



Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



Report of the
**SocMon capacity development workshop for the
Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem countries in South Asia**
3-11 March 2015 • Vidathattivu, Northern Province, Sri Lanka

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SocMon capacity development workshop for the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem countries in South Asia

Vidathaltivu, Northern Province, Sri Lanka



Hotel Golden Rest, Mannar, Northern Province,
Sri Lanka Small Fisher Federation of Lanka (SFFL)
3-11 March, 2015



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Executive summary

Rationale/context

This Socio-economic Monitoring (SocMon) training workshop, coordinated by the Small Fisher Federation of Lanka (SFFL), was conducted at the Hotel Golden Rest, Mannar, Sri Lanka from 3-11 March, 2015. A total of 20 participants coming from eight coastal villages of Mannar representing the Fisheries Cooperative Society, fishermen, students and NGO's participated.

SocMon is an approach and set of tools for conducting socio-economic monitoring of changes in coastal communities which has been adopted, and adapted, worldwide through the Global SocMon network and, specifically in South Asia, through the SocMon South Asia node. It has gained increasing acceptance and use over the past two decades. The SocMon South Asia node has been active in promoting the approach over the last 14 years in several locations throughout the region and has contributed to creating a significant body of experience and expertise in India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka.

BOBLME has already played a role in supporting SocMon activities in South-East Asia and, with the current program of capacity-building activities, aims to extend knowledge and skills in SocMon approaches to new areas in South Asia.

Training objectives

The **global objective** was:

To improve the lives of the coastal populations through better regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The **development objective** was:

To ensure that socio-economic monitoring contributes to improved decision-making processes for coastal management in Sri Lanka and, specifically, for Vidathaltivu, Mannar.

The planned outputs of the training program work plan were:

1. Participants from Mannar trained in SocMon methodologies and capable of implementing SocMon programs.
2. Draft SocMon reports for Vidathaltivu - selected village.
3. A Work plan for implementing SocMon in Mannar developed and agreed upon.
4. A communication strategy for Vidathaltivu/Mannar developed aiming to raise the profile of SocMon and monitoring activities in coastal communities, and to inform and influence key decision-makers regarding the outputs of the SocMon process.
5. Key inputs to a regional SocMon strategy identified and agreed upon by participants.

Methodology

The methodology adopted for the workshop emphasized a participatory approach of learning by doing. Classroom lectures were followed by group work and field work. Workshop participants were encouraged to develop their understanding of SocMon and the various methods that can be used for SocMon by analysing the context of Vidathaltivu village and the people that live there.

Participants were asked to draw on their own experience from working and living in the area to develop a SocMon approach that would be specifically tailored to the demands of their work and the characteristics of the coastal villages of Mannar.

Reflections on workshop process and outcomes

The **workshop process** focused on ensuring that participants developed a good overall understanding of **what** SocMon deals with and **why** they should be doing it, as well as providing them with familiarity with the key tools and methods that can be employed and techniques to be used in the field.

Participants were introduced to the livelihood framework to help them develop an understanding of the complexity of **how livelihood choices are made**. Participants reflected on their own livelihood choices and related all the enabling and disabling factors that helped them reach where they are now.

They were then introduced to the terms **ecosystem goods and services** and were asked to reflect on the linkages between livelihoods and ecosystem goods and services. A presentation on the economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services in the Maldives was given to emphasize its importance.

Participants developed a livelihood matrix for three villages in Mannar (Pesalai, Pallimunai and Vidathaltivu) showing linkages to **goods and services used from the various habitats found there**. After these exercises Vidathaltivu was chosen as the SocMon study site for field work during the workshop.

Time was then devoted to developing a clear **goal, purpose** and **outputs** for SocMon in Vidathaltivu which reflect the priorities of the people of Mannar.

Participants were asked to reflect on the audience for SocMon outputs; the stakeholders and institutions they wanted to inform and influence, reflect on what behavioural change they wanted and develop a strategy on what media to use to inform and influence to achieve this behavioural change.

The participants placed considerable emphasis on using SocMon as a process by which the people and in particular fisher women and men, can be **engaged in a wider process of consultation and discussion on management issues** relating to the environmental goods and services that they use. This emphasis was important as it provided useful guidance for how to approach the SocMon process and relative emphasis to give to the data collection aspects of the process compared to the participatory engagement of communities and joint learning opportunities which SocMon can create.

