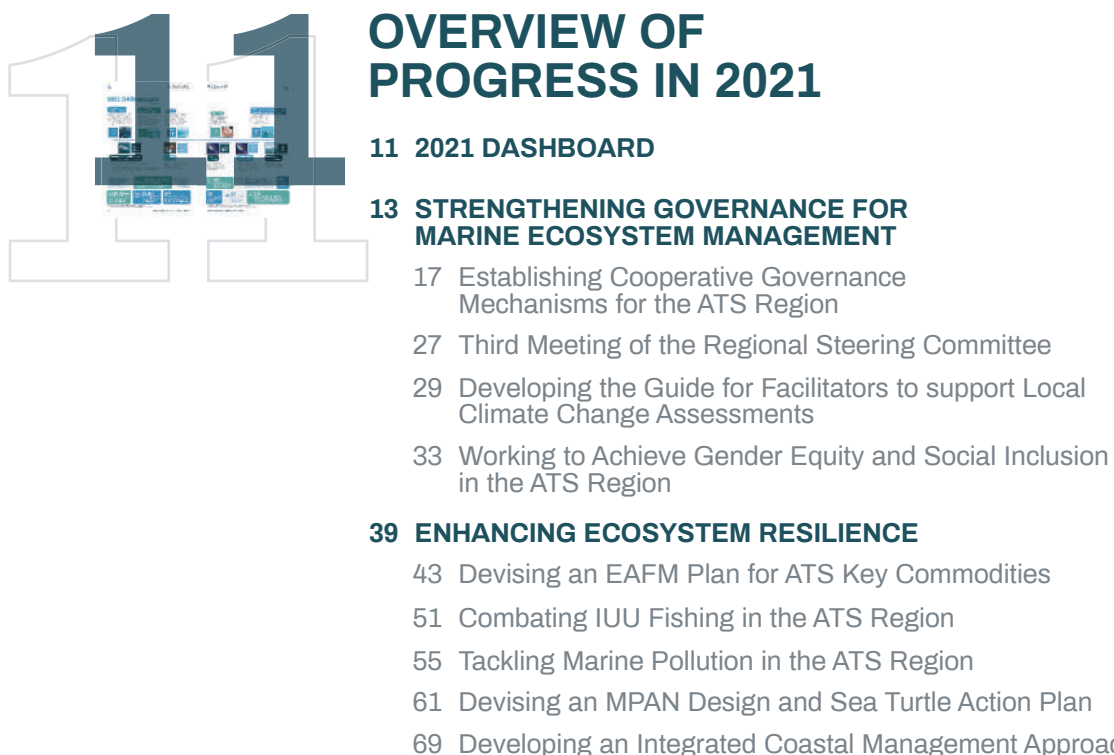
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Published by:
ATSEA-2 Regional Project Management Unit
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Telephone: +62 361 448 4147
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Cover image: www.pexels.com | @pixabay

Printed in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

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ABOUT ATSEA-2

ATSEA-2 Project is the second phase of the GEF-financed, UNDP-supported ATSEA Programme. The project will run for five years (2019-2024) and is supported by a GEF grant amounting to US\$9.7 million with counterpart co-financing commitments from country (and various other) partners amounting to US\$60.2 million. The regional project involves the Governments of Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea, with support from the Australian Government.

The ATSEA Programme is designed to enhance collaboration and coordination in the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) region, with a mandate to support the implementation of the endorsed ATS regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP) 2014-2024 and pursue its long-term objective and vision: “to promote sustainable development of the Arafura-Timor Seas region to improve the quality of life of its inhabitants through restoration, conservation and sustainable management of marine-coastal ecosystems”.



Five priority transboundary environmental problems in the ATS region as identified in the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis in 2011:



1 Unsustainable fisheries and decline and loss of living coastal and marine resources;



2 Modification, degradation and loss of coastal and marine habitats;



3 Marine and land-based pollution;



4 Decline and loss of biodiversity and key marine species; and

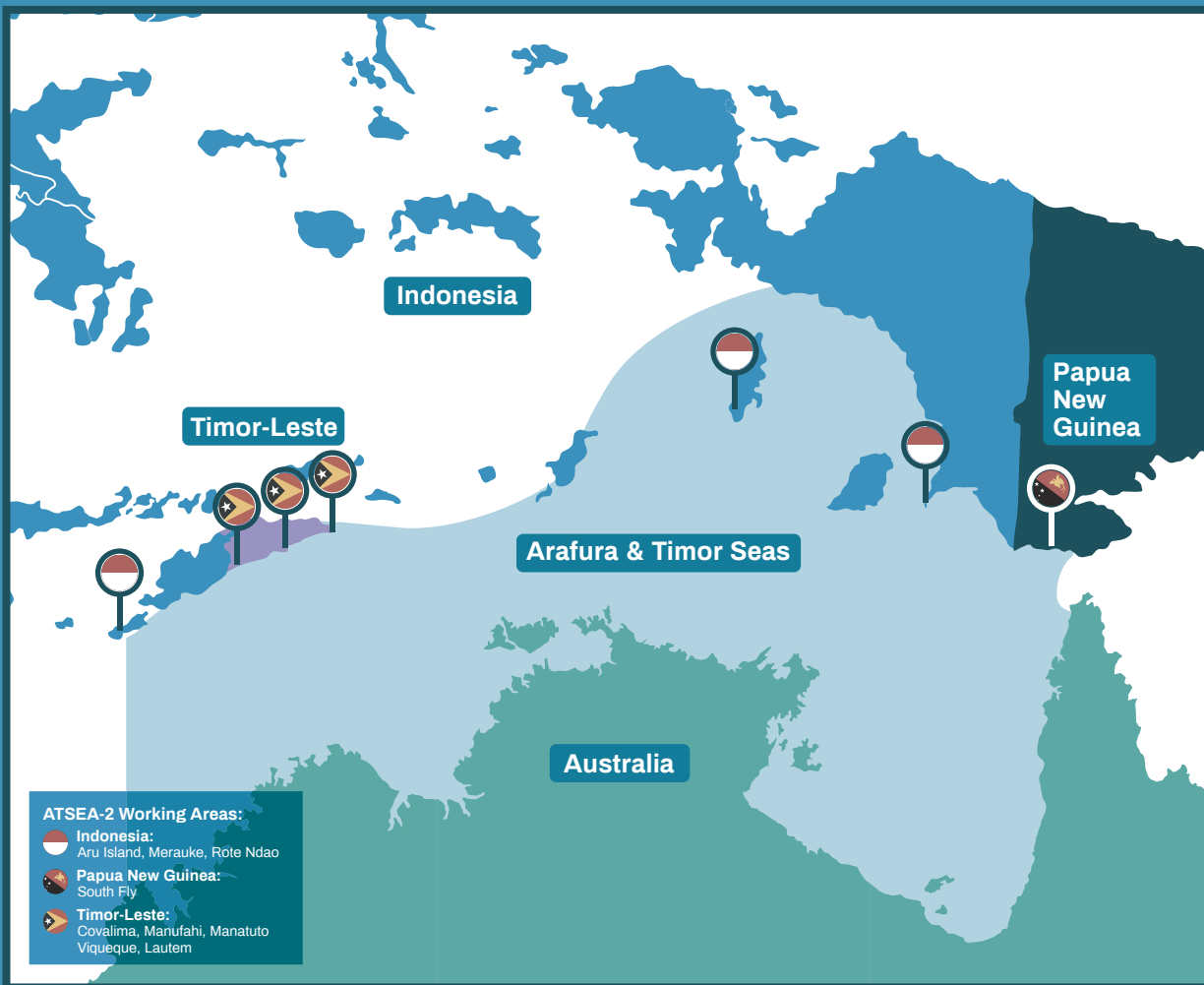


5 Impacts of climate change

Expected achievements of ATSEA-2 by 2024:

- A functioning regional governance mechanism, supported by Stakeholder Partnership Forum and National Inter-Ministerial Committees.
- Improved fisheries management of red snapper, barramundi, and shrimp fisheries.
- Approximately 125 km of coastline under ICM (climate change adaptation, livelihood opportunities and strengthening the resilience of local coastal communities).
- Support establishment of new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and strengthen MPA management effectiveness.
- Up to 25% of over-exploited fisheries in the ATS region moved to more sustainable level.
- A regional MPA network, and action plan on enhanced protection of marine turtles.
- Improved scientific knowledge regarding climate change impacts on ATS and strengthened adaptive capacity of local communities.
- Financial mechanisms in place to support the implementation.
- Inclusion of oil spill response systems and procedures.

Map of ATS showing key project area sites in each country



Expected Outcomes:

Component 1

Regional, National and Local Governance for Large Marine Ecosystem Management

- 1.1 Regional and national mechanism
- 1.2 Strengthened institutional and human resource capacity
- 1.3 Better understanding of climate change impacts on marine and coastal ecosystem
- 1.4 Updated TDA, SAP and NAPs

Component 2

Improving LME Carrying Capacity to Sustain Provisioning, Regulating and Supporting Ecosystem Services

- 2.1 Improved management of fisheries and other coastal resources for livelihoods, nutrition and ecosystem health
- 2.2 Reduced marine pollution
- 2.3 Conserved coastal & marine biodiversity
- 2.4 ICM incorporating CCA implemented at local level

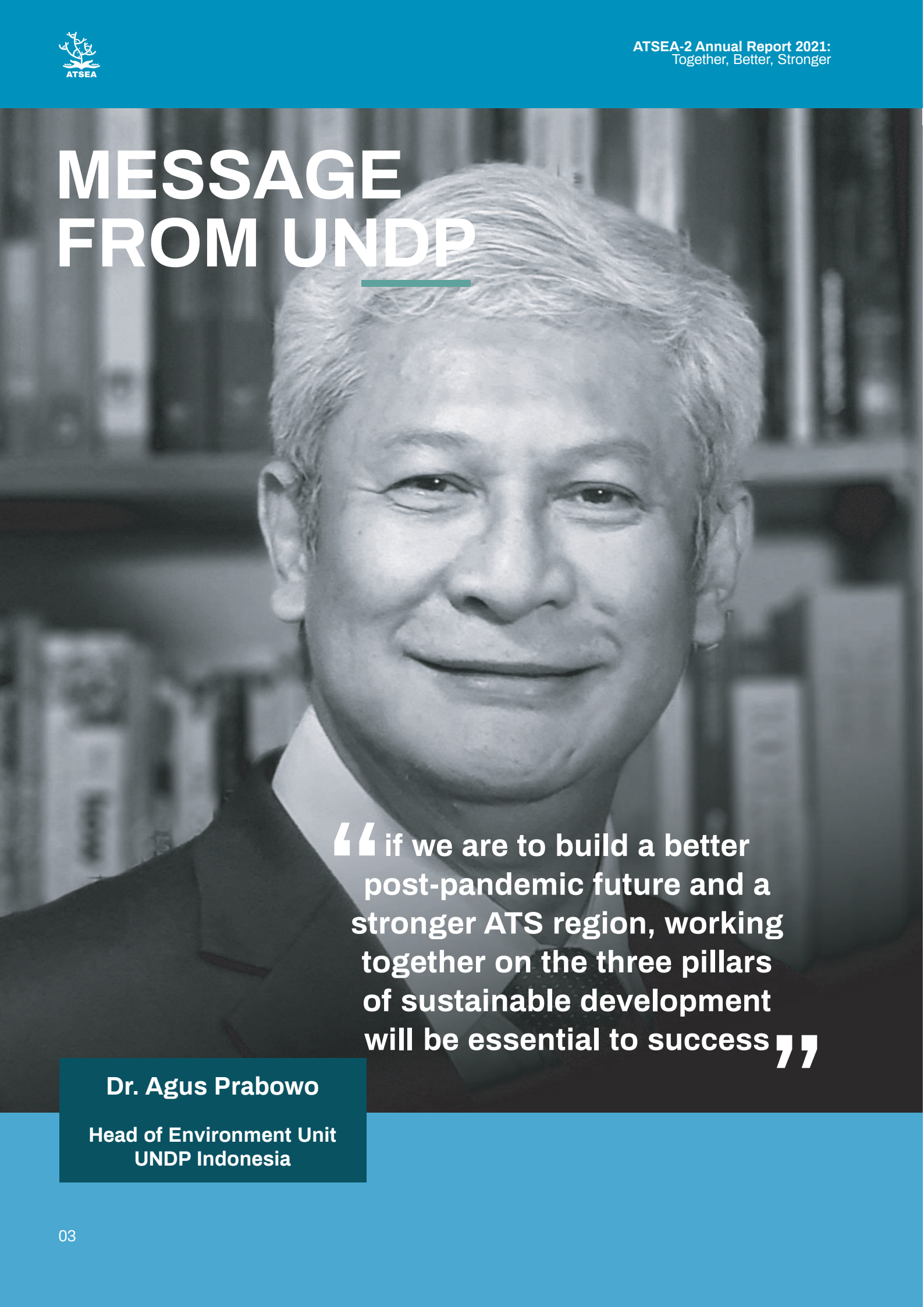
Component 3

Knowledge Management

- 3.1 Improved monitoring of status of ATS and dissemination of information

Total: 23 Target Outputs

MESSAGE FROM UNDP



“ if we are to build a better post-pandemic future and a stronger ATS region, working together on the three pillars of sustainable development will be essential to success ”

Dr. Agus Prabowo

Head of Environment Unit
UNDP Indonesia

In this Annual Report, the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Project has placed special emphasis on one of the components that is central to UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – the social pillar. Through various initiatives in 2021, ATSEA-2 integrated social impacts and interventions with environmental and economic aspects, putting people at the heart of efforts to achieve meaningful development. The various case studies featured in this report illustrate the importance of this message – that, if we are to build a better post-pandemic future and a stronger ATS region, working together on the three pillars of sustainable development will be essential to success.

Despite the lingering challenges posed by Covid-19 in 2021, which were further complicated by the emergence of new variants, we have seen how different aspects of our society have adjusted to meet the challenges of the new normal era. The ATSEA-2 Project is no different. By embracing the challenges, devising innovative solutions and maximising various modes of communication and coordination, the Project has continually demonstrated its agility and determination to ensure continuity in delivering results. All efforts have been designed in support of the ATS region's vision for sustainable development and improved quality of life, through responsible management of coastal-marine ecosystems.

Throughout the year, we have witnessed a strengthening of engagement among various stakeholders in the region. This positive trend has been clearly evident in the various online and hybrid consultative discussions, forums, workshops and trainings conducted at the local, national and regional level, which have covered a range of governance and environmental issues. While movement was still generally limited in the ATS region during 2021, it was heartening to see the continuation of efforts in the field, in the form of community surveys, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), livelihood training, tree planting and turtle release programmes in various ATS countries. Stories from the field, supported by the survey and analysis on Gender Equity and Social Inclusion

(GESI), have put the spotlight on the varying conditions of women in the fisheries sector, while also providing a clearer picture of their value and the vital contributions they make to fisheries, coastal and marine management, and development. Working in collaboration with various partners like the UNDP, and through its proactive and creative approach to communications, the ATSEA-2 Project was also able to disseminate important information about the ATS, not just within the region itself, but to an increasingly global audience.

As an implementing partner, UNDP has actively contributed to a number of ATSEA-2 forums and provided the necessary guidance to ensure the Project remains clearly aligned with UNDP's social and environmental standards, as well as the principles and targets of the Decade of Ocean Science and the UN SDGs. As the Project prepares to complete its mid-term evaluation in 2022, UNDP stands ready to provide the necessary support for this important undertaking. We also look forward to the completion of the consensus-building process on the establishment of the ATS region's governance coordination mechanism, which would further bolster the implementation of the ATS Strategic Action Programme (SAP). Finally, as an increasing number of ATS countries begin to open up in early 2022, we are excited to see what new community-based activities this new year may hopefully bring.

UNDP would hereby like to congratulate everyone on the ATSEA-2 team and its partners, following the successful release of this Annual Progress Report. While the pandemic situation continues to be unpredictable, we remain steadfast in our commitment to work closely alongside all ATS stakeholders through the ATSEA-2 Project. We will proceed with cautious optimism in 2022, united in our determination to build a better ATS region, together.

MESSAGE FROM PEMSEA



“ countries have [also] already begun to undertake more on-the-ground activities, bringing ATSEA-2 aspirations and envisioned benefits closer to fruition for its target stakeholders ”

Ms. Aimee Gonzales

**Executive Director
PEMSEA Resource Facility**

As the ATSEA-2 Project's executing agency and its key supporter, PEMSEA looks back with pride and gratitude on a year in which the Project successfully established the necessary adaptive mechanisms to carry out its planned activities, despite the many and varied challenges posed by the pandemic.

I am proud and commend the ATSEA-2 team for their commitment, dedication and focus. Despite the personal struggles experienced by some members of the team due to Covid-19, the Project was able to remain largely on course to meet its targets. This of course would not have been possible without the close collaboration and strong support from various partners and local stakeholders, to whom I also express my deepest gratitude.

The 2021 Annual Progress Report encapsulates the hectic, but nonetheless fulfilling actions of the past year for ATSEA-2. PEMSEA showcased ATSEA-2's strong potential as a regional collaborative mechanism among its partner countries and other potential partners at the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2021. This platform enabled ATSEA-2 to work with partners within and beyond the ATS region and to share results and recommendations from the key studies arising from its thematic assessments, while also learning about the good practices and innovative methodologies and solutions used by other countries and regions. In particular, the webinars on "Managing Networks and Transboundary Cooperation on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the ASEAN Region" and "Climate Change Adaptation for Coastal Communities: Learning from East Asia and the Arafura and Timor Seas Region" have been the subject of positive feedback from various stakeholders, thereby helping to foster new and fruitful partnership opportunities for the ATS region.

With guidance from the ATSEA-2 Project's Regional Steering Committee (RSC), of which PEMSEA is also a member, ATSEA-2 has ensured that stakeholders at the local, national and regional levels are all engaged with the

different project initiatives. At the regional level, various stakeholders from the countries and related regional organisations contributed to ongoing discussions pertaining to the establishment of the most viable regional governance mechanism for the ATS, as well as in the review of key proposed plans related to MPA networking and marine turtle protection, among others. At the country level, stakeholders from relevant ministries/agencies at the national and local level, as well as communities at project sites, were engaged in the conduct of various studies related to fisheries, climate change, marine pollution, coastal and marine habitats and species, as well as in crafting the Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF) as a crucial element in ensuring wider and deeper participation of stakeholders in various aspects of the Project. With the completion of a number of the baseline assessments, countries have also already begun to undertake more on-the-ground activities, bringing ATSEA-2 aspirations and envisioned benefits closer to fruition for its target stakeholders. By continuing to do so, the Project hopes to build a stronger foundation and buy-in from various sectors in pursuing the governance and environmental targets of the ATS Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and National Action Programmes (NAPs).

ATSEA-2 is still in its early stages of implementation and there remains much work to be done. Cognisant of the continuing challenges arising from the pandemic and the urgent actions needed on the socio-economic and environmental front, it is important to keep the Project's goals front and centre, while also ensuring that all relevant stakeholders remain on board. Rest assured, PEMSEA will continue to work with ATSEA-2 member countries and partners in bringing the ATS region closer to achieving its goals.

