Activities on marine biodiversity conservation in the NOWPAP region

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Outputs of past activities on marine biodiversity

- **NOWPAP CEARAC**
  - Report “Monitoring and Management of MPAs in the NOWPAP region”
  - Report “Assessment of major pressures on marine biodiversity in the NOWPAP region”
  - Seagrass mapping with remote sensing techniques

- **NOWPAP DINRAC**
  - List of MPAs
  - National reports on marine invasive species, and Atlas of MIS
  - Endangered species database

- **NOWPAP POMRAC**
  - NOWPAP Ecological Quality Objectives (EcoQOs)
NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy

• 2012-2017
  - Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management
  - Regular Assessments of the State of Marine Environment
  - Pollution Prevention and Reduction, including Harmful Substances, Hazardous Waste and Marine Litter
  - Biodiversity Conservation (Including Alien Invasive Species)

• 2018-2019
  - Support Ecosystem-based Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management
  - Assess Status of the Marine and Coastal Environment
  - Prevent and Reduce Land- and Sea-based Pollution
  - Conserve Marine and Coastal Biodiversity
NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Conservation (RAP BIO)

- It shows basic policy and future vision for marine and coastal biodiversity conservation in the NOWPAP region

- It shows role of each NOWPAP member state, NOWPAP RCU and RACs

- In the 2018-2019, roadmap for developing RAP BIO will be prepared by international consultant, national experts, NOWPAP RCU and RACs

- In the 2020-2021, new project for developing RAP BIO will be started

- By 2023, RAP BIO will be developed, and approved by member states
Past successful example: Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI)

• RAP MALI was approved by the NOWPAP member states in March 2008

• Goal: to improve the quality of the marine and coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific region by addressing the marine litter problem through cooperation and partnerships. To help to establish a regional mechanism to deal with the marine litter problems in the NOWPAP region

• Three main objectives
  - To prevent the marine litter input into the marine and coastal environment
  - To monitor the quantities and distribution of marine litter
  - To remove existing litter that was already discharged, disposed of and abandoned
Activities on biodiversity in the 2018-2019 biennium

- **CEARAC**
  Development of CEARAC Medium-term Strategy on Marine Biodiversity
  Development of a tool for mapping seagrass distribution in the NOWPAP region

- **DINRAC**
  Endangered Species Database

- **POMRAC**
  Indicators for NOWPAP EcoQOs

6 Potential topics for future CEARAC’s activities

- Assessment of Marine Biodiversity
- Harmful Invasive Species
- Specific Migration Species
- Conservation of Biological Habitat including Tidal flat, Salt-marsh and seagrass/seaweed beds
- Plankton Species related to Aquaculture and Fisheries
- Environmental DNA

(MoE, Japan)
Mapping Seagrass Distribution in the NOWPAP Region

- Development of a manual for seagrass and seaweed beds distribution mapping by satellite images
- Feasibility Study for Assessment of Seagrass Distribution
- Development of a Tool for Mapping Seagrass Distribution

A manual was developed and applied to selected sea areas: Nanao Bay and Toyama Bay, Eastern Section of the Far Eastern Marine Reserve, Jangheung Bay, Swan Lake.
Red List of the NOWPAP Member States

Each member state has their own Red List or Red Data Book

Differences between National Red List and IUCN Red List

Development of the NOWPAP Red List of Marine Species

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NOWPAP Ecological Quality Objectives (EcoQOs)

- Biological and Habitat Diversity are not changed significantly due to anthropogenic pressure
- Alien species are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystem
- Eutrophication adverse effects (such as loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algal blooms, and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters) are absent
- Contaminants cause no significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human health
- Marine litter does not adversely affect coastal and marine environment