Once participants had developed a clear understanding of **why** they might consider undertaking SocMon activities, the discussion of **how to approach SocMon** and what **specific parameters to focus their data collection activities** on became considerably easier. They made a list of parameters for data collection, methods they would use for data collection and the source (secondary, key informant, focus group) they would target to get the information.

The workshop participants visited Vidathaltivu twice. The first visit was an orientation visit to familiarize themselves with the village and environmental goods and services that the people used for their livelihoods and the second was to collect data. While the principle objective of this field work was to provide training to participants with an opportunity to put new learning into practice, the field work exercise also generated a significant body of data which has provided the basis for a **SocMon report on Vidathaltivu**.

Attention was paid during the workshop to discuss how SocMon could **build on what has already been done and contribute to on-going work** such as the “Management and Conservation of Mangroves for enhancing livelihoods” project supported by GEF and implemented by the Coast Conservation Department (CCD).

The **participants' evaluation of the workshop** was generally positive. They appreciated that several of the sessions were conducted in their local language Tamil. Problems with understanding discussion and presentations in English were clearly an issue and the need for more materials in local languages was highlighted. However, among those with a better grasp of English, the responses ranged from positive to enthusiastic, with considerable appreciation of the approach adopted and the level of engagement by participants that was encouraged by the facilitation team.

Conclusions and recommendations

Workshop participants from the eight coastal villages in Mannar have demonstrated a clear understanding of what can and cannot be achieved through SocMon and how they can use it to further their own work. There was a consensus that SocMon can make an important contribution to setting up a network of communication and consultation between concerned agencies and local stakeholders, in addition to providing key data to facilitate monitoring of changes in resource use in the area.

In the absence of any lead agency or NGO to take responsibility of completing the SocMon Vidathaltivu report, the workshop participants have formed a SocMon Mannar Self Help Group to continue carrying out SocMon in the villages and informing and influencing development agencies in Mannar. They have now partnered with CCD to support CCD in completing the socio-economic profile of Vidathaltivu for the “Management and Conservation of Mangrove for livelihoods” project and requested the Tamil speaking trainers to continue guiding them.

It is therefore recommended that a partnership between CCD, PAD and the SocMon Mannar SHG for continued SocMon work in Mannar, Northern Province should be developed and supported.

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Acronyms used

ANET	Andaman & Nicobar Environment Team
BOBLME	Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem
BOBP	Bay of Bengal Programme
CARESS	Centre for Action Research on Environment Science and Society
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CCD	Coast Conservation Department
CORALI	Coral Reefs and Livelihoods Initiative
CORDIO	Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean project
DFID	Department for International Development
DOE	Department of Environment
DOF	Department of Fisheries
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAORAP	FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
FCS	Fisheries Cooperative Society
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GN	Gram Nilabari
HHI	Household Interview
ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network

IFC	International Finance Corporation
IMM	Integrated Marine Management Limited (of UK)
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KI/KII	Key Informant Interview
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area
LMRCC	Lakshadweep Marine Research Conservation Centre
MCML	Mangrove Management and Conservation for Livelihoods
MCRCF	Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Foundation
MOEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MRC	Marine Research Centre, Maldives
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PAD	People's Action for Development (Gulf of Mannar) India
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SACEP	The South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SEAMARC	Systems Engineering & Marine Consulting, Maldives
SFFL	Small Fisher Federation of Lanka
SHG	Self-Help Group
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SLED	Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification approach
SocMon SEA	Socio-economic Monitoring South East Asia
SocMon SA	Socio-economic Monitoring South Asia
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture
USA	United States of America
WSHG	Women's Self-Help Group

1. Introduction

1.1. Rationale and background

The world's tropical coasts are home to over two billion people, many of whom live in poverty and depend on coastal resources and ecosystems, such as fish, beaches, and mangrove forests, for their livelihood, sustenance, and cultural traditions. In these coastal areas, development and poverty are often encountered side-by-side, and this combination places severe pressure on coastal ecosystems which frequently suffer from overexploitation, resource degradation and reduction in the services provided by ecosystems to people who depend on them.