FOREWORD

“ In 2021, more than 32,000 individuals were successfully engaged by the Programme, through a series of coordinated regional and national efforts ”

**Dr. Handoko
Adi Susanto**

Regional Project Manager

On behalf of the ATSEA-2 Project teams, from the regional to the national level, it is my pleasure to share this Annual Report as a comprehensive account of the initiatives undertaken by the Project in the year 2021. Moving on from the fully virtual modus operandi necessitated by the Covid restrictions of 2020, the ATSEA-2 Project has steadily shifted back towards a more hybrid mechanism for its coordination in the past year. In some cases, we even saw a return to in-person interactions, which afforded us much more effective and qualitative access to the many stakeholders of the ATS region. In the past 12 months, we have therefore been able to develop a better understanding of the region's people, in terms of their aspirations and the challenges they face, along with their priorities, strengths and needs going forward.

Through the active support and participation of stakeholders, we have conducted detailed assessments and engaged in discussions relating to regional governance; gained a better understanding of the nuances, social and environmental risks in project sites, which also led to the completion of the regional and national social and environmental management plans for the ATS region, as well as the GESI Analysis and Action Plan; and completed several environmental thematic studies and assessments at the regional and national level that would prove to be crucial in guiding us, as we continue to move forward in the implementation of the ATS SAP and NAPs.

With guidance from the Regional Steering Committee, and with National Project Boards fully functional in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste, as well as National Inter-Ministerial Committees (NIMC) in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste, support for review and inputs to key regional and country studies have been made more efficient. This support has also been key to facilitating project work planning and implementation. Indonesia's NIMC is expected to be established in 2022, with their comprehensive institutional and policy assessment and mapping already completed in 2021. Australia, though not a project

beneficiary, has also actively contributed to the advancement of several studies/assessments developed for the region. In 2021, more than 32,000 individuals were successfully engaged by the Project, through a series of coordinated regional and country efforts comprising a combination of FGDs, training sessions, workshops, surveys and forums. Significant data and information arising from various studies, reports and on-the-ground experiences have also been shared to a wider audience, both within and outside the region, through numerous events hosted by the ATSEA-2 Project, in addition to our website and social media platforms, and representation in various national, regional and international forums.

In the months ahead, the ATSEA-2 Project will delve deeper into updating the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), initiating updates for the ATS SAP, securing final country endorsement and launching the SPF and the ATS Regional Governance Mechanism. Furthermore, we expect to achieve greater action at the community level, as we support the work of ATS countries in line with an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), marine pollution management and prevention, establishment of new MPAs, strengthening of existing MPAs, protection of vulnerable sea turtles, livelihood improvement and climate change adaptation through ICM. We will continue working to strengthen the engagement of women and other marginalised groups, particularly in the fisheries sector.

We look forward to continually engaging with all of you and to further expanding our collaboration in the months ahead. Through our steadfast commitment and combined efforts, we will be able to build the future that we envisage for the ATS region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In spite of the myriad challenges posed by the global pandemic, 2021 was a year of significant progress for ATSEA-2. Through a combination of adaptive management, cross-sectoral collaboration and increased engagement with local stakeholders, the Project was able to successfully deliver the majority of its regional outputs and achieve a series of meaningful local impacts.

This report presents key progress and accomplishments in the implementation of the ATSEA-2 Project in 2021, highlighting how it has been actively engaging officials, communities and fishers on the frontline of the issues addressed, facilitating communication between all parties and empowering them to lead the way moving forward.

For readers who are unfamiliar with the Project, **About ATSEA-2** provides a brief overview, highlighting key governance and management targets in support of the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) region, while the **2021 Dashboard** provides a snapshot of key outputs contributing to the achievement of project targets.

The report expounds on progress and accomplishments for each of the three components that form the core pillars of the ATSEA-2 Project, starting with an overview of 5-year target outcomes, key outputs in 2021 and focus for 2022. Further details are presented through various articles, with case studies delving deeper into the issues, introducing key contributors and demonstrating stakeholder engagement and on-the-ground actions. Links to relevant studies and reports are provided for further reference and available for download.

The section **Strengthening Governance for Marine Ecosystem Management** shares progress under Component 1 of the Project, which focuses on establishing a Regional Governance Mechanism (RGM) to support the implementation of the SAP. **Establishing Cooperative Governance Mechanisms for the ATS Region** presents key recommendations in developing the proposed design of the RGM and its associated Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF); from regional and national consultations, as well as progress of related initiatives such as the stocktaking review of SAP implementation, to financial landscape assessment in support of the RGM and SAP implementation and updating of the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) to confirm priorities for the updating of the SAP. Pending the establishment of the RGM, the ATSEA-2 Project Regional Steering Committee (RSC) serves as the Interim ATS Regional Coordination Committee, the highest policy and decision-making body of the regional mechanism, while the **3rd RSC Meeting: ATSEA-2 Looks Ahead to 2022** provides a summary of key decisions and recommendations from the meeting held in December 2021. Taking into consideration the need to integrate climate change considerations in policy and planning at all levels, the **Guide for Facilitators** uses results from the regional climate change vulnerability assessment to inform local assessments and identify targeted adaptation measures for incorporation in local plans. The article **Working to Achieve Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in the ATS Region** presents the progressive steps undertaken to incorporate

GESI concerns into the Project, including GESI surveys in local sites and preparation of a draft GESI Action Plan and Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) Management Plan.

The section **Enhancing Ecosystem Resilience** summarises the progress and accomplishments for Component 2 of the Project, which focuses on carrying out actions in support of the environmental objectives of the SAP. The article **Devising an EAFM Plan for ATS Key Commodities** describes the combination of participatory and scientific approaches employed for the development of a regional EAFM plan for red snapper, including establishment of EAFM Advisory Forum, training of fisheries managers on EAFM, conduct of FGDs and online surveys, along with fishery profiling and stock assessment, and biological sampling to identify reproductive health and population dynamics. **Combating IUU Fishing in the ATS Region** presents the review of national policies and regulations to combat IUU Fishing in the four ATS countries, along with recommendations for key regulatory reforms, areas of collaboration between ATSEA-2 and RPOA-IUU. **Tackling Marine Pollution in the ATS Region** discusses the results of the regional marine pollution assessment and recommendations for establishing regional mechanisms for oil spill preparedness and response, along with marine debris monitoring in the ATS region. In addition, the article **Devising an MPA Network Design and Sea Turtle Action Plan** shares various recommendations from national and regional stakeholder consultations, which were taken into consideration when refining draft documents prior to their presentation at the 3rd RSC Meeting. Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste endorsed both documents during the meeting, while Indonesia will need further in-country review and consultations prior to endorsing the documents in early 2022. Tackling the range of issues that affect coastal areas, **Developing an Integrated Coastal Management Approach** shares the establishment of local multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms, including the establishment of a Marine Pollution Task Force and the development of a Marine Pollution Action Plan in West Nusa Tenggara, along with ICM planning in Rote Ndao, Indonesia; and development of an ICM Action Plan for Posto

Administrativo Barique, Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste.

Monitoring and Awareness Raising presents the accomplishments under Component 3 of the Project, which aims to improve monitoring of ATS SAP implementation and to disseminate information about the ATSEA-2 Project to, and engage with, an increasingly wider audience. Among the key outputs is the **ATSEA-2 Theory of Change**, which was requested at the 2nd RSC Meeting in order to provide a better understanding of the causal links between different project elements and the targets in the regional SAP. **Scaling Up Stakeholder Outreach** deals with the updated Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan and illustrates how its implementation through a range of platforms and media has broadened the scope and reach of ATSEA-2 information and knowledge-sharing.

The **Overall Technical and Financial Delivery** demonstrates that for 2021 the Project is ON TRACK in terms of Component 3, while several target initiatives under Components 1 and 2 are ONGOING, scheduled for completion in 2022. Financial delivery from 2019-2021 is 72% of the total approved budget of US\$ 4.6 million. Restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic remained one of the key challenges, although adaptive measures facilitated continued stakeholder engagement through virtual, hybrid and on-site activities in collaboration with local partners, thereby enabling delivery of key outputs and steady progress towards objectives.

Behind all these progress and accomplishments is a multitude of project participants, each of whom are helping to drive the ATSEA-2 Project and its various projects forward. This report acknowledges the members of the RSC, Regional Project Management Unit and National Coordination Units, along with various ATSEA-2 Champions and project partners. It also identifies several key targets and opportunities for further collaboration in 2022.

Representing efforts with a diverse range of stakeholders and contributors, this report is both an indication of progress and an illustration of shared responsibility – a statement of intent that we are stronger, and better, together.

2021 DASHBOARD

Support to SAP and NAP

Completed two regional governance mechanism documents, which are undergoing national consultations, and 11 thematic assessment reports (climate change, land-based and marine sources of pollution, IUU fishing, fisheries baselines, coastal and marine biodiversity and habitat) to inform and facilitate more targeted and appropriate approaches in the implementation of the SAP and NAPs, and in the updating of TDA and SAP



Pollution

Results of regional ATS and Rote Ndao (Indonesia) land-based and marine sources of pollution assessment shared at regional webinar; Timor-Leste's pollution assessment showcased at the 2021 EAS Congress Collab



EAFM

Developed the Report on Rights-Based Management Approaches to Fisheries in ATS Region; Fisheries Profiles and EAFM Assessments for barramundi in Merauke and shrimp in Aru, Indonesia, and corresponding fisheries consumption analysis and business plan developed; EAFM Advisory Forums guided the development of ATS Red Snapper EAFM Plan; Essential EAFM Training of Trainers conducted



Governance (Institutional, Policy and Advocacy)

- Indonesia: Supported the establishment of: Kolepom RPZ (Management and Zonation Plan) Task Force, IUU Fisheries Forum in Papua, Marine Pollution Task Force in NTT
- PNG: Established and operationalised NPB and NIMC, and completed the following assessments: (a) legal framework in marine and fisheries in relation to South Fly, (b) stakeholder analysis and capacity evaluation, (c) biophysical and socioeconomic characteristics, and (d) capacity development plan
- Timor-Leste: Established NIMC Task Force



Climate Change

Developed the Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation in Oeseli Village, Indonesia, using the Guide for Facilitators based upon the CC Vulnerability Assessment results; CCVA results and the action plan showcased at the 2021 EAS Congress Collab

347.22km
of coastline covered by ICM program (12.82km Barique*; 334.4km Rote Ndao** ATS area)

US\$13,147,361
co-financing commitments from the Governments of Indonesia and Papua New Guinea was mobilized for marine resources management through ATSEA-2 Project (as of 2021)

4 local regulations (three in Indonesia and one in Timor-Leste) were issued to support NAP implementation

5,205.92km
of coastline*** targeting to implement EAFM under ATSEA-2

15,603
women engaged and benefited from various ATSEA-2 initiatives from 2019 to 2021

547
individuals trained and/or mentored on different aspects of sustainable resources management from 2019 to 2021

*Generated from OpenStreetMap, 8 February 2022, WGS 1984, Projection World Mercator

**Geospatial Information Agency/Badan Informasi Geospasial (BIG), 2021, WGS 1984, Projection World Mercator

***IDN and TL coastal area coverage calculation of coastal fisheries extended to 12nm from coast, while for PNG calculation of coastal fisheries extended to 3nm from coast.

Gender Equity and Social Inclusion

Completed the gender analysis and action plan at the regional level, and in Aru Islands and Rote Ndao of Indonesia to support GESI mainstreaming; GESI considered in the updated Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) and newly-developed Social and Environmental Safeguards Management Plan (SESMP) to assist in minimising/mitigating adverse effects on the environment; GESI on fisheries and climate change promoted at the 2021 EAS Congress Collab



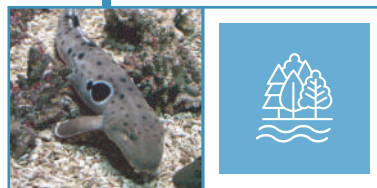
ICM, resilience strengthening and alternative livelihoods

Conducted local trainings on sustainable fisheries practices and aquaculture; and planted close to 5,000 seedlings, involving over 200 community volunteers in support of riverbank stabilisation and spring water conservation in Manufahi and Manatuto, Timor-Leste



IUU Fishing

Conducted capacity building for community-based surveillance, vessel registration, e-logbook, and data management and analysis, and data science for marine fisheries resources surveillance in Indonesia



Biodiversity and Habitats

Completed the Biodiversity Atlas of the ATS region focusing on Aru, Merauke and Rote Ndao (Indonesia), providing spatial information on biodiversity, resource use and marine resource threat modelling; results of regional ecosystem profiling and MPA Network design showcased at the 2021 EAS Congress Collab



Knowledge Management

Increased the scope and scale of stakeholders through six ATSEA-led (regional) and 22 collaborative public learning events with various partners, and published 11 articles on the GEF IW:Learn newsletter

17

Partnerships / collaborations established in support of various ATSEA-2 initiatives



12

GESI learning sessions provided to RPMU and NCUs to familiarize and guide in mainstreaming of GESI in ATSEA-2 Project

53

Technical publications released

56

News stories on various ATSEA-2 activities published



86

ATSEA-2 stories featured by various media companies



176

events organised or co-hosted from 2019-2021 to share ATS information/ initiatives and enrich learning on coastal and marine governance and management

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE FOR MARINE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT



Image Credit: Chris Alexander for ATSEA-2 Project



5-YEAR TARGET OUTCOMES OF COMPONENT 1:

- Establishment of regional and national mechanisms for cooperation
- Strengthened institutional and human resource capacities toward integrated approaches in marine resource management and biodiversity conservation
- Improved understanding of climate change impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems
- Updated Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), Strategic Action Programme (SAP), and National Action Programmes (NAP)

Component 1 of the ATSEA-2 Project is designed to facilitate regional-level dialogue regarding policies and programmes in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Australia in support of the sustainable development of the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) region. The overall objective of Component 1 is to strengthen governance and management of the ATS region by establishing participatory mechanisms for the implementation of priority actions in the regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and corresponding National Action Programmes (NAPs).

Working in close collaboration with various stakeholders at the national, sub-national and regional levels and with the support of leading experts in their respective fields, the ATSEA-2 Project achieved the following significant progress under Component 1 in 2021:

Component 1 | Key Outputs in 2021



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Regional

- A regional governance assessment and guidance document on the development of a Regional Governance Mechanism (RGM) was completed, providing a reference point for regional and country consultations on the identification of the most viable RGM for the ATS region. This included a review of Terms of Reference (ToR) and guidelines for the Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF).

- A consultative meeting on the regional SPF, featuring 59 participants from various stakeholder groups in ATS countries, generated further inputs on the SPF's ToR and guidelines.

- Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) learning sessions for RPMU and NCU's enhanced awareness and understanding of the principles and value of GESI in programme mainstreaming.

- A combined GESI and Social and Environmental Safeguard (SES) survey was conducted in all ATS project sites, with results feeding into the GESI analysis, GESI Action Plan, SESP and SESMP

- A Financial Landscape Assessment was drafted, which provided an overview of the ATS region's current position, core strategic issues, gaps and opportunities in financing the proposed implementation of RGM, SAP and NAPs.

- The Regional Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) Report was completed.

- A draft Guide for Facilitators on the use of CC VA Report was completed and tested; a case study of the guide implementation was developed for Oeseli Village, Rote Ndao, Indonesia (full implementation) and Viqueque, Timor-Leste (light touch implementation); an action plan for climate change adaptation in Oeseli Village was also developed.

- Results of the CCVA Report and its practical application through the Guide for Facilitators was shared at the 2021 EAS Congress Collab on "Climate Change Adaptation for Coastal Communities: Learning from East Asia and Arafura and Timor Seas Regions" in collaboration with PEMSEA and IGES.

- Updating of the ATS TDA was initiated, while desktop reviews at the regional and national level were also undertaken.

- The 3rd RSC Meeting was conducted, with feedback provided on project progress and accomplishments in 2021, along with guidance on proposed work and budget plans for 2022.



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Indonesia

- National governance concept for Indonesia's National Inter-Ministerial Committee structure was developed, along with the concept and draft legal framework for Indonesia's national representation on the SPF.
- Province-level policy documents have been developed in Indonesia, namely in Papua (Kolepom MPA establishment, Kolepom RPZ Task Force, IUU Fisheries Forum) and NTT (Marine Pollution Task Force).
- Gender assessment and action plans for Rote Ndao and the Aru Islands have been completed.
- NPB meetings were conducted to facilitate the review of various assessments and project progress, along with approval of the workplan and budget for 2022.



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Papua New Guinea

- Established and conducted NPB and NIMC meetings which facilitated the review of various assessments and project progress, and approval of the work plan and budget for 2022, whereby various key stakeholders were engaged.
- National consultation workshop on RGM and SPF conducted.
- The following assessments were also completed: (a) legal framework in marine and fisheries in relation to South Fly; (b) stakeholder analysis and capacity evaluation; (c) biophysical and socioeconomic characteristics; and (d) a capacity development plan for the project.



Image Credit:
UNMIT/Martine
Perret

Timor-Leste

- An eight-member task force for ATSEA-2 Project Coordination was established, guiding the process of NIMC establishment in Timor-Leste.
- RGM and SPF workshop consultations were conducted at the national level.
- An LOA between MAF and UNDP was signed to facilitate better project coordination and support for implementation in Timor-Leste.

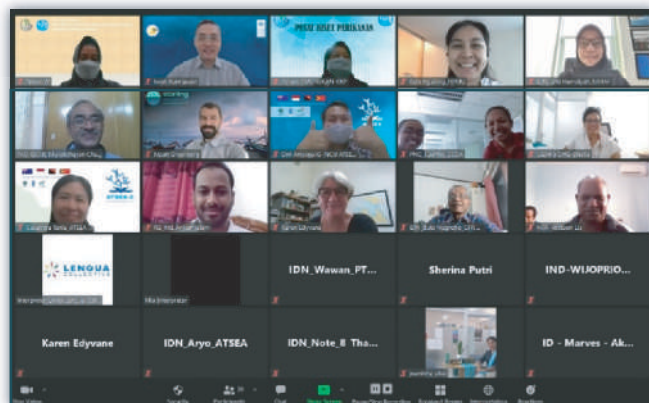
Next Step

Moving forward, the Project will continue to engage key stakeholders through in-country consultations regarding the design of the RGM and SPF, as well as the NIMCs and national SPFs (scheduled for review and endorsement at the 4th RSC Meeting in November 2022). Next steps will focus on capacity building/knowledge-sharing on climate change; GESI Action Plan and results of the financial landscape assessment for consideration in policy and work and budget planning; updating of the TDA to confirm priority environmental issues of concern in the region; and updating the regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which will be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Establishing Cooperative Governance Mechanisms for the ATS Region



In support of the strengthening of ATS regional governance, a regional governance assessment was initiated in June 2020. With the support of PT Hatfield Indonesia (PTH), the aim was to identify the most viable mechanism for ATS governance, in support of long-term implementation of the ATS SAP and NAPs. The strength of this mechanism will ultimately depend on the extent to which littoral nations and local stakeholders commit to its implementation. A consensus-building process is therefore essential to securing wider and deeper stakeholder engagement – providing the foundation upon which effective governance can subsequently be built. To that end, the following key initiatives, including a series of stakeholder consultations, were undertaken:



2020

- ⦿ Initial draft of regional governance assessment report with 3 options for RGM and SPF design presented to 2nd RSC Meeting

May 2021

- ⦿ Draft Regional Governance Assessment Report presented at two Regional Consultation Workshops on RGM and SPF
- ⦿ ATS countries commitment to pursue RGM reaffirmed
- ⦿ Key recommendations: simplify the structure; build on ATSEA-1 and ATSEF lessons and success; clarify functions; articulate the niche of the mechanism; pursue further in-country consultations

June 2021

- ⦿ Regional Governance Assessment Report finalized along with a Guidance Document on the development of RGM; the document served as key reference for subsequent country consultations

September-November 2021

- ⦿ National Advisors for RGM and SPF engaged
- ⦿ One-on-one interviews and national consultations conducted in Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Indonesia; Rapid assessment and socialization initiated in Australia

December 2021

- ⦿ Results from National Consultations presented at the 3rd RSC Meeting; Roadmap for finalization of RGM and SPF process endorsed by RSC
- ⦿ Consultative Meeting on Regional SPF conducted with 59 participants, as potential key regional SPF members, provided inputs and advice for consideration in the refinement of RGM and establishment and operation of SPF

Recommendations of the Regional Governance Assessment Report

The report from PTHI proposed a number of recommendations. These included a governance model/mechanism, comprising a Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) through which representatives from the four ATS countries can provide oversight and policy guidance for the implementation of SAP and NAPs; a Regional Steering Committee (RSC), composed of development partners who can support project development and resource mobilisation; a SAP Coordinating Unit, serving as Secretariat to the RSC and responsible for monitoring and evaluation of SAP/NAP implementation; and a Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF) to support the implementation of the SAP/NAPs, led by a Local Leaders Council and supported by a Secretariat (composed of National Coordinators

from the four countries), along with various colleges and subsidiary committees and National Inter-Ministerial Committees (NIMCs) to coordinate the implementation of the SAP/NAPs at the national level.

