



International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) East Asia Regional Workshop



- **Location**

East Asian region

- **Project Background**

Coral reefs and related ecosystems are important for local societies and economies, as they support the fishery and tourist industries of coastal countries. The East Asia region (Northeast and Southeast Asia) is considered the center of biodiversity for coral reefs and related ecosystems, where many creatures habitats,

At the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), a plan of implementation which called on countries to establish representative networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) by 2012 was adopted. At the ICRI General Meeting held in Tokyo in April 2007, a recommendation was also adopted to promote developing MPA (including coral reefs and related ecosystems) networks.

- **Objectives**

The workshop describes a system of continuous cooperation in the East Asia region that will be formed to promote the conservation of coral reefs and related ecosystems and recommend the prior effort for the MPA Networks in East Asia Region.

- **Member Countries**

Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam (alphabetical order)

- **Project Achievements**

ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop has been held Six times since 1996. The 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop was held in Phuket, Thailand from 26th to 28th June 2010. From the relevant Asian countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam), seventy-four people participated in the workshop from 41 entities, including organizations and researchers that are addressing coral reef conservation, and the East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks 2010 was finalized.

The strategy establishes three objectives and indicates the concrete activities to achieve each objective in the region.

Objective 1 Formalize an appropriate regional mechanism for cooperation

[Concrete activities] Holding a continuing series of East Asia Regional Workshops, strengthening regional cooperation through the promotion of the regional networks of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN), and creating an information-sharing network

Objective 2 Follow-up of the Provisional Plan 2009-2010

(The Provisional Plan was formulated at the 4th Regional Workshops in November 2008)

[Concrete activities] Making available a coral reefs habitat map, improving and using the regional MPA database, and setting up an MPA in each country and promoting the management of each MPA using these databases

Objective 3 Reflecting recommendations to regional and national policies

[Concrete activities] Formulating guideline plans including the perspectives of the sustainable use of resources, the participation of local communities, the use of traditional knowledge, and other aspects that are important for creating the MPA Networks



The participants of the Workshop

- **Planned Activities**

Regional Workshops will continue to be held to establish cooperation with each other in order to promote the conservation of coral reefs and related ecosystems in the East Asia Region. MOEJ, in cooperation with relevant countries, will implement work based on the ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks 2010, such as consideration of the GCRMN regional network structure, disclosure of coral reef habitat maps, and improvement of regional MPA databases.

- **Related URL**

ICRI East Asia Regional Workshops: http://earw.icriforum.org/earw_mpa.html
ICRI: <http://www.icriforum.org/>

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