Efforts to ensure that coastal development is sustainable and that the functions of coastal ecosystems are maintained have increasingly realised that understanding the people and communities that make use of coastal resources is as important as understanding the ecological processes that underpin coastal livelihoods. This situation is typified by the Bay of Bengal Region, where coastal areas are often particularly subject to multiple pressures from rising population density, high levels of poverty among coastal dwellers and increasing levels of industrial development. The complexity of social and economic conditions in coastal communities throughout the region makes socio-economic monitoring particularly important to allow communities, managers and decision-makers to understand how issues affecting coastal resources are evolving and to identify priority areas for intervention and management. Where conservation of critical habitats is being undertaken, socio-economic monitoring can serve to involve local communities in resource management decisions, provide adaptive management strategies to reflect local needs, and facilitate understanding of the importance of marine and coastal resources.

SocMon is an approach and set of tools that has evolved over the last decades to facilitate coastal planning, management and sustainable use. SocMon, which stands for the Global Socio-economic Monitoring Initiative for Coastal Management, has been working since 2001 through regional and local partners to facilitate community-based socio-economic monitoring in communities living in coastal regions of the world. Household and community level data are collected to inform planners and decision-makers about levels of dependence on coral reef resources, perceptions of resource conditions, threats to marine and coastal resources, and support for marine management strategies such as marine protected areas. To date, over 60 assessments have been completed in 30 countries. There are currently seven regions throughout the world that are successfully conducting socio-economic monitoring through the SocMon Initiative: Caribbean, Central America, Southeast Asia, Western Indian Ocean, Pacific Islands, South Asia and Brazil. SocMon fills a critical need by advancing a global and regional understanding of human interactions with and dependence on coastal resources. The United States (US) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) serves as the coordinating body for this global initiative. Within Asia, the Socio-economic Monitoring for Southeast Asia (SocMon SEA) and South Asia (SocMon SA) centres have been established with coordinating centres in the Philippines and India, respectively.

1.2. SocMon South Asia

In 1997, a conference held in Chennai, India, was organized by the M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation and the Bay of Bengal Program of FAO (BOBP) involving participants from all countries in the SAARC region. This played an important role in starting the process of building awareness of the need for monitoring of communities and their environment in coastal areas of the region. Shortly afterwards, the process of developing a SocMon network in South Asia was continued with the establishment of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) South Asia office at the IUCN office in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1997 with support from DFID and IOC/UNESCO. Awareness of the importance of monitoring of both the bio-physical and socio-economic status of coral reef areas of the region was developed through a series of capacity building activities and the development of

networks between concerned institutions. A first training event specifically dedicated to social and economic monitoring was held in Lakshadweep, India in 1998, followed by a series of training activities involving staff from government agencies and NGOs working in coastal areas in India (Gulf of Mannar, Lakshadweep Islands, Andaman and Nicobar Islands), the Maldives (Vaavu Atoll) and Sri Lanka (Puttalam Lagoon and Bar Reef). These initiatives created the basis for a SocMon network in the region and GCRMN provided funding for periodic monitoring activities in areas where capacity had been developed for implementation.

Support for the GCRMN South Asia node ended in 2002, but the Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO) project, which also set up a regional office at SACEP in Colombo from 1998 to 2006, continued many of the activities initiated by GCRMN and played an important role in maintaining these networks and supporting on-going monitoring activities.

With the support of the European Union, UNEP, IUCN and ICRAN (International Coral Reef Action Network), the CORALI initiative, implemented between 2007 and 2008, worked with a group of government and non-government organizations from India, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia (Aceh Province) to develop a Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification Approach (SLED) which, building on the methodologies already being used for SocMon in the region, aimed at improving work on livelihood diversification in coastal communities. Staff from organizations in Bangladesh and Pakistan was also involved in some of these training activities.

In 2010, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) from the USA provided support to the documentation of SocMon approaches used in South Asia and their development into a set of SocMon South Asia Guidelines, which were subsequently tested in 5 sites in India (Gulf of Mannar, the Lakshadweep Islands and the Andaman Islands), Sri Lanka (Bar Reef) and the Maldives (Baa Atoll). This activity was implemented by CARESS, a Chennai, India-based NGO, and IUCN. The SocMon SA Network in South Asia consists of CARESS, ANET, PAD, LMRCC, SEAMARC and MRC, Maldives, and MCRCF, Sri Lanka.