Recommendations took into consideration the prevailing institutional, political, economic, environmental and social issues affecting ATS countries and the wider region. Furthermore, lessons learned from existing regional and sub-regional initiatives and mechanisms were also considered. Further review of the proposed mechanism was discussed at the national consultation workshops, wherein further insights and advice were provided by the countries.

Initial Results of National Consultations

The following feedback, recommendations and guidance were generated by various government and non-government stakeholders in response to the series of consultations completed in 2021, which included the 3rd RSC Meeting and the SPF Consultative Meeting:



On the importance of the RGM and SPF - The national consultations in Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea all provided robust support for regional collaboration and a regional governance mechanism. This was echoed at the SPF consultative meeting, which emphasised the value of the RGM – especially the SPF – in facilitating broader stakeholder engagement, collaboration on data exchange and research initiatives; and the identification and alignment of common issues, plans and programmes, potential projects and monitoring of progress in support of SAP and NAPs implementation.



Design of the RGM model - Feedback varied according to the differing contexts in each country, but there was a general consensus on the need for a cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder model of cooperation that is simple and easy to understand; well-coordinated and effective, without being too resource-intensive. Cooperation should be voluntary and non-binding and, to bring added value to the ATS and ensure continued collaboration beyond ATSEA-2, must complement existing platforms. In addition, various elements of the proposed RGM outlined by PTHI were viewed by stakeholders as relevant to and essential for its implementation, although most also acknowledged the need for modifications.



On the expected roles and services of the RGM - While each of the three countries had their own nuanced view in relation to the role of the RGM, there was agreement that the regional mechanism would help to provide a forum through which transboundary issues and their solutions could be discussed. This would help to facilitate collaborative dialogues on policy at the regional level, along with technical assistance, capacity building and the facilitation of project development to support SAP/NAP implementation. The regional mechanism would also open up opportunities for access to financing for programme implementation.



Priority issues - Again, although each country had its own priority issues, their shared priorities generally aligned with the issues outlined in the TDA. These included fisheries resource management, IUU fishing, marine debris/pollution management, conservation and habitat biodiversity, and climate change.



On SPF TOR and Guidelines - The SPF Consultative Meeting recommended inclusion of the following: 1) ensure multisectoral representation in the regional SPF; 2) further clarify the criteria for identification of SPF members; 3) clarify the delineation of roles and process or mechanisms for coordination of the different elements of the RGM and the SPF, possibly through the development of supporting SOPs; 4) provide further information on the financial mechanism to support operation of the RGM and the SPF in particular; and 5) secure strong support from the government as well as from other key partners and stakeholders, to ensure the sustainability of the RGM and the SPF.

The national consultations were facilitated by National Advisors: for Australia, Ms. Anissa Lawrence; for Indonesia, Dr. Ir. Gellwyn Jusuf; for Papua New Guinea, Mr. Vagileke Rei; and for Timor-Leste, Dr. Augusto Lourdes da Silva. The 3rd RSC Meeting was conducted on 6-7 December 2021 and endorsed a roadmap for further in-country consultations in 2022. The preferred/agreed mechanism and transition plan will be presented at the 4th RSC Meeting, scheduled for November 2022.

Regional Governance Assessment



Guidance Document on the Development of Regional Governance Mechanism for the ATS Region



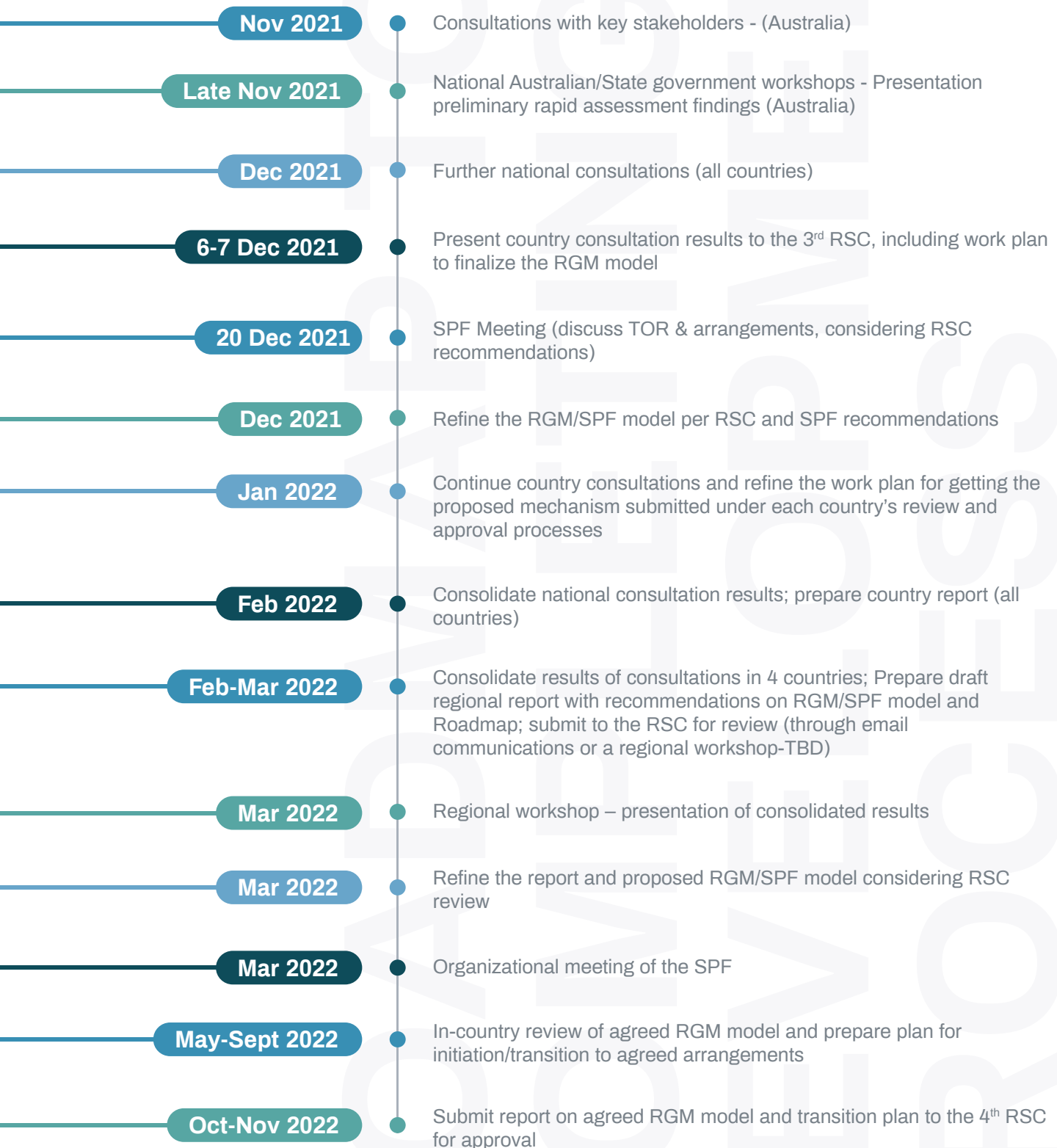
Proceedings of the Consultative Meeting on the Regional SPF



Report on Facilitation of Developing National Inter-Ministry Committees (NIMCs) to Support Arafura and Timor Seas Governance in Indonesia



ROADMAP TO COMPLETING THE RGM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS (Approved by 3rd RSC Meeting)



Country Initiatives



As part of the development of the RGM, various initiatives were also undertaken in Indonesia, PNG and Timor-Leste to support institutional strengthening and establishment of inter-agency and multi-sectoral collaboration mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels to support the implementation of the ATS SAP and NAPs.

In Indonesia, an institutional mapping and regulatory review was undertaken to support the development of a draft conceptual model for the National Inter-Ministerial Committee (NIMC), which includes the legal structure option, operational plan, and roles and responsibilities of the members. Consultations through FGDs with several ministries were undertaken to identify potential members of the NIMC and relevant programmes that could contribute to the implementation of the ATS SAP and NAP. In parallel, a draft conceptual model of the country's SPF, which also identifies the country's representation in the regional SPF, was prepared and has since undergone a process of internal review.

The design of the NIMC is currently being finalised according to the proposed structure of the SPF. At the provincial level, the ATSEA-2 team has facilitated expert discussions in support of the development of policy documents that promote the integration of policies and incentives, thereby providing enabling conditions for marine, coastal and fisheries management. These include the Decree of the Governor of Papua (No. 188.4/228/2020) on the initiation of the Papua IUU Fisheries Forum, the Decree of the Governor of Papua (No. 188.4/295/2019) concerning the establishment of a Marine Protected Area in Kolepom and the Decree of the Governor of NTT (No.260/2021) regarding the formation of the Marine Pollution Task Force. ATSEA-2 has also provided input and support in the process of updating the Management Plan (RPP) of Fisheries Management Area (WPP) 718. The assessment of the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) concept for Rote Ndao District has been completed.



In PNG, the National Project Board (NPB) for ATSEA-2 was established and operationalised to provide oversight on project planning, review and implementation. A stakeholder analysis and capacity evaluation and an assessment of the PNG legal framework in marine and fisheries in relation to South Fly District were also completed, to provide a basis for identifying

members and organising the NIMC and national SPF for PNG, while also preparing a capacity development plan for the project. Members of the NIMC and SPF, which include representatives from the national and sub-national governments, academia, NGOs/CSOs, private sector and development partners, were initially engaged in the project inception meeting and in subsequent activities at the regional, national and sub-national levels. The ATSEA-2 NCU also conducted one-on-one consultations with them to identify areas of convergence and potential opportunities for collaboration. A baseline assessment of biophysical and socioeconomic characteristics of PNG in the ATS area was also completed, which will provide inputs for updating the ATS TDA, along with subsequent updates to the ATS SAP and preparation of NAP for PNG.

PNG Biophysical and Socioeconomic Outline

PNG Legal Framework in Marine and Fisheries

PNG Stakeholders Evaluation and Capacity Assessment in Marine and Fisheries

PNG Capacity Development Plan

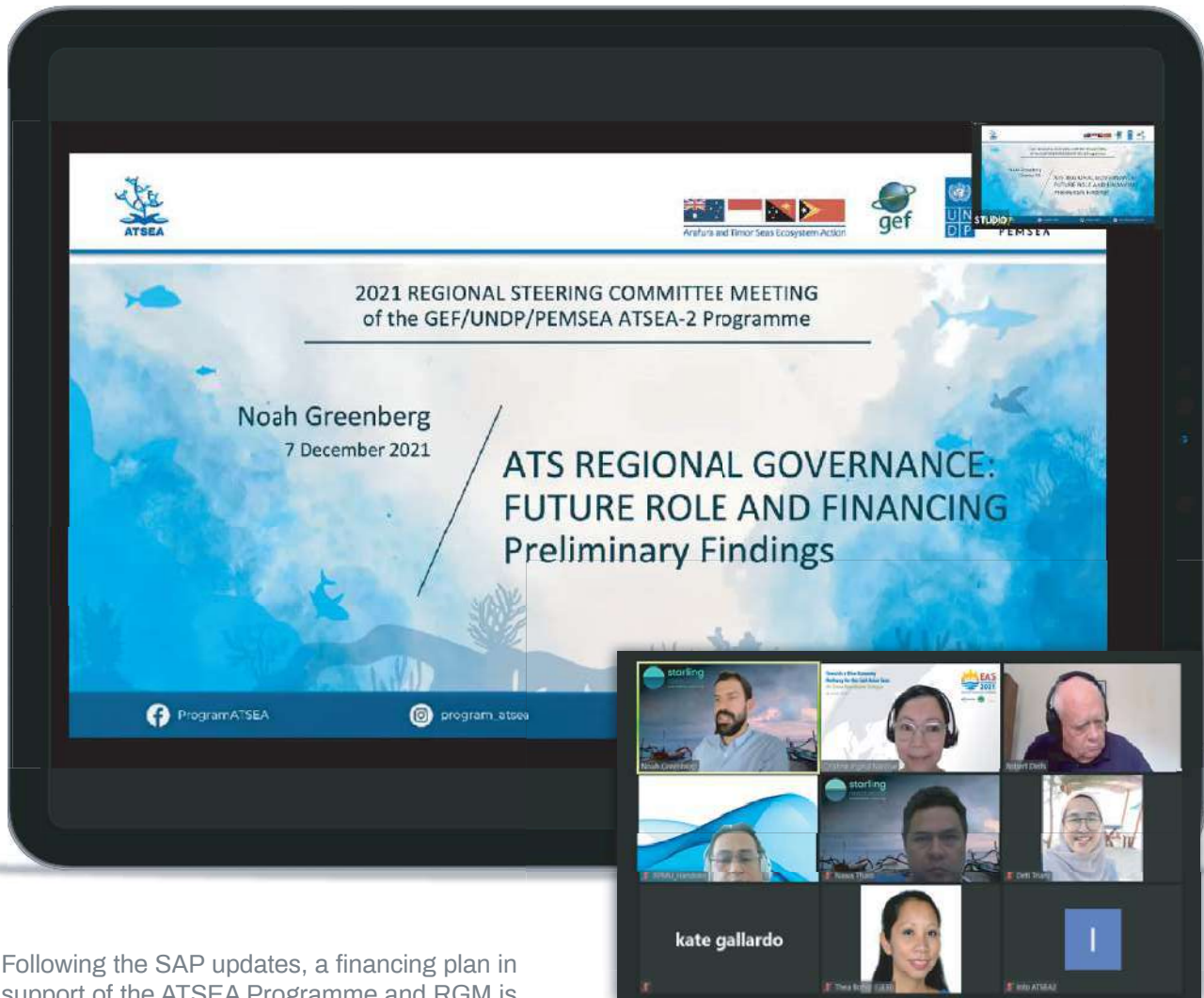


In Timor-Leste, a task force for ATSEA-2 Project coordination was established with key inputs from the MAF Minister's Secretariat and the General Directorate of Fisheries. This development built on the progress of an earlier inter-ministerial meeting, conducted in 2020 regarding the establishment of the NIMC and a draft ToR. The task force is composed of eight members from the National Directorate for Aquaculture, the National Directorate of Fisheries Inspection, and the National Directorate for Planning and Management of Marine Resources. Serving in an advisory capacity, the task force follows up on activities

related to the establishment of the NIMC. A coordination meeting was also held with the Secretary of State for Fisheries and MAF officers at the national and local levels, which led to the development, signing and implementation of a Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) and UNDP on priority activities for 2021 and 2022.

In Australia, support for the RGM and SPF process was facilitated by the ATSEA-2 National Focal Point from the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment of Australia (DAWE), together with a National Advisor. Australia representatives have actively participated in and contributed to the regional consultations and review of the Regional Governance Assessment Report. In recognition of the interim period between ATSEA-1 and ATSEA-2, Australia's strategy focused on socialisation with regards to ATSEA-2 and its objectives, particularly in relation to RGM and SPF, achieved via meetings with relevant government agencies and stakeholder groups. A rapid assessment on RGM and SPF was initiated in 2021 and will continue into early 2022.

Financial Landscape Assessment



Following the SAP updates, a financing plan in support of the ATSEA Programme and RGM is also planned. Considering that the processes of mapping out the financial landscape, identifying the value proposition for the proposed regional mechanisms and securing country inputs takes time, the Regional Project Management Unit (RPMU) initiated a Financial Landscape Assessment for the ATS region in 2021, rather than waiting for the updated SAP to be completed in 2023. This was in line with recommendations put forward at the 2nd RSC Meeting, held in November 2020.

With support from Starling Resources, an initial draft Financial Landscape Assessment was developed, in order to clarify the ATS region's current position and core strategic issues and advantages in relation to marine, coastal and fisheries management and financing. The assessment also identifies gaps that will need

to be addressed by any regional governance mechanism, along with possible future services and financial opportunities such a mechanism may be able to offer the region.

Initial results from the assessment were presented at the 3rd RSC Meeting. The assessment will be refined to reflect the results of interviews and surveys conducted in January 2022. Once finalised, this report will provide a basis for the development of a five-year cost estimate and financing plan for the implementation of the updated SAP.

Updating of ATS TDA

Data collection sites

Abilio da Fonseca, P...

Introduction

Strengthening of ATS regional governance

Recovering and sustaining fisheries

Restoring degraded habitats for sustainable provision of ecosystem services

Producing land-based and marine sources of pollution

Protecting key marine species

Adaptation to the impacts of climate change

Updating TDA

Updating SAPs

In November 2021, the ATSEA-2 Project began updating the ATS TDA, to support the scheduled updating of the SAP. The TDA provides technical analyses of environmental and priority transboundary problems, impacts and causes, while also providing the factual basis for the development of the SAP. Guided by results and recommendations from SAP and NAP implementation assessments, the existing TDA (originally completed in 2012) will be updated with current information on governance, ecological and socioeconomic conditions, priority issues at the national and regional levels, and relevant international commitments and targets. To facilitate this process, the ATSEA-2 RPMU has engaged a TDA specialist, Prof. Karen Edyvane, to lead the process and the preparation of the updated TDA, along with national

consultants in Indonesia (Centre for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies – IPB University), PNG (Aqua Marino Services) and Timor-Leste (PEC Consulting LDA) to support primary and secondary data gathering and preparation of country synthesis reports. Desktop review of available data/information, along with gaps and needs assessments for primary and secondary data gathering were also initiated in December 2021. The RPMU will coordinate with the National Project Directors/Focal Points and NCUs for the establishment of National Working Groups (NWGs) to facilitate national inputs, and a Regional Working Group (RWG) to provide the regional perspective in the TDA process planned until November 2022.

Stocktaking Review of ATS SAP Implementation



In preparation for the updating of the TDA, SAP and NAPs and the development of a monitoring system for the SAP, a stocktaking review of the implementation of the current SAP and NAPs was initiated in November 2021. With the support of a consultant – Mr. Chris Rotinsulu, who worked closely with the RPMU and NCUs – a desktop assessment of initiatives contributing toward the governance and ecosystem objectives and targets in the SAP

was initiated. A template for gathering data/information on various national initiatives in the four countries (outside of ATSEA-2 Project) was also prepared. FGDs were undertaken with key agencies and institutions in the countries in early 2022 to gather and validate information for the completion of the stocktaking report by end of March 2022.

