



*This Project is executed by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund,
with financing from the GEF, implementation support by UNEP
and technical support from the CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat.*

Country presentation: Sri Lanka

2nd Executive Project Steering Committee meeting

1-2 November, 2016

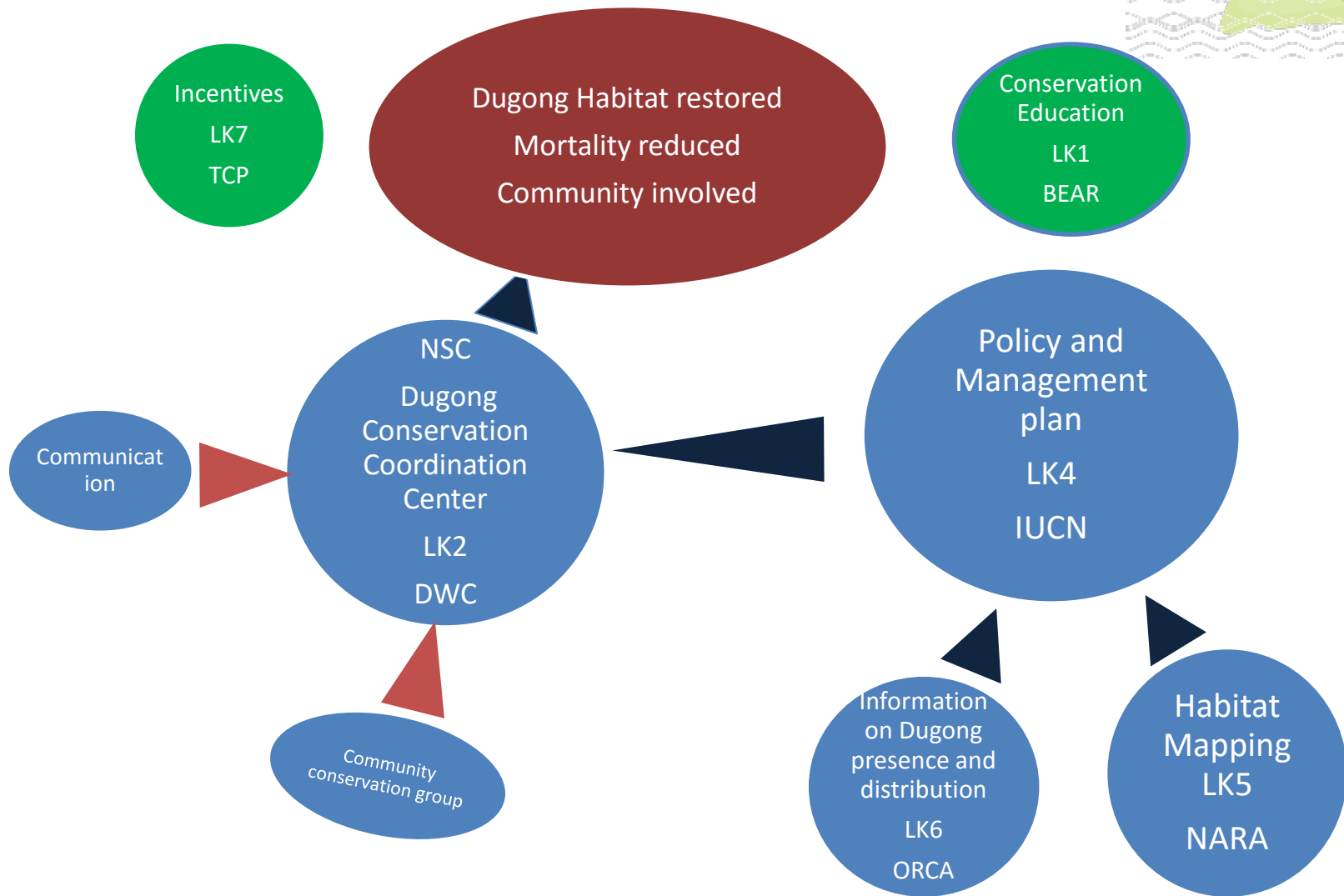
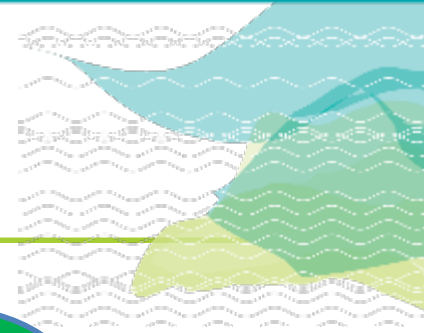
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Key national objectives in Sri Lanka