1.3. SocMon and the BOBLME

The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project (BOBLME) is an initiative funded primarily by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with co-financing from Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), FAO, participating Governments and the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA). The project's first phase runs from 2009-2015 with the global objective of ensuring a healthy ecosystem and sustainability of living resources for the benefit of the coastal populations of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME). The development objectives of the project were to support a series of strategic interventions that would result in and provide critical inputs into the Strategic Action Program (SAP), whose implementation will lead to enhanced food security and reduced poverty for coastal communities.

The BOBLME has been working with the South Asia SocMon network since 2011, with support to activities of the network contributing to BOBLME **Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use.**

For BOBLME, SocMon provides an opportunity to build on a strong existing network of practitioners and experience in social and economic monitoring to enhance regional capacity in generating important information on the communities and resource-users living in coastal areas of the Bay of Bengal Region. In particular, the SocMon method adopted in South Asia has adapted approaches used more widely across the globe to a coastal environment where poverty remains a key issue which has an important influence on the dynamics of resource use in coastal areas. The agencies and individuals involved in SocMon in South Asia have extensive experience in working with the wide range of different communities found in coastal areas and accommodating the different approaches required in order to effectively interact with them and link monitoring activities to concrete initiatives to improve local social and economic conditions.

Particularly important had been the consistent involvement of both government agencies and NGOs in SocMon activities. This creates an opportunity for BOBLME to make use of the SocMon network to engage with key decision-makers involved in the management of coastal areas and so contribute to its global objective of improving the lives of the coastal populations through better regional management of the Bay of Bengal region.

A workshop where both the SocMon SEA and SocMon SA regional coordinators collaborated was held at Myanmar in January 2014 and at Chilika Lake, India, in November 2014. The SocMon concept was refined to include BOBLME priorities. The Sri Lanka training program will also provide an opportunity to take forward some of the strategic priorities of the SocMon network in the South Asia region and lays the foundation for possible future collaboration between the network and BOBLME during the second phase of the BOBLME Project which is currently in formulation.

The training workshop reported on here has been a collaborative endeavour among various institutions within Sri Lanka and the SocMon SA network. The host institution was the Small Fisher Federation of Lanka, headed by Mr Anuradha Wickramasinghe. The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project provided the training funds. SocMon experts from India and Maldives served as trainers and facilitators.

This SocMon training workshop was held at the Hotel Golden Rest, Mannar, and Vidathaltivu Village, Sri Lanka from 3-11 March 2015. A total of 20 participants coming from various villages, and civil society groups/non-governmental organizations participated.

1.4. Training objectives

The objectives of the training in Sri Lanka were as follows:

Global objective

The global objective of the BOBLME Project, to which this training activity will contribute, is:

To improve the lives of the coastal populations through better regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

Development objective

The more immediate objective for this training program is as follows:

Socio-economic monitoring contributes to improved decision-making processes for coastal management in Sri Lanka and more specifically for Vidathaltivu, Mannar.

This reflects the importance for both SocMon and the BOBLME that monitoring activities not only generate improved knowledge, but that this knowledge is then put to use to improve the decision-making regarding coastal areas in the region.

1.5. Training outputs

The above development objective was to be achieved by the production of the following key outputs from the training program:

1. A cadre of people from local organizations working in Mannar trained in SocMon methodologies and capable of implementing SocMon programs.
2. Draft SocMon reports for Vidathaltivu.
3. A work plan for implementing SocMon in Vidathaltivu developed and agreed upon.
4. A communication strategy for Mannar developed aiming to raise the profile of SocMon and monitoring activities in coastal communities, and at informing and influencing key decision-makers regarding the outputs of the SocMon process.
5. Key inputs to a regional SocMon strategy identified and agreed upon by participants.

These key outputs were all achieved and are discussed below.

- The level of preparation of different participants in the workshop is variable but a core of 7 persons with good understanding of SocMon and the key tools which can be deployed for its implementation are now available in the coastal villages of Mannar.
- The details of the work plan for continuing with SocMon activities around Vidathaltivu will be prepared based on funding availability and decisions by SocMon Mannar and CCD on how to integrate SocMon into their on-going work in the area. The key components of this work plan were identified and discussed at the workshop.
- Some of the key targets for communication of outputs from SocMon were identified and approaches for informing and influencing key stakeholders and decision-makers discussed, creating the basis for a communication strategy to be developed as the SocMon work program in Vidathaltivu takes shape.
- In addition, some of the key messages from team SocMon Mannar which they would like to see incorporated into a regional SocMon strategy were identified. Participants indicated their readiness to provide inputs to this once they have undertaken further SocMon work and are in a position to reflect on what linkages they would like to see with the regional and global SocMon networks.