Summary

Significant progress has been made in 2021 with regards to gathering stakeholder inputs and perspectives toward the development of a participatory and collaborative governance mechanism for sustainable development in the ATS region. Further stakeholder consultations

are planned in 2022, to further refine the proposed mechanism considering the legal, institutional, administrative and financial aspects in each country, and to cultivate ownership and commitment for the agreed mechanism.

Third RSC Meeting: ATSEA-2 Looks Ahead to 2022



From 6 to 7 December 2021, the 3rd Regional Steering Committee (RSC) Meeting of the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase II (ATSEA-2) was hosted by the Government of Australia through the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE). The event, which was held using a hybrid format (both offline and online via Zoom), brought together 68 representatives from Australia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste. The Meeting was chaired by Dr. Andrew Chek, Director of the Pacific Engagement Section of DAWE Australia; and co-chaired by Dr. Sophie Kemkhadze, Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP Indonesia. The RSC serves as an interim RCC, offering a platform for policy dialogue and decision-making on the implementation of the ATS SAP.

The meeting reviewed the 2021 target implementation, as well as the 2022 Work Plan and budget for the regional and national components for Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste. There was a review of initial results from ongoing consultations on the development of the regional governance mechanism and stakeholder partnership for the ATS region and the financial landscape assessment, while guidance was provided in relation to next steps and a roadmap for the completion of assessments was presented.

The Theory of Change (ToC) for the ATSEA-2 Project, which was prepared in line with the recommendations from the first and second RSC meetings, was presented at the meeting. Noting how the ToC facilitates a better understanding of the linkages between project



activities and outcomes and the targets in the SAP, the RSC requested the RPMU to facilitate a separate, more extensive presentation to country members.

The meeting also considered the MPA Network Design and Regional Plan of Action for the Protection of Marine Turtles. The plans were endorsed by Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste, while further discussions will be conducted in Indonesia to facilitate more detailed review. Endorsement of the documents is expected in early 2022.

The meeting also noted the Mid-Term Review (MTR) process scheduled in 2022 and requested UNDP Indonesia to provide more detailed guidance on the schedule and requirements to facilitate country and project team preparations. In response to a new initiative proposed by representatives from Indonesia to establish a contingency plan and revolving fund for oil spill mitigation in the ATS region, the RSC meeting also recommended undertaking further discussions upon availability of a concept note.

The 3rd RSC Meeting was successfully concluded following a packed two-day schedule, in which objectives were set, various key decisions were made and subsequent

courses of action agreed upon. A number of speakers at the meeting expressed their gratitude to the ATSEA-2 Project team for successfully delivering the key project outputs, in spite of significant challenges posed by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The full and diverse agenda of the meeting reflected the many and varied works delivered by the ATSEA-2 Project in 2021. The fruitful outputs of the session also bode well for the continued progress and development of the Project in the year ahead.



Developing the Guide for Facilitators to Support Local Climate Change Assessments



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

Building on last year's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) Report, the Guide for Facilitators was developed in 2021 to provide tools and processes that can support managers and/or NGOs as facilitators working in the ATS region.

The Guide has been designed for use by facilitators, as they endeavour to support and empower communities that rely on coastal and marine resources. Developed for use by community groups, NGOs and practitioners involved in conservation and management efforts, it is intended to help facilitators incorporate regional climate change information

into local assessments and adaptation planning. In practice, this relates to policy development, planning and other processes that seek to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources, minimise climate change impacts and maximise community wellbeing.

The Guide provides tools for understanding climate vulnerability at the local level and helps

managers and communities to prepare for and respond to climate-driven impacts, so they can identify effective and targeted adaptation measures. It offers decision-support tools for practitioners and NGOs as facilitators working with communities, so they can incorporate climate change into local planning.

Assessing the Vulnerability of the Arafura and Timor Seas Marine Region to Climate Change

Oeseli Village Community Action Plan



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

Implementing CCA strategies in Oeseli Village, Rote Ndao

Located at the southernmost point of Indonesia's East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) Province, Oeseli Village was once a military base, but is now better known for its initiatives to protect vulnerable species and habitats. Home to around 2,800 residents, the village was the subject of two research methodologies implemented by the ATSEA-2 Project in 2021: community immersion and focus group discussions (FGDs).

The Project set out to build rapport with, observe and listen to the community and share emerging findings with them. The project also involved underwater observation of coral reefs, fishing and participatory mapping to identify the location of the fish and their habitats.

“ The weather at sea is growing more unpredictable and the seaweed gets damaged, turning mushy, like porridge. It didn't used to be like this, but now the weather is more temperamental. ”

**- Metri,
a seaweed farmer from Oeseli Village**

The FGDs provided more detail on the main challenges experienced in Oeseli Village. For example, the quantity of fish is in decline, especially for teatfish, lobster and snapper. Moreover, many families rely on income generated from seaweed production, but the quality and quantity are also deteriorating. Discussions with local stakeholders also confirmed that the reefs are being destroyed, that illicit hunting of turtles continues in the region, and potassium and other poisons remain prevalent in fishing. Mangroves and seagrass beds are not viewed as alternative sources of income, although ecotourism is viewed favourably.

In the same FGDs, community members identified local adaptive actions and rated them based on a series of criteria, including their perceived effectiveness and community/social acceptance, along with cost and feasibility. The group members then voted to select which of the identified actions would result in the most positive impacts for the community.

An action plan for climate change adaption in Oeseli Community was developed and will be submitted to the local government for consideration in the ICM action plan for Rote Ndao District of NTT Province.

Working to achieve Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in the ATS region



As part of the ATSEA-2 Project's commitment to strengthen understanding, application and mainstreaming of Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles in project

management and activities, surveys and GESI analysis – including draft GESI Action Plan and Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) – have been completed in 2021.

GESI Learning Sessions



With support from an expert in the field, the ATSEA-2 Project hosted two separate rounds of six GESI Learning Sessions in 2021, for RPMU (February to April 2021) and NCUs (October to November 2021).

These were held online, via the Zoom application. Learning sessions focused on a range of issues relating to inclusion and equality for those who currently live and work in the ATS region.

Topics of the training explored the concepts of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression; highlighted GESI-related facts and figures in marine protection and coastal resource management; studied the intersectionality of gender, climate change adaptation and coastal resource management; discussed gender-sensitive indicators and gender-responsive monitoring systems; and addressed gender-sensitive reporting and communicating mechanisms.

Regional GESI Webinar



On 10 June 2021, ATSEA-2 joined forces with the Global Marine Commodities (GMC) Project during an event at the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2021. Together, we hosted a Zoom webinar entitled “Mainstreaming Gender and Social Inclusion in Fishery and Marine Sector in the ATS Region”.

Attended by participants from around the ATS region and beyond, the webinar presented key GESI principles and the importance of mainstreaming them to achieve

sustainable development. Presentations highlighted growing efforts from key entities in the ATS region on GESI responsiveness, as well as the need for more efforts to engage women and other minority groups in the conduct of various initiatives related to fisheries and coastal and marine development.

Other contributors to the webinar included Ms. Kusni Setyowati, who is the Director of Kelola Laut Nusantara; Ms. Alda Sousa Lemos da Rosa, a senior staff member at the National Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Timor-Leste; Ms. Yenny Widjaja, the gender focal point for UNDP-Indonesia; Ms. Karen Hildahl, the gender focal point for global marine commodities; and Dr. Dedi Adhuri, coordinator of the Maritime Study Group at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences.

Combined GESI and SES survey



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

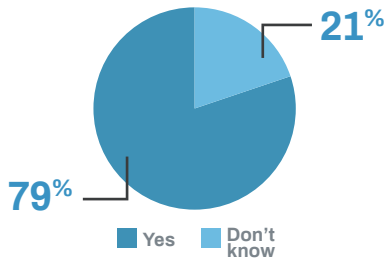
A combined GESI and Social and Environmental Safeguard (SES) survey was conducted in all eight ATS project sites: Aru, Merauke and Rote Ndao in Indonesia; Covalima, Manatuto, Manufahi and Viqueque in Timor-Leste; and South Fly District in Papua New Guinea. Using Kobo Toolbox for field data collection, the survey engaged a total of 80 respondents from coastal and fishing communities, which resulted in draft survey results and narrative analysis, along with

a draft GESI Action Plan for the region. The survey results were also considered in the updated ATSEA-2 Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), as well as in the development of the corresponding SES Management Plans at the country and regional level, and aligned with the updated SES programming principles of UNDP.

Women in the Fishing Industry

Indonesia

Important Role of Women in Fishing Industry (n=33)

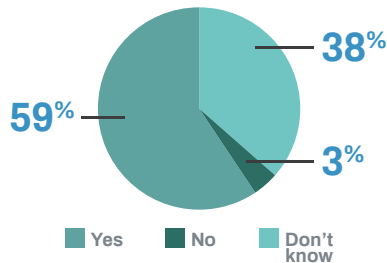


Why are women important in fishing industry?

- ⦿ Administration division at the fisheries office
- ⦿ Assist in fish processing
- ⦿ Assist in marketing/selling or managing finances
- ⦿ More patient and meticulous
- ⦿ Same capability as men
- ⦿ Fixing broken net
- ⦿ To meet family income needs
- ⦿ Seaweed cultivation

Timor Leste

Important Role of Women in Fishing Industry (n=32)

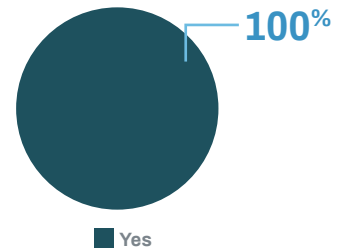


Why are women important in fishing industry?

- ⦿ Assist in fish processing
- ⦿ Assist in marketing/selling or managing finances
- ⦿ Gender balance
- ⦿ Fixing broken net
- ⦿ Support the husband in doing fishing activities
- ⦿ To meet family income needs
- ⦿ When men are tired, women can take the men's role in fishing

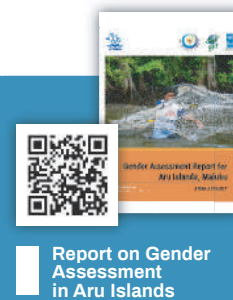
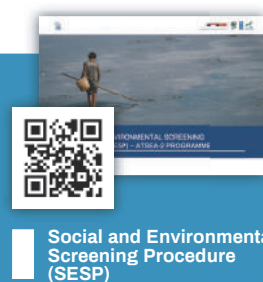
Papua New Guinea

Important Role of Women in Fishing Industry (n=15)



Why are women important in fishing industry?

- ⦿ Assist in marketing/selling or managing finances
- ⦿ Women do better at mud crabbing
- ⦿ Support the husband in doing fishing activities
- ⦿ To meet family incomes needs
- ⦿ Women involvement needed to produce the volume required





Investigating GESI in South Fly District in PNG, and Rote Ndao and Aru in Indonesia

In 2021, the GESI survey set out to gather information on challenges faced by the communities of Rote Ndao, Merauke and the Aru Islands. Results indicated that family incomes have decreased, with women experiencing higher rates of stress and anxiety than men.

Gender segregation was also evident in productive, reproductive and public roles, resulting in imbalanced power relations between women and men in accessing marine and fisheries resources, which also limited the ability of women to overcome discursive inequalities caused by climate change and environmental degradation. Through studies in each location, similar disparities became apparent.

“ The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated gender disparity, as domestic chores are increasing and women become more vulnerable to this situation. This calls for all levels of society to work together ”

- Marthen Putnarubun,
Head of Women Empowerment and
Child Protection Office of Aru Islands Regency

Aru Islands Regency, Indonesia

In April 2021, the study was also carried out in five villages of the Aru Islands Regency. It employed qualitative methods in the form of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) involving 71 women and 63 men who were relevant actors, stakeholders and authorities. The analysis found there was capacity segregation between men and women in several dimensions, including access to capacity building and different entitlement based on local practices or culture. The study discovered that gender issues in the fishing sector have been neglected and perpetuated for several reasons, including the perception of fisheries as a masculine domain, gender stereotyping of women's physical condition as unsuited to fishing and voyaging at sea, and the belief that women are not as technically astute as their male counterparts when it comes to fisheries knowledge.

Rote Ndao, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia

All respondents' incomes had been affected, to some degree, by the Covid-19 pandemic in Rote Ndao. Participants noted that their earnings suffered a drop of around 50 to 70 percent since the pandemic began. Loss of livelihood has impacted incomes and invariably caused respondents to feel less economically secure. However, respondents in Rote Ndao noted that they were assisted by their husbands and/or other household members. This is mainly because of the kinship system in rural areas. However, the burden still falls on women, who may experience higher rates of stress and anxiety.

South Fly District, Papua New Guinea

South Fly, like many other parts of Papua New Guinea (PNG), is a patrilineal society; men dominate many aspects of life, while cultural norms tend to put women second. This can be seen in the artisanal fishery sector of South Fly, where men are found in most links of the fishery supply chain, while women are typically involved only in gear preparation and selling of fish at market, or in less labour-intensive fishery activities like trapping mud crabs. Minority social groups are a rarity in South Fly. During the GESI and SES survey, many male interviewees noted that women manage the household better, especially in terms of finances. Although men are generally more active in the fishing industry, the critical role that women play is becoming more widely recognised.

“ Fishing cannot happen in the village without women support ”

- Female respondent from Tureture Village, South Fly District

Following completion of the GESI surveys, the ATSEA-2 Project plans to facilitate further discussions involving the MMAF and women empowerment officials at the national, provincial and local level in Aru, South Fly and Rote Ndao, to tailor gender mainstreaming in each destination, including identification of shared roles and responsibilities. Through collaboration among stakeholders, women in the ATS region will be encouraged to play a more prominent role in decision-making processes related to marine and coastal management.

ENHANCING ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE



Image Credit: Chris Alexander for ATSEA-2 Project



5-YEAR TARGET OUTCOMES OF COMPONENT 2:

- Improved management of fisheries and other coastal resources
- Reduced marine pollution
- Coastal and marine biodiversity conserved through protection of habitats and species
- ICM incorporating climate change adaptation considerations, implemented at the local level towards more sustainable use and conservation of ecosystem goods and services.

The main focus of Component 2 is to carry out actions in response to the environmental objectives of the ATS SAP and NAPs, thereby contributing to the improvement of ATS ecosystems through improved management of fisheries and other coastal resources for livelihoods, nutrition, ecosystem health and implementation of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM).

Despite a number of difficulties and restrictions relating to Covid-19, the ATSEA-2 Project has made significant progress in contributing to the improvement of the ATS region's carrying capacity during the past year. For instance, all regional and some national thematic assessment reports related to IUU fishing, marine pollution and habitat and biodiversity conservation have been successfully completed. Furthermore, the development of regional – and some site and species-specific EAFM plans – remain ongoing, with additional primary data being gathered through various sources (e.g., online surveys, virtual FGDs of advisory forums and deployment of enumerators). A number of on-the-ground initiatives have also been launched with regards to ICM implementation.

Considering the scale and complexity of issues addressed under Component 2, the ATSEA-2 Project has enlisted the support of various partners, through a range of collaborative discussions and joint activities. A summary of progress at the regional and local levels under Component 2 is outlined below:

Component 2 | Key Outputs in 2021



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Regional

- Profiling of red snapper fisheries conducted
- Draft EAFM plan for red snapper developed
- EAFM training and Training of Trainer (ToT) delivered to local universities, government, and NGOs representatives
- Study to refine baseline estimates of IUU fishing conducted
- IUU Fishing policies and regulations reviewed for all littoral nations of the ATS region
- Collaborative discussions conducted with RPOA-IUU in support of regional IUU assessments
- Priority areas of collaboration and support identified during ATSEA-2 participation at the RPOA-IUU Coordination Committee Meeting
- Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Information System strengthened
- Support for Global Record of Fishing Vessels Refrigerated Transport and Supply Vessel (Global Record) identified
- Lessons learned on community-based surveillance in selected ATS sites documented
- Assessment Report on Marine and Land-based Pollution in the ATS Region completed
- Webinar on Marine and Land-based Pollution in the ATS Region conducted
- Regional profile of ecosystem assets and connectivity and an evaluation of pressures completed
- Regional Ecosystem Valuation Report completed
- Virtual Database and Information Management System (DIMS) Training conducted
- A series of national and regional consultations on the draft of MPA Network design and sea turtle action plan conducted



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Timor-Leste

- EAFM plan for Red Snapper in the Timor Seas (field survey report, fishery baselines report, and EAFM plan) completed
- Capacity building on sustainable fishing practices in Manufahi, Manatuto and Lautem, and seafood processing in Manufahi conducted
- Report on land- and marine-based pollution in Timor-Leste completed
- Community groups on marine turtles' conservation in Nino Konis Santana National Park in Timor-Leste has been identified and engaged
- Protection of catchment areas in Manatuto and Manufahi against future erosion and mudslides promoted through tree planting activities as part of ICM initiatives
- Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) baseline study and Strategic Implementation Plan in Posto Administrativo of Barique, Manatuto Municipality completed



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Indonesia

- Fisheries pre-assessment, profiling, and value chain analysis reports are available for red snapper and shrimp in Aru and barramundi in Papua, Indonesia
- IUU fisheries assessment conducted for Aru and Merauke
- Capacity building for community-based surveillance, vessel registration, e-logbook, and data management and analysis conducted
- Training on building data science capacity for marine fisheries resources surveillance conducted
- Provided socio-economic data and information required for the resonation process of SAP South-East Aru (on fisheries business and gender)
- Status of habitats and ecosystems in the Southeastern Aru Islands Marine Sanctuary identified
- Zonation Task Force in place supporting the zonation analysis, fisheries data and mangrove data analysis in Kolepom
- Developed a biodiversity atlas of the ATS region focusing on Aru, Merauke and Rote, providing spatial information on biodiversity, resource use and marine resource threat modelling
- Assessment Report on Marine and Land-based Pollution in Rote Ndao Indonesia completed
- Webinar on the Mitigation and Management of Oil Spills in the Timor Sea conducted
- Economic valuation assessment for Kolepom and Aru completed
- Gender assessment in Aru and Rote Ndao completed
- Action plan of marine pollution task force in NTT Province developed
- ICM assessment in Rote Ndao completed



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia for
ATSEA-2 Project

Papua New Guinea

- Development of artisanal fisheries management plan in Papua New Guinea initiated
- Capacity Development Plan for training and awareness on sustainable fishing developed

Next Step

In 2022, the ongoing process of TDA updating will include refinement of certain thematic studies, including ground-truthing. The draft EAFM Plan for Red Snapper Fisheries in the ATS will undergo a process of consultation with ATS stakeholders, then be finalised and presented at the 4th RSC Meeting in November. With regards to oil spill preparedness and response, quarterly capacity building webinars and an exchange trip will be conducted together with OSRL. Another workshop will be facilitated to support expert refinement of the Regional Sea Turtle Action Plan.

At the national level, capacity building for community-based surveillance will continue in all countries. Specifically, PNG will focus on developing the Artisanal Fisheries Management Plan for South Fly District; regarding marine pollution, an early warning system will be developed for Rote Ndao, Indonesia; and for biodiversity protection, Indonesia will continue to support the improvement of management effectiveness in the Southeast Aru Tenggara MPA, along with the recently designated Kolepom MPA. Meanwhile, Timor-Leste will take a similar course of action for the existing Nino Konis Santana MPA and initiate the processes for the establishment of new MPA in Betano-Klakuk; regarding ICM, plans will continue to be developed for Rote Ndao (Indonesia) and Barique Posto Administrativo (Timor-Leste).