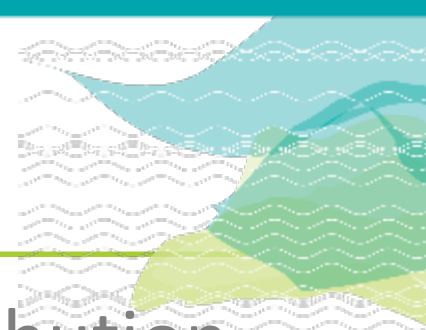


1. To fill up information gap on Dugong distribution in Sri Lankan Waters
2. To develop Dugong habitat (Seagrass) map with assessing their productivity
3. To establish Dugong Conservation coordination center and communication network among all stake holders to collate data
4. To establish national Level Marine Sector Conservation Steering Committee
5. To establish community level dugong conservation groups
6. To Enhance dugong conservation education and reduce fishing pressure
7. To review existing policy and regulations on marine sector conservation and management
8. To Develop Dugong Conservation Management Plan incorporating marine protected areas

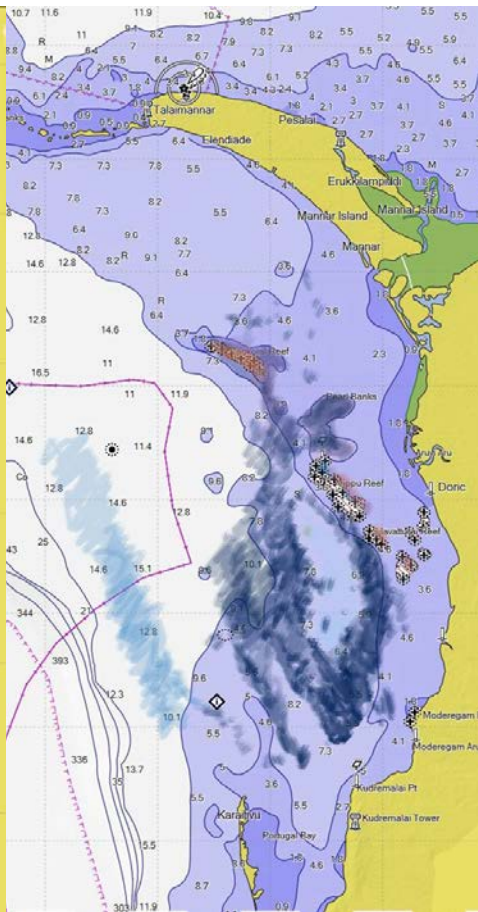
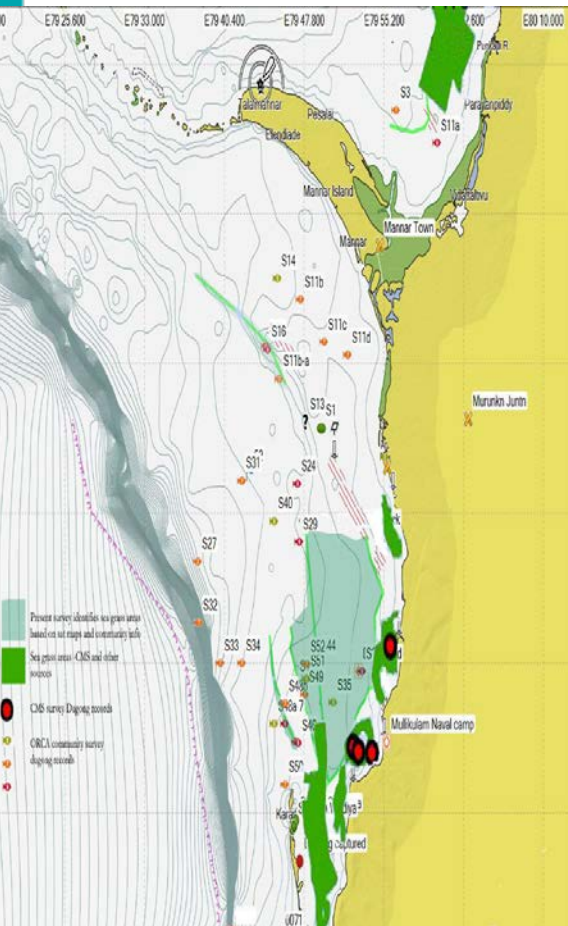
Project implementation structure



Sri Lanka achievements - Research

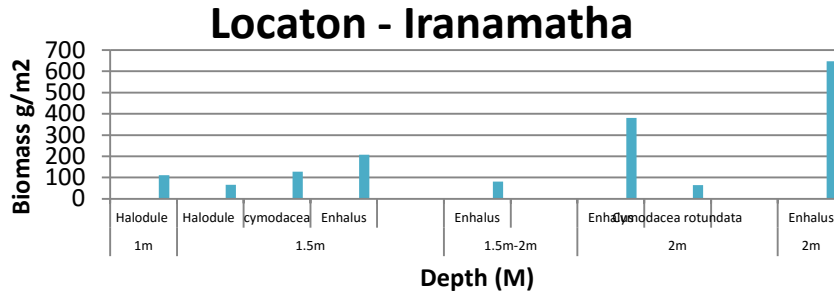


ORCA - Assess dugong Presence and Distribution



Sri Lanka achievements - Research

NARA
Assess dugong
habitat and
develop
habitat maps



Studies are carrying out to determine the impact of fishing gears on seagrass habitats;

Iranamatha - The location consist *Halodule pinifolia* in less than 1m deeper areas which is a favorable species for dugongs
 Pallikuda- Water quality deterioration could be observed with the seagrass dying.
 Water quality monitoring is carrying out.
Enhalus acoroides and *Cymodocea rotundata* are the common species.
 Walepadu- Patchy distribution of *Cymodocea rotundata*, *Cymodocea serrulata* and sparsely distributed *Enhalus acoroides*

Hand drawn seagrass poster for identification of species

Although shoot density is high biomass is low in *Halodule* compared to *Enhalus* which has longer stature.