1.6. Training methodology

The methodology adopted for the workshop emphasised a participatory approach of learning by doing. Classroom lectures were followed by group work and field work. Workshop participants were encouraged to develop their understanding of SocMon and the various methods that can be used for SocMon by analysing the context of Vidathaltivu Village and its inhabitants. The sessions were conducted in an interactive mode, encouraging participants to draw on their experience of working and living in the coastal villages and to identify the key components of the SocMon approach that would be most appropriate for them and their work. The participants appreciated this approach rather than a more formal training approach. Formal presentations of SocMon methods and prior experience from the Maldives, Bar Reef, Sri Lanka and Gulf of Mannar, India were used to consolidate understanding that participants had already developed through their plenary and group discussions and the various exercises conducted by the facilitation team.

Prior to the workshop, possible problems with language had been identified. A Tamil speaking SocMon practitioner, Mr T. Marirajan from PAD, from Gulf of Mannar, India, was included in the training team. The participants were given time periodically throughout the workshop to reflect on what was being discussed in Tamil language. Mr Marirajan translated the key concepts in Tamil and encouraged questions on the areas that were not clear from the presentations made in English by the other trainers. The questionnaires and evaluation sheet were translated into Tamil and a Tamil version of SocMon guidelines was distributed to the participants. While the participants appreciated the efforts made to teach them in Tamil, language difficulties were highlighted by some participants in their evaluation and this emphasizes how important it is to create space for participants to discuss in their own terms and language the new learning they are acquiring.



Figure 1 Participants during the workshop

Considerable emphasis was placed on developing a goal, purpose and outputs for SocMon activities in Vidathaltivu which reflected the priorities and objectives of the coastal villages around Mannar. A series of field work exercises with the Vidathaltivu community were then used to encourage "learning-by-doing" and to give the participants an opportunity to put their new learning into practice. These field exercises also provided initial inputs for a SocMon report on Vidathaltivu which can subsequently be developed further by SocMon Mannar team, CCD and other cooperating agencies in the area as they continue their work on SocMon in the future.

The plenary and valedictory sessions and group work for the workshop were held at the Hotel Golden Rest, in Mannar, Northern Province, Sri Lanka. The field exercises were held in Vidathaltivu. An overview of the training program over 9 days is attached as **Appendix I**.

2. Workshop participants

The participants identified by the SFFL to take part in the workshop were members of the Fisheries Cooperative Society, educated fishers, and students who had completed A levels from 8 coastal villages around Mannar.

There was a good level of cooperation between the participants from the various villages, the NGOs and the CCD during the workshop. Unlike the SocMon workshops previously held at Chilika and Bangladesh, the gender balance was ideal as 50% of the participants were women. A full list of participants is attached as **Appendix II**. The different agencies, organizations and institutions working in Mannar who were represented in the workshop included:

- FCS - Fisheries Cooperative Society
- CCD - Coast Conservation Department
- SFFL - Small Fisher Federation of Lanka
- MCRCF - Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Foundation, Sri Lanka
- Natives of Vidathaltivu



Figure 2 Workshop participants

3. Reflections on workshop process and outcomes

This section identifies some of the key characteristics of the workshop and discusses some of the issues that were raised during the workshop which might be considered of particular importance for participants, for the conduct of future workshops and for BOBLME. Some of the reflections presented below are also the result of discussions held both during the course of the workshop and outside the workshop with participants and colleagues at the SFFL.