Devising an EAFM Plan for ATS Key Commodities



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

In order to develop a regional EAFM plan for red snapper in the ATS region, participation from key stakeholders across sectors is critical. That's why, in 2021 ATSEA-2 established an EAFM advisory forum, comprising representatives from local, national and regional government, academia, private enterprise and non-profit organisations.

The Project also commissioned Melbourne-based Fishwell Consulting and Bali-based Starling Resources to help guide ATS countries in the process of improving their red snapper fisheries status. This took the form

of a series of virtual focus group discussions (FGDs), which were set up to solicit inputs into EAFM planning. At the national level, EAFM plans were developed to support the management of red snapper in Aru Islands and the southern coast of Timor-Leste. Other key commodities targeted for management include shrimp in the Aru Islands and barramundi in Merauke. In addition to the developed fisheries profiles and EAFM plans, a fisheries business plan was developed, while assessments of fish consumption levels and value chains were conducted for the Aru Islands and Merauke.

Focus Group Discussions

Held on 9 June 2021 and attended by 45 participants, the first FGD identified priority issues deemed integral to red snapper fisheries. This was followed by the second FGD on 14 July 2021, which discussed goals in more detail and was joined by 57 participants. Both events featured a breakout session, in which participants discussed FGD topics for their respective countries in more detail.

The third FGD took place on 24 August 2021 and was attended by 58 participants, who identified key management actions that can contribute to the goals and objectives identified during the third FGD. The fourth session was conducted on 5 November 2021 and discussed the M&E plan, along with possible governance

structures and financing mechanisms. This session was attended by 40 participants from various sectors spanning the four ATS countries.

The FGDs were designed to serve as platforms where key ATS stakeholders could meet virtually and provide inputs to the draft plan. The ATSEA-2 Project thereby helped to make the development process as participatory as possible, ensuring plans are built from the ground up, with careful nurturing and guidance from above. Qualitative results from these processes were complemented by quantitative data collection and training, to ensure effective development of the draft plan



Image Credit: Dwi Ayo/ATSEA-2 Project

Qualitative And Quantitative Data Collection

In support of regional Red Snapper EAFM Plan development, a number of initiatives have been undertaken. Between April and June 2021, EAFM online surveys were conducted, to which 55 respondents from four ATS littoral nations contributed. Participants came from a broad and diverse range of sectors, representing

fishers, fisheries managers, fisheries scientists/researchers, and environmental and social NGOs. The survey helped identify key issues for ecological, socio-economic and governance components to be considered in the draft EAFM Plan.



Image Credit: Deti Triani/ATSEA-2 Project



Image Credit: Handoko Susanto/ATSEA-2 Project

Working in partnership with the Centre for Fisheries Research (CFR) of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) of Indonesia, the ATSEA-2 Project conducted profiling and stock assessment of red snappers in Mayangan (Probolinggo) and Merauke (Papua) – two major red snapper landing sites and fishing ports in the ATS region. This was followed by biological investigation of samples collected, in order to identify reproductive health and population dynamics; the resulting data will support the refinement of the ATS Red Snapper EAFM Plan in the months ahead.

In the original plan, it was intended that LIPI and ATSEA-2 would undertake a stock assessment using LIPI's survey vessel in support of the EAFM initiative. However, due to a combination of administrative changes and the limitations imposed by Covid-19, both parties subsequently agreed to explore alternative technical collaboration opportunities in support of fisheries data gathering and management.

An Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management for Red Snapper in the Arafura and Timor Seas – Fishery Baselines



Scaling up RBM in the ATS: Taking a rights-based approach to the management of small-scale red snapper fisheries in the ATS region.



Stakeholder Consultation Report for Arafura and Timor Seas Red Snapper EAFM Planning



Report on EAFM Training and Training of Trainers



Fisheries Management Training



To complement the FGDs, a five-day training session was held from 14 – 18 June 2021, during which fisheries managers from Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste were encouraged to consider field-based conditions, limitations and opportunities. The session also helped to ensure that key stakeholders are aware of, and support activities and objectives related to ATS snapper management. The session was attended by a total of 10 participants from Indonesia, who were joined by eight from Timor-Leste and another eight from Papua New Guinea.

In addition to the five-day Essential EAFM Training, ATSEA-2 also conducted EAFM Training of Trainers (ToT) for 18 top performers of E-EAFM training. Held from 12-14 October 2021, this session was designed to facilitate sharing of best EAFM practices among local stakeholders, thereby helping them to train other fisheries managers in their respective countries.

Outlining an EAFM Plan



Following on from the first round of FGDs, an outline of the EAFM plan began to emerge. A number of common issues – such as bycatch, habitat management, data, surveillance and enforcement in regard to IUU fishing, along with consistent policies and standards across the region – were identified. From those issues, ecological, socio-economic and governance goals and objectives were reviewed, discussed and compiled.

EAFM plan development is an iterative and ongoing process. ATSEA-2 is committed to supporting the implementation of sustainable fisheries in the ATS region, through a combination of good governance, better monitoring and surveillance, and capacity

building. Closely aligned with the precision fisheries concept being implemented by the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), the Red Snapper EAFM Plan focuses on output control (i.e., enforcing the use and management of quotas in fisheries).

The plan, along with its firm basis in stakeholder collaboration, is indicative of the ATSEA-2 Project's commitment to safeguarding the livelihoods and prosperity of coastal people, particularly in transboundary areas, through the implementation of sustainable integrated concepts. Moving forward, collaboration – across all sectors and stakeholder levels – will be key to success in this regard.



Fisheries Business Plan in Merauke and Aru Regency



Fish Consumption Level and Value Chain Assessment Based on Household Survey in Merauke and Aru Regency



Profile of Shrimp Fisheries in Aru



Profile of Barramundi Fisheries in Merauke



Norce Mote: Leading the Way in EAFM

Born in Yapen Waropen in November 1983, Norce Mote is a mother of three who is devoted to two things: family and nature conservation. At 26 years of age, she enlisted as a lecturer at the Water Resources Management Study Programme in the Faculty of Agriculture at Musamus University Merauke (UNMUS). She then went on to study for a Master's degree at the IPB University, majoring in Water Resource Management in the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences.

In just two years and four months, she made the leap from being an expert assistant to a lecturer and was named the best young researcher in Papua. As a lecturer at Musamus University in Merauke, Norce was also asked to be the Head of the Laboratory, with a focus on field practicum activities. In her capacity as lecturer at Musamus University, Norce is known for her track record in assembling members of the working group (Pokja) for a zoning plan of the Kolepom Island Conservation Area in Merauke Regency, Papua; and field biology studies related to fisheries in the Kolepom Island Conservation Area.

“**In the past, fisheries management used a species approach, but we forgot that species depend on the ecosystem and governance in terms of the socio-economic aspects of the community**”

- Norce Mote

From 14-18 June 2021, Norce played a central role in delivering the Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (E-EAFM) training session organised by the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Project. Together with representatives from Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste, Norce shared her thoughts and ideas to develop an EAFM implementation plan for red snapper in the ATS region.

“In the past, fisheries management used a species approach, but we forgot that species also depend on the habitat/ecosystem and governance in terms of the socio-economic aspects of the community, because people take advantage of these species,” said Norce. “For sustainability, fish resources are currently very important in the practice/concept of EAFM that is used,” she added.

“**Life is not about who is the best, but who wants to do good**”

- Norce Mote

In her opinion, the E-EAFM training was invaluable in developing good and sustainable fisheries management based on three components: ecology, human welfare and good governance. In addition, she hopes that in the future the EAFM concept can be expanded to include the management of barramundi (*Lates calcalifer*), white snapper (*Macolor niger*), chinese snapper (*Jhoniuss australis*) and shrimp or other species, so they remain sustainable and long-lasting for years to come.

Combating IUU Fishing in the ATS Region



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing endangers marine biodiversity in the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) region, while also threatening the livelihoods of fishers in littoral nations. In 2021, the ATSEA-2 Project reinforced its commitment to review national policies and regulations relating to IUU Fishing in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Australia with support from Dr. Arie

Afriansyah and a team of experts from the Centre for Sustainable Ocean Policy (CSOP), University of Indonesia.

Key progress in this regard included completion of the Final Report on Review of National Policies and Regulations. Its key findings were as follows:



01

Australia's policy landscape is most developed, with its updated 2nd NPOA on IUU, Sharks and Seabirds; ratification of FAP Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU (PSMA); and amendment of its Fisheries Management and Administration Regulations.

02

Indonesia has its NPOA-IUU 2012-2016 but no second NPOA-IUU yet. Instead, an NPOA for monitoring and countermeasures for destructive fishing activities (2019-2023) has been established. Several regulations have also been put in place since 2015 to support IUU efforts. In 2014 and 2015, new institutions were created to improve coordination: the Marine Security Agency (BAKAMLA) and the Task Force on Illegal Fishing (SATGAS 115).





03

Papua New Guinea has implemented several policy reforms since 2013, including the Fisheries Management Act amendment in 2015, the PNG NFA Licensing Policy 2015, and amendment to the Fisheries Management Regulation in 2016, ratification of the PSMA in 2016, the National Tuna Fishery Management and Development Plan (Part 1) in 2014 and the National Ocean Policy of PNG (2020-2030).

04

Timor-Leste established the National Fisheries Strategy (NFS) Plan for 2014-2020, with the aim of harmonising and updating legal and regulatory frameworks in fisheries and establishing financial institutions for easy access to financing. Several projects are ongoing, although implementation of the strategic plan remains limited at this time.



The report also offered the following key recommendations: regulatory reform for RPOA-IUU countries, starting with compliance procedures and the utilisation of technology to strengthen data collection for data-driven reference; enhancement of licensing requirements (e.g., history of vessels and their compliance); and, in order to deter IUU fishing activities, regulations in support of PSMA implementation are also needed, along with information sharing networks for vessel lists among the participating countries.

As part of ATSEA-2's commitment to combat IUU fishing, the Project has maintained close collaboration with the RPOA-IUU Secretariat in Jakarta. Various IUU assessments and reports have been completed, while ATSEA-2 also participated in the RPOA-IUU Coordination Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2021, and shared key related outputs/initiatives and identified opportunities for future collaboration, such as the 2022 Fisheries Intelligence Training.

Being a non-GEF beneficiary country, Australia does not have specific activities under the ATSEA-2 Project, but the country continues to carry out key activities that contribute to the ATS SAP implementation. One of Australia's key priority areas of concern is IUU Fishing. Through the Southeast Asian Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing (RPOA-IUU), Australia has taken a lead role in Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) in the ATS region. Currently, a five-year programme is being implemented to help combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asia, including the ATS region, focusing on building regional MCS capacity and strengthening of MCS networks. In particular, the programme offers an accredited MCS training course, targeted capacity building assistance, fisheries officer exchange programme, and an innovation fund.



Supporting Efforts in Developing Tools for the FAO Global Record Initiative



Review of National Policies and Regulation of RPOA-IUU Participating Countries



Collaborative Surveillance Best Practices and Lesson Learned Against IUU Fishing

Destination Focus: IUU in Merauke

In Merauke, as with elsewhere, IUU surveillance can be challenging, due to the number of vessels and the vastness of marine areas. This is further exacerbated by financial/technical constraints experienced by the authorities. However, in spite of these obstacles and with support from the ATSEA-2 Project, officials in Merauke are making significant progress in the fight against IUU.

Recent data and information collected from the field indicate that illegal fishing and other criminal activities are still taking place in the fisheries sector. This includes evidence of blast fishing, cyanide fishing, transshipment, the use of unregulated fishing gear and unregistered vessels, and the capture of protected species. As part of efforts to address these issues, and with support from the ATSEA-2 Project, the provincial government of Papua has joined forces with local fisheries stakeholders. On 30 July 2021, the Papua Fisheries Law Enforcement Coordination (TPP) Forum was officially established.

“ With the establishment of this TPP Forum, we will be better able to facilitate communication and coordination as well as exchange data, information and other things needed to be effective in handling fisheries crimes in the Papua region ”

- Ir. Iman Djuniawal, M.Si
Head of the Marine and Fisheries Service of Papua Province

Tasked with coordinating investigation processes against criminal activities related to fisheries, this forum will liaise between different law enforcement agencies, thereby facilitating more widespread and coordinated action in response to threats. Its members include key provincial and local-level stakeholders, including, among others, the Fisheries Agency, Environment and Forestry Agency, Transportation Agency, Police and Navy. Part of the forum's remit will be to help manage the flow of information and data between these various stakeholders, synergising their understanding in relation to fisheries law enforcement and ensuring that policies are put into practice.

The Marine Fisheries Resources Surveillance Unit (PSDKP) oversees fishing operations in the region, to ensure laws and regulations are obeyed in the field of fisheries and marine affairs. Led by supervisor and coordinator Fajar Surya Pratama, the department has also been actively educating communities, prosecuting those who break the law and sparking a concerted response to the problem of IUU fishing.

Under the watchful eye of Fajar and the PSDKP, all vessels passing through Merauke have their cargo inspected to assess the quantities and types of fish captured, along with the fishing gear that was used, how many days were spent at sea, the syndicates involved and whether they have the proper documentation in place. Through a mix of socialisation, collaboration and enforcement, PSDKP is working to ensure the sustainability of fish stocks and livelihoods in Merauke and beyond.



Image Credit: Chris Alexander for ATSEA-2 Project

“ The more we coordinate, the more institutions will have authority to act in the marine and fisheries sector ”

- Fajar Surya Pratama, PSDKP

Tackling Marine Pollution in the ATS Region



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

In 2021, the ATSEA-2 Project carried out a regional assessment of marine and land-based pollution hotspots, through country studies aggregated at the LME level. Supported by Dr. Won-Tae Shin as consultant, a number of instructive reports were completed. Meanwhile, the marine and land-based pollution study on the southern coast of Timor-Leste has been completed.

The ATSEA-2 Project organised a regional webinar to present and seek inputs on the results of pollution hotspot analysis. The Project also collaborated with Oil Spill Response Limited of Singapore to build the capacity of the ATS countries on oil spill preparedness and response. The following are a selection of key findings and recommendations from each initiative.

The Final Assessment Report on Marine and Land-based Pollution in the ATS Region

MARINE AND LAND-BASED POLLUTION ASSESSMENT IN THE ARAFURA AND TIMOR SEAS REGION

OBJECTIVES

Identifies the oil pollution hotspots in ATS region through examining the current oil exploration status and trend as well as history of spill incident. This study conducted an oil spill simulation using the classical NOAA Operational Modeling Environment (COMO) to examine the spread of oil slicks in time of oil spill at the scope of the Monitor's mandate.

Identifies marine debris hotspots in ATS region through the analysis of available literature. Two important types of marine debris were selected in this report: 1) derelict debris and 2) lost/debris such as derelict fishing gear.

HOTSPOT ANALYSIS - 1. OIL SPILL

OIL DEVELOPMENT IN TIMOR SEA

IDENTIFYING OIL SPILL VULNERABLE AREAS

OIL SPILL MODELING USING GNOME

GAP IN OIL SPILL GOVERNANCE

HOTSPOT ANALYSIS - 2. MARINE DEBRIS

BY CLASSIFICATION OF MARINE LITTER SOURCES

PRIORITY TYPES OF MARINE DEBRIS IN ATS REGION

THE PATHWAY BY WHICH PLASTIC ENTERS THE WORLD'S OCEAN

SEAFLOOR DEBRIS

FISH CATCH AND GEAR IN ATS REGION

CLASSIFICATION OF MARINE LITTER

SEAFLOOR DEBRIS HOTSPOTS

SEAFLOOR DEBRIS HOTSPOT IN ATS REGION

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. ATS countries (except Australia) ratify the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) 90;

2. Establish a regional platform for oil spill preparedness and response, similar to the Gulf of Thailand model;

3. Establish a regional marine debris monitoring programme to help assess the marine debris situation and to support an awareness-raising campaign on the impacts of marine debris in the region.

In 2021, this regional report confirmed that oil spills and marine debris are two of the most prominent issues affecting the ATS region, caused by a high density of oil rigs and derelict fishing gear as a by-product of intensive fishing, respectively. The report also noted the lack of regional collaborative platforms on oil spill preparedness and response in the region. The assessment offered the following key recommendations:



1 ATS countries (except Australia) ratify the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) 90;



2 Establish a regional platform for oil spill preparedness and response, similar to the Gulf of Thailand model;



3 Establish a regional marine debris monitoring programme to help assess the marine debris situation and to support an awareness-raising campaign on the impacts of marine debris in the region.

LIVE WEBINAR
**WEBINAR ON MARINE AND LAND BASED POLLUTION
IN THE ARAFURA AND TIMOR SEAS REGION**

SPEAKER
Dr. Won-Tae Shin
CEO of Global Ocean, Inc

RESPONDENT
Edelina Melissa, ST, M.Sc
Parks Canada/BCPCC
BC Park Properties Limited Singapore

RESPONDENT
Ir. Dida Migfar Ridha, M.Si
Coordinator, Director of Regional
Capacity Center for Clean Seas

RESPONDENT
Dr. Abilio da Fonseca
Lecturer in National University of Timor-Leste

MODERATOR
Swietenia Puspa Lestari, ST
CEO of Green Ocean Access

DATE: Thursday
27.05.2021

TIME: 09.00-11.00 AM
(GMT +8)

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Program ATSEA | @program_atsea | infoatsea2@pemsea.org

In May 2021, the results of the assessment report on marine and land-based pollution were shared during a webinar, which served as a platform for further information exchange. Entitled ‘Marine and Land-based Pollution in the ATS Region’, the session was conducted via Zoom and included a total of 117 participants. Presentations were delivered by the Regional Capacity Centre for Clean Seas (RC3S) of Indonesia, a pollution expert from Timor-Leste and a representative from OSRL.

Through discussions facilitated by the webinar, additional inputs were received from respondents, which were subsequently considered in the final version of the ATS regional assessment report.

Coordination with Oil Spill Response Limited



In February 2021, RPMU and NCU Indonesia engaged with Oil Spill Response Limited of Singapore (OSRL) to identify areas of possible collaboration and regional exchange in support of ATSEA-2’s targets for addressing marine and land-based pollution in the ATS region.

OSRL offered to support the Project in a number of ways, namely by reviewing the Regional Marine Pollution Hotspot Assessment Report, with particular focus on spill preparedness and response; sharing content from their regular online seminars with ATSEA-2, while also contributing to ATSEA-2 events on the topic of oil spill preparedness; and sharing case studies relevant to the Project.

From 16-18 March 2021, two representatives from the ATSEA-2 Project participated in an OSRL IMO Level 3 Training.



Image Credit: UNDP Timor-Leste for ATSEA-2 Project

Waste Management in Timor-Leste

Located on the south coast of Manatuto Municipality, Uma Boco is one of many coastal villages at risk from the impacts of marine- and land-based pollution. Working together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), ATSEA-2 Project organised an awareness-raising campaign from 23-25 September 2021, which centred around three days of waste management training for local community.

“ This training helps us to learn about the waste that destroys the ecosystem on land and at sea, teaching us how to transform waste into materials that can be reused in our daily needs and can increase our income ”

- Mr. Elidio de Araujo,
State Secretary of Fisheries,
Timor-Leste.