Sri Lanka achievements

- Policy

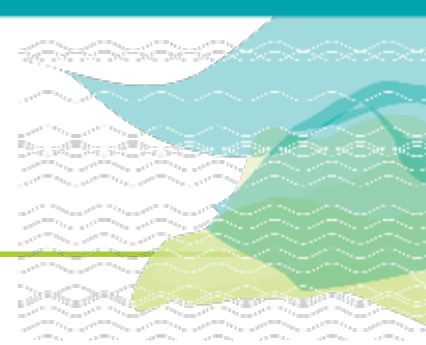
DWC NSC - Coordination among stake holders
Conservation coordination center
Marine mammal watching guidelines
Report on Policies and gap analysis being done.

IUCN Dugong conservation management plan


Community conservation groups



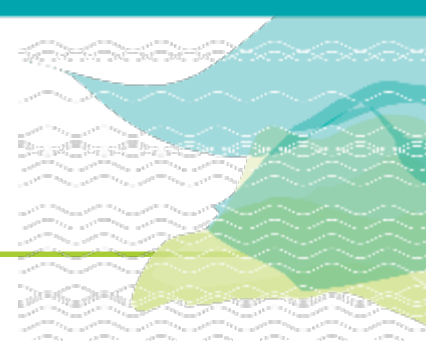
Sri Lanka achievements



- Conservation Education and Incentives

| | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| BEAR | Create conservation Education | <p>Pre awareness surveys with fisher communities and other local people.</p> <p>Design and printing of the awareness booklet – currently being finalized.</p> <p>Mini documentary on the importance of the Dugong and the seagrass beds – currently being edited.</p> |
| TCP | Incentives and alternative Income |  |

Sri Lanka achievements



- Project Management

DWC

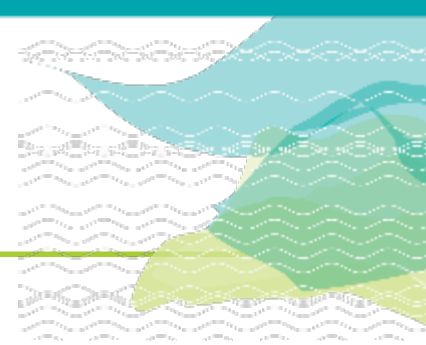
NFC
Policy review
Trainings

Training need assessment
done

Draft report on policy review
ready



Sri Lanka challenges



- Management
 - Individual projects vs Strategic Approach, livelihood and attitudinal changes of fishing communities, Destructive fishing and killing of Dugong
- Research
 - Dugong sighting is extremely low, Collection information from fishing community
- Policy
 - Quite high number of agencies on marine sector conservation and management with overlapping responsibilities
- Incentives
 - Attitudinal changes, Value of the compensation, Sustainability
- Barriers for awareness
 - Language

Sri Lanka lessons learned



- The project being implemented by both Government and Non Government organizations harmoniously and sharing of information
- The Government agencies will take little bit of more time to trigger the action as those should be in line with Government Regulations and Guidelines. Achieve expected **outcomes**
- NGO's trigger the actions easily and implementing fast. Achieve **outputs**
- Reluctance of community to provide information and will not favor of Pas

Next steps

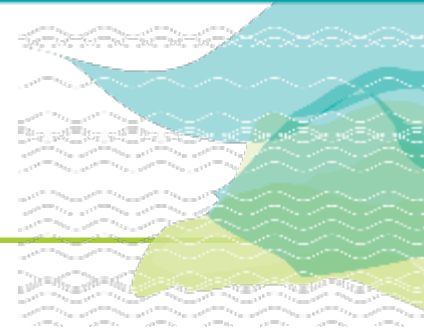
| Project ID | Activities to be completed by mid 2017 |
|--|--|
| LK1 Conservation Education | Communication materials developed and awareness continuing |
| LK2 Protection Coordination Management | NSC continuing and collectively implementing existing regulation Dugong conservation coordination center established with proper communication Marine mammals tourism guidelines finalized |
| LK4 Planning Community participation | Community conservation groups established Steps taken to develop Dugong conservation management plan |
| LK5 Research | Will be completed |

Next Steps



| Project ID | Activities to be completed by mid 2017 |
|-------------------------------|--|
| LK6 Research | Will be completed |
| LK7 Incentives | Scheduled activities completed |
| LK8 Policy Coordination | Continuing collaboration and support to implement the project (NFC) Policy review completed Training workshops conducted |

Next Steps



- Socioeconomic survey to be done
- Trans boundary action with India



Dugong & Seagrass

CONSERVATION PROJECT



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للمحافظة على الكائنات الحية
The Mohamed bin Zayed SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

