

Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project (BOBLME)

Paris

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Background & perspective

- BOB 2,900km x 1,600km
- 1 of the 63 global LMEs
- 8 countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand)
- 1.5 billion people (25% of world population)
 - 400 million in coastal catchments
 - Expected growth 20% by 2015
- Large fishing dependency
 - Part-time & small scale
- Small GDPs
 - High level of poverty





The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP)

- 25 year FAO Programme (since 1980)
- Multiple donors/many projects
- Phase 1: fishery development
- Phase 2: fishing communities
- Phase 3: sustainable development
 - Environmental issues
 - Fisheries management



Emphasis now on broadening scope

- BOBP Advisory Committee (Jan 1995)
 - GEF financing possibilities
- CEO/GEFSEC (March 1998)
 - Approved Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) PDF- Block B



PDF-B phase of BOBLME Programme

- Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem
- 8 Countries
 - Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia,
 Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand
- Executing Agency: FAO
- Implementing Agency: World Bank
- Development Partners: GEF, Sida, NOAA



Prioritization of themes (Theme reports)

- Oceanography and Marine Environment
- Living Marine Resources
- Estuarine and Coastal Habitats
- Shipping
- Coastal Zone Development
- Offshore Oil and Gas
- Socio-economics



Identified priority issues/needs

Overexploitation of living marine resources

Critical habitats

Land-based pollution



Selected trans-boundary species

- Over-arching fisheries data and information system
 - Sharks (All)
 - Indian mackerel (I,B,M,T,M)
 - Hilsa (I,B,M)



Project objectives/structure

Development objective:-

 Enhanced food security, reduced poverty for coastal communities

Environmental objective:

- Strategic action plan (SAP) for BOBP-LME to protect the ecosystem and manage the living marine resources in a sustainable way.
 - Better understanding of the priority issues
 - Improved capacity to manage resources
 - Improved institutional and policy framework

Current status

- GEF approval (April 2005 on post tsunami document)
- Co-Funding:
 - National Governments
 - Donors (ongoing consultations)
 - FAO
 - NOAA
- Endorsements
 - Almost finished



Sources of Financing

Name of Co-				
financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount (US\$)	Status
GEF	International financing mechanism	cash	12 100 000	Confirmed
BOBLME Governments	Government	cash in-kind	2 200 000 3 500 000	Proposed by BOBLME countries at 2 nd Regional Workshop
GOI	Government	cash	600 000	To be confirmed
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	bilateral technical agency	in-kind	400 000	Confirmed
Other Co- financiers (under discussion/review with SIDA, China, Japan, Norway and others)	bilateral development agencies	cash	10 900 000	Expressions of interest in principle received; as of 15 March 2006 there is an estimated US\$4-6 million financing gap
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (UN)	multilateral development agency	in-kind	804 000	Confirmed but may rise
Total US\$			30 500 000	

Next steps

- 7 of 8 countries have endorsed
- Remaining country (Myanmar) endorsing
- Co-financing being arranged
- Project Appraisal Document to
 World Bank Board by end of December 2006
- Final Appraisal Workshop (tentatively October-November 2006)
- Project start-up in early 2007





Thank you