Training focused on raising awareness on the value of biodiversity, engaging various elements of the local community – including youth and women’s groups – in conservation activities. A total of 30 participants from the Uma Boco Tribe were trained in plastic waste management at the household level, which included basic information on the types of plastics, along with demonstrations of how to upcycle plastic waste into products of greater value.

Devising an MPA Network Design and Sea Turtle Action Plan



As part of wider efforts to gather feedback from littoral countries of the ATS region, a series of national and regional consultations were held from 17-31 March 2021, in which the draft Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network design and regional sea turtle action plan were discussed. The main objectives of these consultations were to validate or refine spatial data on coastal and marine resources, including key ecosystems and species; to update key stakeholders in ATS countries on the MPAN design draft document, the proposed roadmap for the establishment of new MPAs in the ATS countries, and the draft regional sea turtle action plan; and to gather inputs and advice from each country in relation to these documents.

The national consultation for Indonesia was held on 17 March and involved a total of 178 participants; the consultation for Australia and Papua New Guinea took place on 18 March, with 28 participants in attendance; Timor-Leste consultations were completed on 24 March, with 36 attendees; and a regional consultation was also held on 31 March, featuring 50 people. The participants included representatives from central and local governments, universities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), donors, women's groups and the private sector. The consultations were conducted online via a virtual platform (Zoom).

MPA Network Design



The consultations yielded useful feedback from ATS countries in relation to the MPA Network design draft and the draft roadmap for the establishment of new MPAs. This included discussions on how to integrate the design with fisheries management, including locations of spawning and aggregation for key species, illegal fishing and fishing seasons.

Emphasis was placed on the need to consider socio-economic aspects in the design, such as traditional marine tenure systems in the ATS region. In addition, the design also highlighted the need to include deep sea MPAs and other

areas of interests for cetacean migratory routes. Finally, the design needs to be linked with other regional initiatives, such as the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF).

The key findings and proposed MPA Network design for the ATS region were shared at the 2021 East Asian Seas Congress Collab, entitled 'Managing Networks and Transboundary Cooperation on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the ASEAN Region', held on 21 October 2021. The event was convened by PEMSEA and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB).



Report on Regional and National Consultations Regarding the Draft MPA Network Design and Regional Sea Turtle Action Plan



Setting Goals, Objectives, and Design of Resilient Arafura and Timor Seas MPA Network



Roadmap for the Establishment of New Marine Protected Areas in the Arafura and Timor Seas

Sea Turtle Action Plan



Key feedback on the draft regional sea turtle action plan included the need for more comprehensive and up-to-date data on sea turtles in ATS region, including genetic stock, nesting sites and seasons, population size, distribution patterns and migratory routes. Other feedback related to identification of priority threats to sea turtles, such as bycatch from fisheries, ghost fishing gear and marine debris/pollution. An incentive mechanism was proposed by participants as an alternative problem-solving approach that included developments in regional funding.

The status report provided the foundation for a draft Regional Plan of Action (RPOA), which was presented during the National and

Regional Consultations conducted in four littoral nations of the ATS region. This process successfully generated additional inputs and has since led to further in-country reviews.

Taking into consideration the inputs from the national and regional consultations, both the draft MPA Network design and corresponding roadmap, along with the Regional Sea Turtle Action Plan were further refined and presented at the 3rd RSC Meeting in December 2021. Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste endorsed both documents, while Indonesia will undertake further in-country review and consultations in early 2022 prior to endorsement of the reports.

Status of Sea Turtles in the Arafura and Timor Seas



Australian Marine Park Management

Australia manages over 200,000km² of coastal and offshore marine parks in the ATS region. Most of this area is in offshore “Australian Marine Parks” managed by the Government of Australia and some coastal and marine parks managed by state and territory governments through a statutory 10-year management plan. A total of US\$ 121 million has been allocated over the next four years for management of the national network of Australian Marine Parks.

In the ATS region, some of the park management activities being undertaken include: (a) undertaking of marine science projects, such as habitat and biodiversity surveys, seafloor mapping and satellite tracking of turtles; and (b) engaging a wider range of organisations and communities, including indigenous groups, to help manage the parks through competitive government grants.

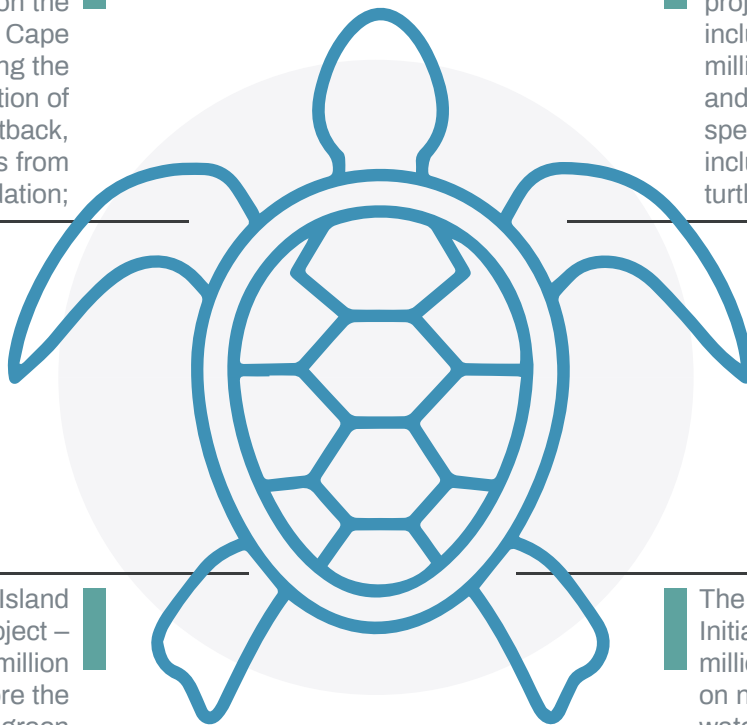
In terms of sea turtle protection, Australia has also implemented the Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles, which provides an overarching framework for the management of marine turtles nationwide. In line with this plan, the country has launched a number of high-profile activities relevant to the ATS region, including:

The Nest to Oceans Project – a US\$8.3 million project on the western edge of Cape York, protecting the nesting population of olive Ridley, flatback, and green turtles from pig predation;

Ocean Leadership – a US\$100 million project, which includes US\$11 million for threatened and migratory marine species initiatives, including marine turtles; and

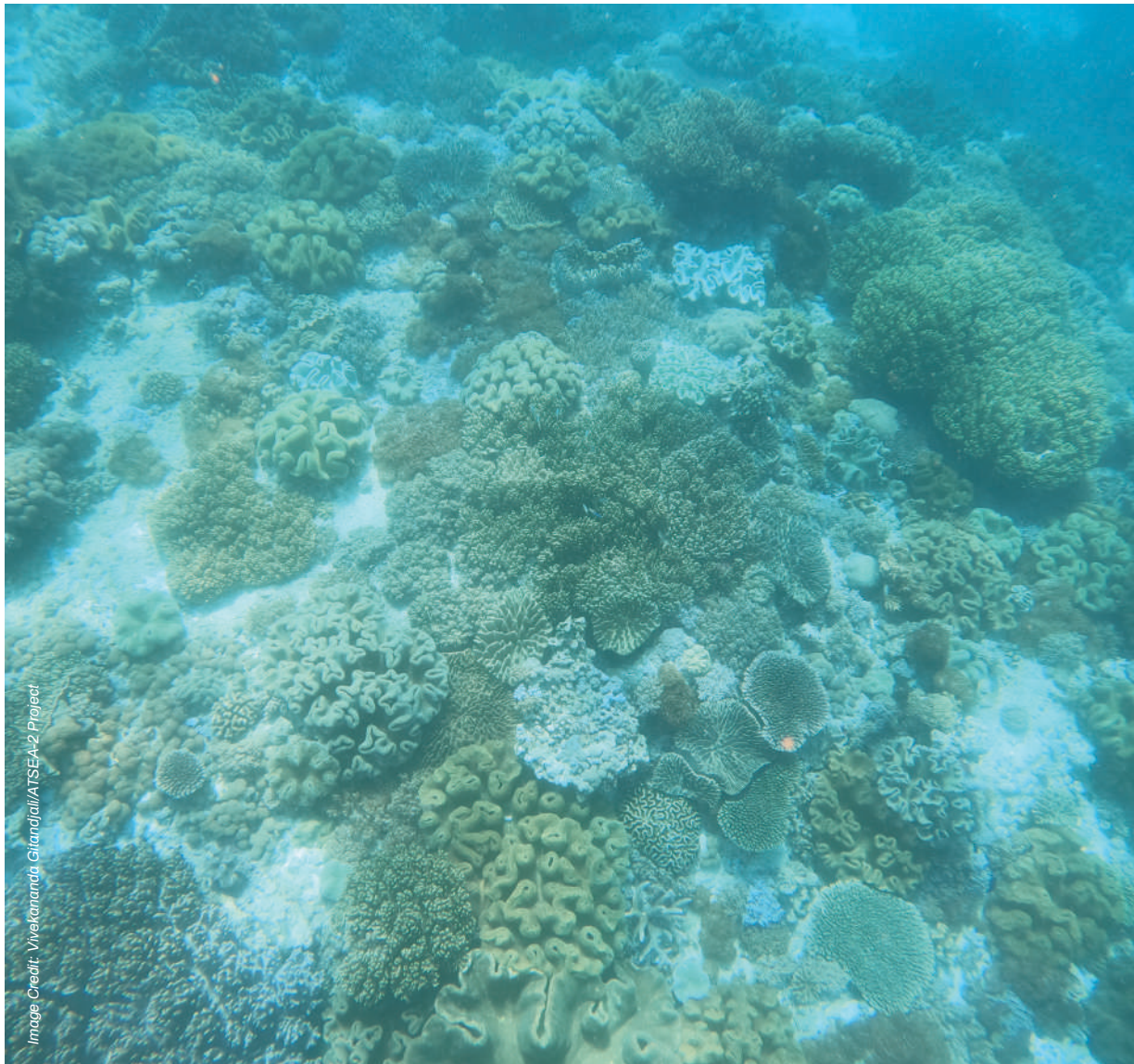
The Raine Island Recovery Project – a US\$7.95 million project to restore the world’s largest green turtle nesting habitat;

The Ghost Net Initiative – a US\$14.8 million project focusing on northern Australian waters, aimed at improving ocean health and protecting marine life.



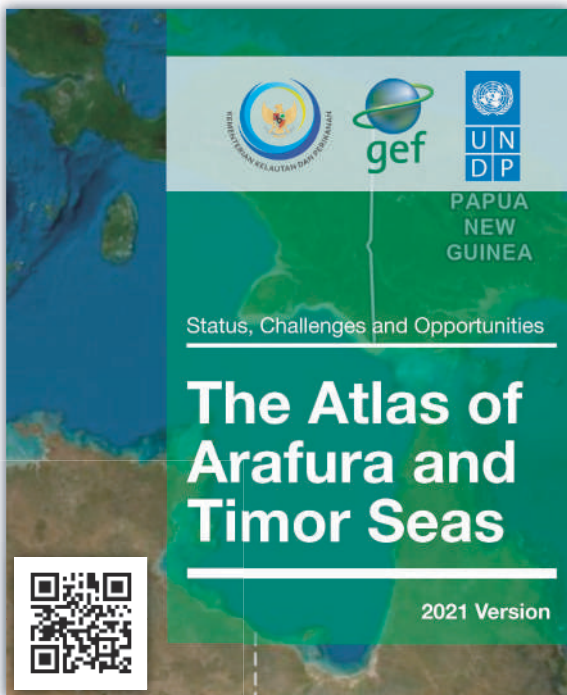
Corresponding efforts on the ground are being undertaken across northern Australia by communities and ranger groups, along with representatives of industry, NGOs and state and territorial agencies. In 2022, Australia will also host the International Sea Turtle Symposium in Perth.

ATS Atlas: A Better Understanding of Biodiversity



In 2021, the ATSEA-2 National Coordinating Unit (NCU) of Indonesia developed the Atlas of Indonesian Marine Biodiversity in the ATS Region, as part of its ongoing efforts to facilitate greater ease of access to information on coral, mangrove and seagrass beds. The Atlas combines information gathered from field assessments conducted by ATSEA-2 teams in Merauke, Aru and Rote Ndao, collating information from available biodiversity and geospatial databases. The overarching aim of the Atlas is to update the information on biodiversity, specifically in the Indonesian areas of the ATS region.

The Atlas presents a wealth of information at the regional level: oceanographic conditions of the ATS region; distribution of essential coastal ecosystems and their corresponding species in the ATS region; distribution and habitats of Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species in the ATS region; fisheries resources potential and existing fishing grounds found in the ATS region; environmental threats faced by the ATS region, including climate change potential, habitat destruction, threats to marine species and marine pollution; and existing and potential MPAs in the ATS region.



At the national (Indonesian) level, the Atlas presents the baseline conditions of marine ecosystems, ETP marine species, fisheries resources and resource use patterns of local communities based in Indonesian ATSEA-2 intervention sites (the Aru Islands, Merauke and Rote Ndao) and is based on a combination of surveys conducted in 2020-2021 and all other databases available.

Ultimately, the Atlas is able to provide a valuable reference point for future planning, assessment and evaluation processes to be conducted by the ATSEA team, as well as by local, national and regional stakeholders.



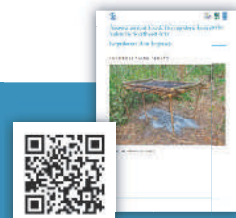
Regional Profile of Coastal and Marine Ecosystem: Their Connectivity, Ecological Importance and Socio-Cultural Impact on the Arafura and Timor Seas Region



The Analysis of Threatened, Charismatic, and Migratory Species Distribution around the Arafura and Timor Seas



Assessment of Mangrove Ecosystem Economic Value surround SAP P. Kolepom, Merauke Regency



Assessment of Coastal Ecosystem Economic Value in Southeast Aru



Status of Habitats and Ecosystems in the Southeast Aru Islands Marine Reserve



Training on Database and Information Management System for the Arafura and Timor Seas



Valuation of Ecosystem Services in the Arafura and Timor Seas Region



Humpback Dolphins and Speckled Carpetshark in Southeast Aru Islands

In 2021, a group of 13 researchers published the discovery of Speckled carpetshark (*Hemiscyllium trispeculare*) and Australian humpback dolphin (*Sousa sahalensis*) in the waters of the Southeast Aru marine sanctuary (SAP) in Maluku, Indonesia. During their monitoring activities, the researchers also collected data on the condition of mangroves, seagrass beds and coral reefs, assessed the condition of turtle nesting beaches, and collected data on endangered and vulnerable species.

“ Encountering this rare biota confirms the high conservation value of the Southeast Aru SAP area and underlines the need for better management. Hopefully, the results of this survey can be useful for area management and further study ”

- Andreas H. Muljadi, lead researcher in monitoring marine ecosystem resources in the Southeast Aru marine sanctuary (SAP) in Maluku, Indonesia

While collecting data from the communities, it was discovered that many already have their own rules in place for utilising resources. In Apar village, these customary regulations are known as petuanan (marine tenure). The study concluded that communities should not only be involved as a beneficiary, but also as a supervisor that can help strengthen existing management at the community level, thereby making petuanan a central part of effective management of the SAP area in the Southeast Aru Islands.

The discovery and study of two new species in the area will not only lead to a better understanding of this corner of the ATS, but will also help to ensure the preservation of precious ocean/coastal habitats and the biodiversity they support. The presence of two relatively large and rare species demonstrates the importance of improving LME carrying capacity in the region, in close collaboration with local communities.

Developing an Integrated Coastal Management Approach



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project

A healthy coastal environment is essential to ecology, lives and livelihoods. However, factors such as rampant economic exploitation, marine pollution and climate change are undermining coastal health in the ATS region. The various threats to habitats and ecosystems mean that integrated coastal management (ICM) is key to sustainable development, with the integration and coordination of various coastal and marine management efforts as the primary objective.

ICM addresses human activities governance in relation to the sustainable use of goods and services generated by coastal and marine ecosystems. In order to leverage structured and sustainable stakeholder buy-in concerning development and conservation priorities, the ATSEA-2 Project is supporting ICM planning and implementation in sites located across Indonesia and Timor-Leste.



Indonesia

In Indonesia, the Project's work in relation to ICM during 2021 focused on a number of key issues in strategic locations. For example, the NTT Marine Pollution Task Force was established, supported by the development of a three-year marine pollution action plan in NTT province. Ecological and socio-economic assessments related to ICM concept development was completed, while Indonesia also completed a complementary report focusing on gender assessments in Rote Ndao.



Timor-Leste

In Posto Administrativo Barique, Manatuto, Timor-Leste, a draft ICM Action Plan has been developed with support from experts from UNTL. In support of piloting the implementation of local production and sourcing of affordable fish feed for the aquaculture sector, training was also held for local stakeholders. Comprising a total of 41 participants (26 Men, 15 Women), sessions covered the following topics:

- Environmental and Aquaculture Engineering;
- Fresh Water Fish Farming (Tilapia);
- Natural Fish Food Organisms;
- Fish to Human Nutrition;
- Rearing Freshwater Shrimps;
- Water Quality Management (Theory and Practice);
- Fish Disease;
- Fish Nutrition and Feed Formulation (Theory and Practice)

ICM Baseline Report



Baseline Study for ICM Barique





Supporting Women Fishers in Timor-Leste

To facilitate the establishment of a female-led cooperative for the sale of local fish, a training session was held in Betano, Manufahi from 13-17 September 2021. Local women learned about various practical topics, including seafood processing, boat machine repair and bottom longline fishing skills.

The training helped to improve participants' knowledge, thereby adding value to their seafood products and helping them to achieve more competitive prices. Fishers' ability to repair their boats was improved, while the introduction of bottom longline fishing techniques enabled a more sustainable harvest of fisheries resources. Those who attended were able to enhance their existing skills, while also gaining a clearer idea of work that remains to be done.

“ We need equipment, product diversification and fish processing (techniques) distributed to each group so the women can use them ”

- Zumira Da Costa,
a participant in the training held
at Desa Betano in Manufahi.

“ Participants still need (additional) training for different fish product diversification, so they [can] produce their own product to be commercialised or [gain] access to local and national markets ”

- Saras Fernandez,
a trainee from Desa Betano.

Elsewhere in Timor-Leste, as part of ongoing ICM initiatives in response to climate change, several tree planting activities were undertaken in Manufahi and Manatuto.

MONITORING AND AWARENESS RAISING



Image Credit: UNDP Indonesia for ATSEA-2 Project



5-YEAR TARGET OUTCOMES OF COMPONENT 3:

Improved Monitoring of the ATS and
Dissemination of Information

Component 3 of the ATSEA-2 Project is designed to improve monitoring in the ATS region and expand the reporting and dissemination of findings and knowledge gained, in order to reach an increasingly wider audience and support the replication and scaling up of good practices.

Through this component, ATSEA-2 intends to put mechanisms and indicators in place to monitor the process, stress reduction measures, and environmental and socio-economic status of the ATS region. A Theory of Change exercise was completed and will subsequently contribute to the development of an ATS monitoring system.

Based on existing strategies, a stakeholder engagement and communications plan has been created as the project's guide for communications and knowledge management, and is regularly updated to convey the most recent inputs. The process of refining and deepening the scope and scale of ATSEA-2 messaging is ongoing; through a combination of information sheets, infographics, press releases, e-newsletters, web content and social media engagement – along with regular participation in workshops, meetings, forums and networking events – Component 3 of the ATSEA-2 Project is reaching out to an ever-greater and more diverse array of stakeholders and interested observers at the local, national, regional and even at the global level.

Component 3 | Key Outputs in 2021:



Image Credit:
UNDP Indonesia

- Theory of Change for ATS SAP and ATSEA-2 Project completed and would serve as key framework and guide for the development of ATS SAP monitoring system and in support of the updating of ATS TDA and SAP



Image Credit:
ATSEA-2 Project

- Increased stakeholders' reach through media, social media, quarterly newsletter, and website



Image Credit:
ATSEA-2 Project

- ATS information disseminated to wider audience through cross posting via IW:Learn, UNDP Indonesia, UNDP Timor-Leste, and PEMSEA, and through various online forums and events

Next Step

In 2022, the ATS SAP Monitoring System will be developed, while the data management system will also be updated and strengthened. The Mid-Term Review (MTR) process is scheduled for the second quarter of 2022. To further strengthen ATSEA-2 information sharing capacity, several key events, media engagement activities, and participation in the regional and international meetings/conferences will be carried out at intervals throughout the year.

Theory of Change



In 2021, one of the key priorities for Component 3 of ATSEA-2 was the development of a Theory of Change (ToC) for the Project, in line with the feedback and recommendations received from Australia and the direction provided at the 2nd RSC Meeting in 2020. The ToC is intended to provide a better understanding of the causal links between different elements of the project and of the regional SAP, thereby guiding the development of the existing ATS SAP Monitoring System in 2022 towards a simpler, more focused SMART monitoring system.

In order to facilitate this process, a ToC consultant, Mr. Michael Mikov, was commissioned to work with the RPMU and NCUs in developing the ATS SAP and ATSEA-2's ToC. The ToC comprises two key elements, namely a conceptual model for the ATS SAP, along with ToC models (with narrative) for the SAP and ATSEA-2 Project. In developing the ToC, key points raised from the regional governance assessment report and consultations, as well as key results from other thematic assessments, were also taken into consideration.

Theory of Change for the Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase 2 (ATSEA-2) Project



Scaling Up Stakeholder Outreach

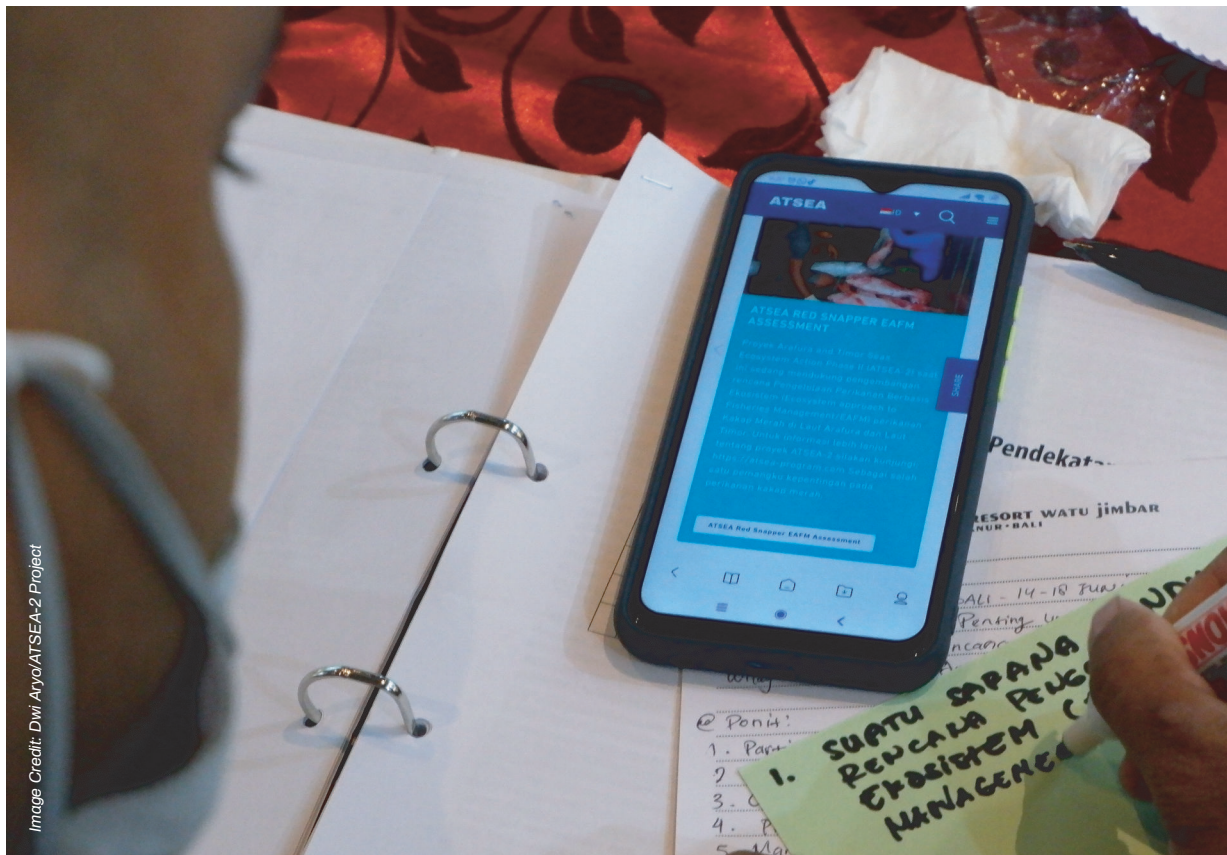
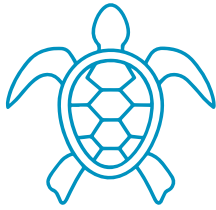


Image Credit: Dwi Arya/ATSEA-2 Project

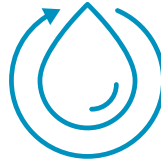
Building on the Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan developed in 2020, further analyses were conducted to provide the Project with a better understanding of the different stakeholders in the region, their needs/priorities and to offer a more effective plan to engage stakeholders in various ATSEA-2 initiatives. The updated Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan has been completed and will be regularly assessed, not only to ensure its effective implementation, but also to enhance ATSEA-2 compliance with UNDP's updated social and environmental standards. As part of the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan, ATSEA-2 branding guidelines, including presentation and document templates, have been developed.

Through Component 3, the ATSEA-2 Project is actively engaged in broadening the scope of its communications, drawing attention to the issues affecting the region and demonstrating the progress being made across a range of metrics as a result of project interventions. To support this expansion, Component 3 sets out to increase news coverage and online traction, through a range of platforms and media. Growing numbers of interactions with ATSEA-2 content, along with a substantial increase in media coverage beyond the Programme's own platforms, are indicators of success in this regard.

In 2021, the ATSEA-2 Project was featured prominently in 86 examples of news coverage. Topics that received particularly high media attention are as follows:



National Consultation on
MPA Network and sea
turtle action plan



Media gathering with local
journalist in Merauke, Papua, on
sustainable fisheries
management



The establishment of a
team for combating
marine pollution and
damage in the waters of
NTT province

The ATSEA-2 Project's own content and media platforms have been the launchpad for greater media outreach in 2021. Early in the year, the website was revamped and rewritten to be more user-friendly, with content of a higher technical and communicative standard. This was complemented by a series of training and workshops for the Project's main content contributors. The result of these improvements can be seen in the increase in quality of content, but also the growth of site traffic and interactions – up to December 2021, the website received 11,811 unique visitors, who performed a total of 41,221 page views.

On YouTube, ATSEA-2 published a total of 23 videos, which have (to date) been viewed by 2,666 users and resulted in a total of 20,606 impressions. ATSEA-2 tweeted 127 times in 2021, generating 3,905 engagements and 94,524 impressions. Through Facebook, ATSEA-2 published 138 posts, which received interactions from a total of 25,022 accounts. On Instagram, ATSEA-2 published 267 times in 2021, generating almost 5,000 engagements with total of 55,792 reach.

Through a combination of assessments, studies and communications materials disseminated to an increasingly wider audience, the Project set out to improve its monitoring of the ATS region in 2021, while also expanding its information sharing capacity. A key theme of studies and communications during the past year has been engagement with and empowerment of local communities; through immersive studies, stakeholder feedback forums and communications with an emphasis on the human

element of stories, the ATSEA-2 Project has been amplifying the voices of those on the frontline of issues impacting the region.

In total, the Project published 12 thematic assessments in 2021, along with four editions of the ATSEA-2 E-Newsletter – a quarterly publication that is available via digital flipbook and can be downloaded in PDF format from the ATSEA-2 website. Each newsletter contains a range of updates from the regional level, while also delving deeper into the stories affecting communities of fishers and their families in each country. Up to December 2021, the e-newsletters have been downloaded 185 times and read by at least 349 people.

In addition to the newsletter, the ATSEA-2 Project published a range of complementary knowledge and information products during 2021. This included 56 news stories relating to project-supported activities, along with 11 articles that were published on IW:Learn and four via UNDP Indonesia. To improve information sharing in relation to the ATS region, a series of info sheets were developed in collaboration with each of the NCUs. Available in both English and in local languages, these publications featured an overview of all the various ATSEA-2 project sites operating in Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea.

Promotional Events in 2021

The ATSEA-2 Project was especially active online in 2021, partly due to restrictions caused by Covid-19. A number of key events from the calendar are as follows:

16 February 2021

Threatened Species Technical Working Group of the CTI-CFF

February 2021

GEF-6 and GEF-7 Evaluation Meeting, organized by UNDP Indonesia

9 February 2021

Webinar on Climate Change Resilient Fisheries, hosted by Pusriskan

24 April 2021

Haquathon 2.0

8 June 2021

Our Forest, Peatland, and Seas Webinar, hosted by UNEP

1 July 2021

Inception Meeting of the GEF/UNOPS South China Sea SAP Implementation

28-29 July 2021

13th East Asian Seas Partnership Council Meeting of PEMSEA

28 July 2021

Webinar on Oil Spill Mitigation and Countermeasures in Timor Sea/ 'Mitigasi dan Penanggulangan Tumpahan Minyak di Perairan Laut Timor, Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur' supported by ATSEA-2 NCU Indonesia

28 July – 4 August 2021

Writing and Storytelling Workshop for marine and fisheries conservationists, organized by Jaringan Laut Nusantara (JALANUSA)

3 August 2021

FGD organised by RPOA IUU Secretariat in Jakarta

27 August 2021

FGD organised by UNDP Indonesia and Kemenko Marves on Blue Financing Strategic Document

18-19 September 2021

Indonesia Marine Exhibition, organized by IPB University



1-2 December 2021
2021 EAS Congress,
Main Conference 4 - Ministerial Forum

15-16 December 2021
Coordination Committee
Meeting RPOA-IUU

25 November 2021
Virtual Learning Exchange
for CTI-CFF under the EU
Ocean Governance Project

15 November 2021
Making Asia-Pacific Resilient to Climate
Change: The effort and perspective of the
Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation
Information Platform (AP-PLAT) Webinar

14 November 2021
Indonesia Marine Learning Network

9 November 2021
EAS Congress Collab
'Focusing on Replicable
Models on Marine
Plastic Pollution
Monitoring Project

27 October 2021
Workshop on SDGs

26 October 2021
27th expanded Executive
Committee Meeting of PEMSEA

25 October 2021
East Asian Seas Congress Collab 'Climate Change
Adaptation for Coastal Communities: Learning from
East Asia and Arafura and Timor Seas Region'

21 October 2021
East Asian Seas Congress Collab 'Managing
Networks and Transboundary Cooperation on Marine
Protected Areas (MPAs) in the ASEAN Region'

9 October 2021
"UNDP Ocean Explorer" film
screening in the third edition of
Dili International Film Festival

16 October 2021
Talk Show on 'Marine Life and Marine Litter'

EVENT

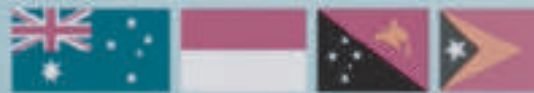




ANIMATION CONTEST

Uniting the Arafura and Timor Seas





ATSEA Animation Contest

In September 2021, the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Project held an animation contest, through which filmmakers from all over the world submitted animation videos that convey the urgency of protecting the ocean. The theme of the contest was “Uniting the Arafura and Timor Seas” and anyone over the age of 18 was eligible to enter via the #ATSEACHALLENGE hashtag. The online judging process involved two specialised panels and a general jury.

“I hope through this contest, we can make an impact,” explained Ronny Gani, who was the Senior Animator for Space Jam A New Legacy, Avengers: End Game, Ready Player One, Ant-Man, and Pacific Rim. He was joined on the panel by notable experts from the world of visual storytelling, such as Indra AD, one of the key animators for the Battle of Surabaya movie; and Astiti Sukatrilaksana, a gender champion and the Head of Human Resources at UNDP Indonesia.

“**Each of us can contribute to raise the awareness of protecting the ocean among our community, helping people to understand the importance of saving our ocean**”

- Astiti Sukatrilaksana,
Head of Human Resources at UNDP Indonesia

Combining beautiful imagery with a powerful message, “Kina the Ocean Girl” took home first place in the ATSEA-2 Animation Contest, winning its creator, Aisha Alsakina, Firmansyah CU, Megan Nandia and Puguh Rohmanu the top prize of US\$1,000 for her stunning short film. The story encourages viewers to think about the relationship between humans and marine ecosystems in the Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) region.

Together, this panel of expert judges awarded second place and a prize of US\$500 to Elanda Fikri for his video Marine Life is in Our Hands, while third place and a prize of US\$250 was given to Jessica Clara for her video How to Reduce Marine Pollution. Honourable Mention was also awarded to Indira NT and Jean M, for their video Small Impacts.

The ATSEA-2 Animation Contest helped share the natural wonders of the ATS region with a wider audience, telling conservation stories through fresh media and encouraging stakeholders and members of the public to make a difference, by showcasing creativity and highlighting the intrinsic links between the ocean and human lives.

OVERALL TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY IN 2021

Technical Delivery

Based on internal monitoring and on the progress reports shared at the 3rd RSC Meeting in December 2021, the ATSEA-2 Project is ON TRACK in terms of delivering target commitments under Component 3 (Knowledge Management), while several target initiatives under Components 1 (Governance) and 2 (Strengthening LME Carrying Capacity) are ONGOING.

In particular, for Component 1 majority of the target outputs for 2021 at the regional and country level have been achieved, except for the following: (a) A modified timeline was agreed upon on the completion of the Regional Governance Mechanism (RGM) and Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF) process to facilitate deeper and wider stakeholder consultation at the countries thereby extending the process to 2022; (b) Indonesia has completed the institutional mapping and conceptual model that would guide the establishment of its National Inter-Ministerial Committee (NIMC), but the NIMC is yet to be activated; (c) Timor-Leste's target assessment of existing national policies and regulations related to fisheries and biodiversity conservation, and climate change adaptation was initiated but will continue to 2022.

For Component 2, significant achievements and progress have been made in the completion and finalization of several thematic assessments both at the regional and country level as described in more detail in the preceding sections. Some targets for 2021, however, are still ongoing such as: the regional EAFM Assessment and Plan which have been drafted but would require further refinements and addition of primary data; the coordination process for the development of zoning plan for Kolepom Island as new MPA and facilitation of local communities and Pokmaswas within this MPA in Indonesia is ongoing; data collection for the ICM framework concept for Rote Ndao, Indonesia is ongoing. While the target of Timor-Leste to identify priority marine and coastal high conservation value areas and scoping study on target new MPA in Betano-Klakuk had a late start due to challenges encountered in the recruitment of a suitable consultant. In view of Covid-19 restrictions, the following planned activities under Component 2 were cancelled and shifted to 2022 work plan: (a) exchange visit to Australia on rights-based management approach to fisheries; (b) conduct of assessment on IUU fishing in Timor-Leste; (c) delay in carrying out the field work in support of the development of Artisanal Fishery Management Plan in South Fly, PNG; and (d) regional exchange activities/site visits.

COMPONENT	1	2	3
REGIONAL	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track/Completed
INDONESIA	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	N/A
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	On Track/Completed	Delayed/Cancelled	N/A
TIMOR-LESTE	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	N/A
OVERALL	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track with minor issues/Ongoing	On Track/Completed

Financial Delivery

The total approved budget of the ATSEA-2 Project for 2019 to 2021 is at USD 4.6 million covering Regional, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, and Papua New Guinea components. Financial delivery during that period is at 72% of the total approved budget.

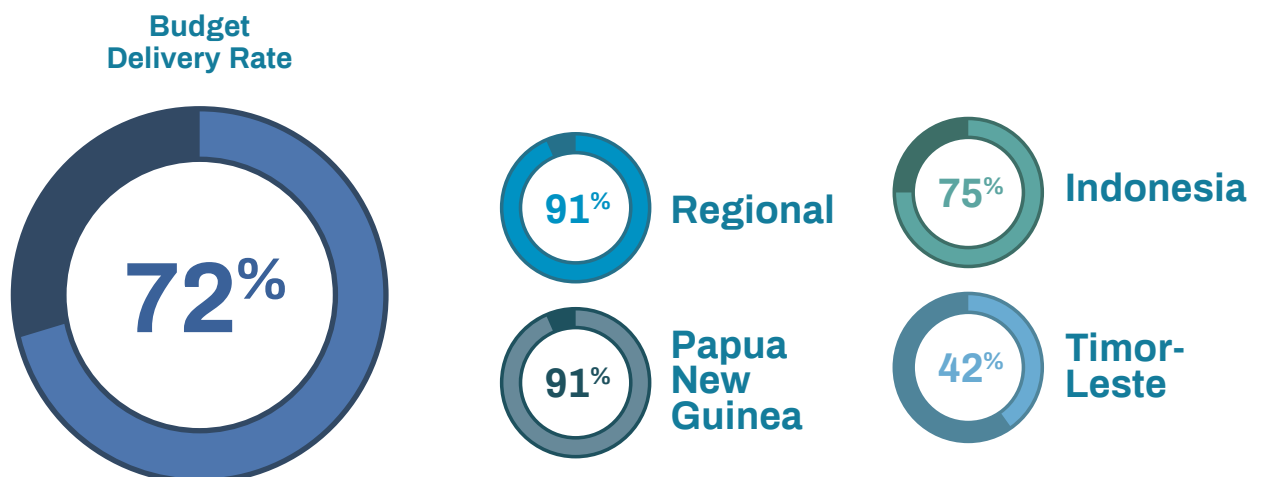
Project Delivery Rate for the Period 2019 to 2021

ATSEA-2 PROJECT	APPROVED BUDGET	DISBURSEMENT	BUDGET DELIVERY RATE
REGIONAL	1,703,149	1,553,277	91%
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	135,000*	122,790	91%
INDONESIA	1,585,183	1,183,499	75%
TIMOR-LESTE	1,229,357	510,971	42%
TOTAL	4,652,689	3,370,537	72%

Note: The figure is based on UN Combined Delivery Report (CDR) 2019 – 2021

* Project implementation in PNG started only in 2021. Initial budget allocation for 2020 was shifted to 2021 in accordance with RSC's approval

ATSEA-2 Financial Delivery Rate

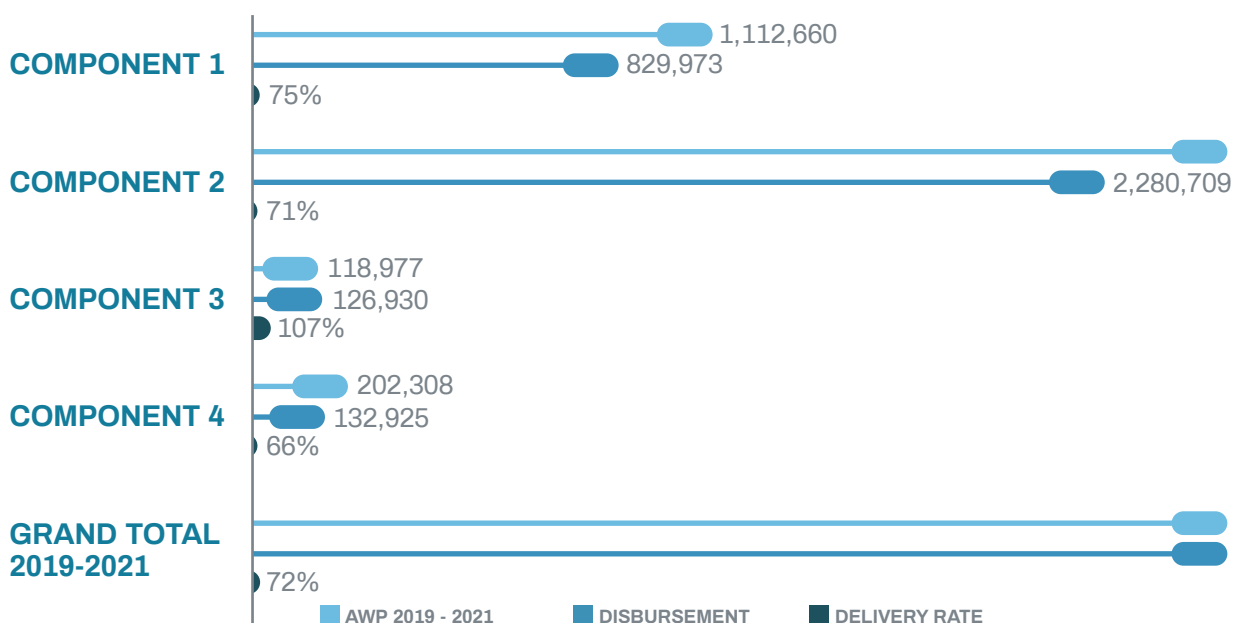


The distribution of budget and implementation during 2019 – 2021 per component is reflected in the table below:

COMPONENT	AWP 2019 - 2021	DISBURSEMENT	DELIVERY RATE
COMPONENT 1	1,112,660	829,973	75%
COMPONENT 2	3,218,744	2,280,709	71%
COMPONENT 3	118,977	126,930	107%
COMPONENT 4	202,308	132,925	66%
GRAND TOTAL 2019-2021	4,652,689	3,370,537	72%

Chart of ATSEA-2 budget distribution and implementation during 2019 - 2021

ATSEA-2 PROJECT DELIVERY 2019 - 2021 PER-COMPONENT



Total ATSEA-2 Regional budget is at USD 1,703,149 and the disbursement is at USD 1,553,277 (91%). Detailed disbursement of each component is shown in the table below:

COMPONENT	APPROVED BUDGET	DISBURSEMENT	BUDGET DELIVERY RATE
COMPONENT 1	579,445	483,606	83%
COMPONENT 2	871,006	882,012	101%
COMPONENT 3	118,977	117,677	99%
COMPONENT 4	133,721	69,982	52%
TOTAL BUDGET	1,703,149	1,553,277	91%

ATSEA-2 Indonesia

Total ATSEA-2 budget for Indonesia is at USD 1,585,183 and the disbursement is at USD 1,183,499 (75%). Detailed disbursement of each component is shown in the table below:

COMPONENT	APPROVED BUDGET	DISBURSEMENT	BUDGET DELIVERY RATE
COMPONENT 1	220,953	203,456	92%
COMPONENT 2	1,334,722	965,873	72%
COMPONENT 3	-	-	-
COMPONENT 4	29,508	14,170	48%
TOTAL BUDGET	1,585,183	1,183,499	75%

ATSEA-2 Timor-Leste

Total ATSEA-2 budget for Timor-Leste is at USD 1,229,357 and the disbursement is at USD 510,971 (42%). Detailed disbursement of each component is shown in the table below:

COMPONENT	APPROVED BUDGET	DISBURSEMENT	BUDGET DELIVERY RATE
COMPONENT 1	210,707	42,640	20%
COMPONENT 2	990,771	420,175	42%
COMPONENT 3	-	9,253	0%
COMPONENT 4	27,879	38,903	140%
TOTAL BUDGET	1,229,357	510,971	42%

ATSEA-2 Papua New Guinea (PNG)

Total ATSEA-2 budget for Papua New Guinea is at USD 135,000 and the disbursement is at USD 122,790 (91%). Detailed disbursement of each component is shown in the table below:

COMPONENT	APPROVED BUDGET	DISBURSEMENT	BUDGET DELIVERY RATE
COMPONENT 1.2	101,555	100,271	99%
COMPONENT 2.2	22,245	12,649	57%
COMPONENT 3.2	-	-	-
COMPONENT 4.2	11,200	9,870	88%
TOTAL BUDGET	135,000	122,790	91%

PROJECT AUDIT (UNDP Spot Check)



In line with GEF/UNDP administrative and financial requirements and to ensure that quality project management standards are met, the ATSEA-2 Project has undergone annual audits as follows:

- Spot Check (December 2020) - covering the period of Q4 2019 to Q1-Q2 of 2020
- Spot Check (November 2021) - covering Q1 - Q2 of 2021
- Internal Control Audit (February 2022) - covering Q1 - Q4 of 2021.

The audits were all conducted by a UNDP-selected external internal auditor- Samman and Co Public Accountant and business from Jordan. No significant findings were noted during the audits.

Challenges and Management Measures

Building on the adaptive measures that the ATSEA-2 Project has set in place since early 2020, the Project has managed to overcome several challenges by conducting a number of activities through virtual platforms or via hybrid mechanisms, and strengthening of coordination with local counterparts and site mobilisers, as well as with in-country and regional consultants.

The Project has remained largely on track in terms of most targets. However, through monthly RPMU-NCU meetings and discussions with the NPB and RSC members (both during the intersessional period and during the actual RSC meeting), the following challenges have been identified, along with lessons learned. In response, appropriate management measures have subsequently been applied:

KEY CHALLENGES	KEY LESSONS LEARNED	MANAGEMENT MEASURES APPLIED
<p>Covid-19 (travel restrictions; local lockdowns; reallocation of government budget to Covid efforts; some project team members and consultants contracting Covid-19)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health and Safety of project team members and stakeholders will always remain a priority. ● While virtual activities and consultations facilitated continuity in activities, the level of engagement and inputs were still lacking/weak. ● Local expertise is crucial to carrying out on-the-ground assessments and consultations. ● Online tools and connectivity in some local sites are limited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Application of health and safety protocols and regular monitoring and sharing of government updates/policies related to Covid-19. ● Application of hybrid mechanisms, when possible, to secure deeper engagement and more inputs from stakeholders. ● Conduct of trainings for enumerators prior to deployment. ● Maintain regular communication and coordination between and among project teams and implementing partners. ● Undertake joint/collaborative activities, especially with key in-country/local partners.
<p>Natural Disasters (Seroja cyclone, which affected parts of Indonesia and Timor-Leste)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The increasing impacts of disasters such as typhoons and related flash floods, etc. need to be recognised as one of the ATS region's key challenges, and aligned with efforts to better understand climate change impacts in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Appropriate adjustment in timeline of activities in affected areas. ● Maintain regular communication to project sites and key project implementers on the ground.

KEY CHALLENGES

KEY LESSONS LEARNED

MANAGEMENT MEASURES APPLIED

Delay in project start-up in PNG

- Government processes vary and some may take more consultations and time than others.

- NOTE: PNG and PEMSEA's MOA on Implementation Arrangements was only signed on 21 October 2020. The NCU in PNG was installed in early 2021 and the Project Inception Meeting was conducted on 31 May 2021.
- Regular and close coordination of project team and implementing partners with the NCU and the NFA in PNG have enabled PNG to catch up with a number of target activities. The established momentum will be further strengthened in 2022 with more stakeholders engaged in the process through the established NPB and NIMC.

Revision in planned budget due to cancellation/delay of some activities

- The volatile nature of Covid-19 should remain a key consideration in planning activities that require travel/visits.
- A mid-year assessment with implementing partners is crucial to facilitate budget or work plan revisions as necessary

- Quarterly reporting and consultation with the UNDP Indonesia as PPR were undertaken, including presentation of possible challenges on budget delivery.
- Alternative measures were put in place in lieu of face-to-face activities, and other activities planned for 2022 were moved in advance as necessary to make up for the unused travel and face-to-face meeting budgets. However, a significant amount for travel remained unused and budget revisions were approved at the 3rd RSC Meeting.

Progress Towards Project Objectives



The completion of key governance and thematic assessments would provide significant support to the updating of the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), which was initiated in late 2021. The updating of the TDA is one of the project deliverables that would provide the technical foundation for the region's next Strategic Action Programme (SAP) as a key framework for future collaboration and action. Recognising certain limitations with regards to stakeholder consultations on various aspects of the project – particularly on the RGM and SPF process – in-country consultations have been undertaken with the support of National Advisors, and will continue in 2022. This is to facilitate consensus on a country-owned regional collaborative mechanism that would guide the ATS region in SAP and NAP implementation moving forward. On-the-ground activities to support promotion of sustainable fisheries, biodiversity management, pollution

reduction, ICM and climate change adaptation, along with capacity building and sustainable livelihoods, have also been initiated. While substantive environmental impacts are yet to be seen, the Project has begun to see increased awareness and engagement towards sustainable environmental initiatives as part of ATSEA-2 initiatives. As part of the GESI mainstreaming process, assessments, surveys and various local and regional webinars have been initiated, aimed at facilitating stronger participation by, and benefits to, women and marginalised groups – particularly in the fisheries sector. Through the diverse but interconnected initiatives undertaken, the ATSEA-2 Project has ensured alignment with the social and environmental safeguards of UNDP, as well as contributions to the wider objectives of UN SDGs and the UN Decade for Ocean Science and Ecosystem Restoration.

MEET THE RSC AND ATSEA-2 TEAM



3RD RSC Core Members



*National
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**Ms. Yayan
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Head of Center for Fisheries Research of Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) of Republic of Indonesia, and ATSEA-2 National Project Director of Indonesia



*National
Focal Points*

**Mr. Acacio
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Directorate General of Fishery, Agriculture and Marine Resources, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) of Timor-Leste, and ATSEA-2 National Project Director of Timor-Leste



*National
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**Mr. Noan
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Deputy Managing Director of National Fisheries Agency (NFA) of Papua New Guinea, and ATSEA-2 National Project Director of Papua New Guinea



*National
Focal Points*

**Dr. Andrew
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Acting Director, Pacific Engagement Section, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment of Australia



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**Vita
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Gender Specialist



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Merauke



Hasbi

Field Facilitator for
Aru Tenggara



**Erma
Normasari**

Field Facilitator
for Rote Ndao



**Nathazha
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Eunike
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**Bernardo
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**Vitalina
Dos
Santos**

Site Mobiliser for Lautem
and Viqueque



**Mushabe
Norman**

Marine Fishery
Specialist



**Candida
Dejesus
Moniz**

Office and
Admin Clerk

ATSEA Champions

MR. NOAN DAVID PAKOP

**Acting Managing Director
and Deputy Managing
Director – Technical &
Operations, National
Fisheries Authority (NFA)
of Papua New Guinea,
and ATSEA-2 National
Project Director of
Papua New Guinea**



Mr. Noan David Pakop is currently the Deputy Managing Director of the National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea. He is responsible for providing high-level advisory support to the Managing Director, as well as overall technical and operational lead and oversight of NFA's mandated functions in fisheries management; aquaculture and inland fisheries; monitoring, control and surveillance; licensing and data management; and provincial support and industry development.

Mr. Pakop is a highly experienced manager, technical expert and career professional in the fisheries sector. He has dedicated and committed all 33 years of his working career to this sector and has worked his way up from an Assistant Fisheries Extension Officer with the then Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources in the late 80s, to his current role as the Deputy Managing Director of Technical and Operations. He has also worked regionally and spent five years with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries

Agency (FFA), first as a policy advisor in monitoring, control and surveillance, and then as a director in fisheries operations, serving the 17 FFA member states. Mr. Pakop is currently the Chairman of the IFOFISH Governing Council, as well as the Chairman of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA). He also served as the Chairman of the Technical Compliance Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in early 2000.

Mr. Pakop has an MSc in Applied Science (Living Marine Resources) from the Australian Maritime College in Tasmania, Australia, and a BSc in Fisheries from the PNG University of Technology.

As the National Project Director, who spearheads and guides the ATSEA-2 implementation in Papua New Guinea, Mr. Pakop is actively involved in ensuring the country's commitment.

DR. ANDREW CHEK

**Acting Director, Pacific Engagement Section,
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment
of Australia**



Dr. Andrew Chek works across both terrestrial and marine conservation and management within the Australian Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment, currently within the International Strategy and Engagement Branch. Born and raised in Australia, and a biologist by training, he completed his doctorate in the Amazon before spending the next decade in Canada, the US and Latin America, protecting biodiversity through his work on protected areas, conservation planning, capacity development and through building consortia of institutions. He has served as Australia's official representative to the

ATSEA-2 project and Regional Steering Committee since 2019 and is best known within ATSEA circles for his promotion of clear theories of change and associated results chains as a means to support better aligned collaboration and adaptive management.

From 2019-2022 ATSEA-2 project implementation, Dr. Chek has also been very supportive in providing guidance and inputs in the different governance and thematic assessments for the ATS region.

Strengthening Partnership

In 2020, ATSEA-2 coordinated with several entities from national to international level, mainly to explore areas of possible collaboration, as well as to share information. In addition to the strong support from GEF/UNDP, PEMSEA, and collaboration of local government agencies in project sites, as well as various government ministries and agencies in ATS countries, ATSEA-2 is pleased to have initiated engagement with the following



Aqua Marino Services - University of Papua New Guinea

Expert support in updating the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis in Papua New Guinea



Center for Sustainable Ocean Policy Law - Universitas Indonesia

Expert support in developing regional IUU fishing studies for the ATS region



Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies - IPB University

Expert support in updating the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis in Indonesia



Coral Triangle Center

Expert support in developing regional MPA Network and sea turtle regional action plan



C2O Consulting

Expert support in developing climate change vulnerability assessment



Destructive Fishing Watch

Expert support in the implementation of reduction of IUU fishing in Merauke, Indonesia



Eco Custodian Advocates

Develop South Fly Artisanal Fishery Management Plan in South Fly, Western Province, Papua New Guinea



Fishwell Consulting

Expert support in developing regional red snapper profiling and EAFM plan development



Global Ocean Inc

Expert support in developing marine and land-based pollution assessment at regional and Rote Ndao



Kertabumi Recycling Center

Expert support in conducting case study on climate change vulnerability assessment at site level



Oil Spill Response Limited

Expert support in the implementation of trainings related to oil spill preparedness and response, and possible support in development of oil spill preparedness and response plan in ATS



PEC Consulting LDA

Expert support in updating the ATS Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis in Timor-Leste



PT BMT Indonesia

Expert support in developing the governance mechanism to improve marine and fisheries management in Arafura and Timor Seas



PT. Hatfield

Expert support in designing the Regional Governance Mechanism



PT. Multi Area Desentralisasi Pembangunan

Expert support in implementation of EAFM assessment and Pre-assessment in Shrimp in Aru District, Maluku Province, and Barramundi in Merauke, Papua Province, towards MSC certification



RPOA-IUU

Expert support in developing regional IUU fishing studies for the ATS region



Starling Resources

Expert support in developing the regional red snapper profiling, EAFM plan development, and regional financing mechanism



Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e

Expert support in developing the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) strategic implementation in Timor-Leste



Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara

Expert support in developing regional MPA Network and sea turtle regional action plan, and implementation of red snapper EAFM in Maluku Province



Yayasan Reef Check Indonesia

Expert support in the implementation of integrated Coastal Management (ICM) at the district level in Indonesia



Yayasan TAKA

Expert support in developing biodiversity, fisheries, land-based and marine pollution, and gender field assessment in Rote Ndao, Aru Islands and Merauke District

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022

COMPONENT 1



REGIONAL

- ⦿ 4th RSC Meeting
- ⦿ SPF Meetings/ Workshops
- ⦿ Finalization of
 - ATS regional governance model
 - SPF TOR and Guidelines
 - Financial Landscape Assessment
 - Updated ATS TDA
- ⦿ Roll out of GESI Action Plan
- ⦿ Training on climate change adaptation

INDONESIA

- ⦿ Legalization of SPF and NIMC conceptual framework
- ⦿ Establishment and pilot implementation of NIMC
- ⦿ Continue support to the Fisheries Management Body in FMA 718
- ⦿ Support EAFM policy harmonization in Maluku Province

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- ⦿ Establishment of a Stakeholder Committee for South Fly Artisanal Fishery Management Plan
- ⦿ Trainings on fishery data collection and management
- ⦿ Artisanal Fisheries Database development
- ⦿ Initiate development of National Action Plan

TIMOR-LESTE

- ⦿ Identification and convening of National SPF
- ⦿ Formal MAF endorsement of NIMC
- ⦿ Completion of assessment on national policies and regulations on fisheries, biodiversity and climate change
- ⦿ Expert session on integrating enabling policies into national regulatory and development frameworks

COMPONENT 2



REGIONAL

- Finalization of Red Snapper Regional EAFM Plan
- Trainings on MCS and coordination with RPOA-IUU
- Webinar series on Oil Spill Preparedness and Response
- Webinar/Exchange visit on
 - Rights based management on fisheries
 - Marine Pollution
- Workshop on Sea Turtle Experts

INDONESIA

- Implementation of FIP on red snapper, shrimp and barramundi
- Strengthening of fisheries monitoring and surveillance in Aru and Merauke
- Support implementation of NTT's Marine Pollution Task Force's Action Plan
- Support revitalization and strengthening of women customary law in Dobo
- Support Working Group in the development of Kolepom Management Plan and other related activities in Kolepom
- Finalize ICM Framework document

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- Completion and approval of South Fly Artisanal Fishery Management Plan
- Support establishment of rights-based resource management and appropriate enforcement in villages
- Development of and training on community-based MCS and support integration to existing MCS system of NFA
- Review of IUU and other fishing practices

TIMOR-LESTE

- Completion of capacity and needs assessment
- Endorsement of Red Snapper EAFM Plan for Viqueque
- Initiate National Fishery Advisory Committee
- IUU fishing estimation and analysis on fisheries compliance
- Development of management and financing plan for NKS and in new MPA in Betano
- Pilot project on turtle conservation
- Training on fish feed production and pilot activity on one fish feed home industry in Betano
- Promote alternative livelihood activities in Barique

COMPONENT 3




REGIONAL



- ⦿ ATS SAP Monitoring System development and workshops
- ⦿ Various ATSEA-2 publications, regular website update, quarterly newsletter, annual report, IW:Learn articles, media engagement, etc.
- ⦿ Further strengthening of data management system
- ⦿ Mid-Term Review of ATSEA-2 Project
- ⦿ Regional and international forum/meetings/conferences





ATSEA-2 ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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