- MCRCF Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Foundation, Sri Lanka
- Natives of Vidathaltivu

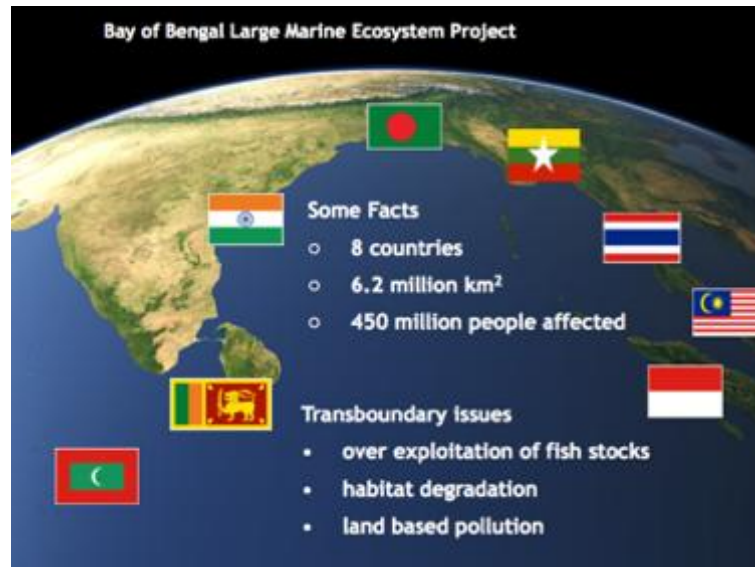


Figure 3 BOBLME

3.1. Workshop opening

The inauguration ceremony was held on the first day of the workshop in which the Assistant Director Fisheries and District Collector participated. The plenary began with the lighting of the lamp and encouraging speeches by the invited guests. A presentation was made to explain the purpose of the workshop and the relationship between BOBLME and the SocMon training. It was explained that the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project covered eight countries that shared the marine resources of the Bay of Bengal and that the global objective of the BOBLME Project, to which this training activity will contribute, is to improve the lives of the coastal populations through better regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The inauguration ceremony was followed by the formal sessions, the first of which was an activity where the participants introduced each other.

3.2. Understanding the livelihood framework

The workshop started off with an introducing the livelihoods framework which was constructed in plenary based on participants' own experience. This encouraged the trainees to reflect on the different elements that affect people's "livelihood opportunities" and the complexity of the social and economic aspects of people's lives. In particular, this aimed to broaden participants' understanding of what we mean by "socio-economic" aspects, incorporating not just the different assets that people use to make a living, but also the key characteristics of people that result in different levels of access to livelihood assets, and also the various external factors that can influence the livelihood outcome of a person. Hereafter reference was made to the livelihood framework to

understand livelihood opportunities in the participants' coastal villages and Vidathaltivu during the field visit.



Figure 4 Livelihood framework

3.3. Understanding ecological goods and services

We next introduced the terms ecological goods and services as used in the SocMon guidelines and manual so that the participants would be clear on what was meant by these terms. A presentation was made on the ecological value of goods and services in the Maldives and how this information was used to influence policy makers in biodiversity conservation.

The participants then made a list of all the ecological goods and services found in three villages (Vidathaltivu, Pesalai and Pallimunai) as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Ecological resources and related goods and services in Mannar

Resource	Related goods & services	Resource status
Coral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish breeding ground Coastal protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degraded due to dynamite fishing and Indian trawlers
Mangrove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries Firewood Bird habitat Coastal protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good and increasing
Seagrass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish nursery Food for dugongs and turtles 	
Deep sea/open water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Size and catch is declining
Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture Aquaculture Shelter Coconut Dry fish processing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lands are suitable for paddy cultivation and water is available

They were also asked to reflect on the differences between extractive and non-extractive uses of resources and their market values.

3.4. Clarifying goals, purpose, outputs and audience for SocMon in Vidathaltivu

Once the participants were clear on the key concepts of livelihoods and ecological goods and services, time was spent on discussing the goal, purpose, outputs and audience for SocMon in Vidathaltivu.

Particular attention was paid to this discussion as previous experience with SocMon workshop in the region have indicated how critical it is that local participants fully understand the purpose of SocMon and are able to see how it fits into their own work in the field. In the past many initiatives have tended to promote data collection activities without ensuring a full understanding among those involved of how data on social and economic conditions can contribute to better coastal management. The discussion of the purpose of SocMon in Vidathaltivu enable local participants to think through how the SocMon process could contribute to local development.

SocMon Mannar Goal

Management and conservation of the natural resources in and around Vidathaltivu to improve the economic well-being and enhancing the livelihoods of Vidathaltivu community.

Purpose

- **Manage:** help determine how to manage the natural resources to achieve our goal.
- **Assess:** establish baseline data to use for monitoring changes in social & economic conditions, people's perceptions and involvement in decision making.
- **Inform:** Vidathaltivu community, managers and decision makers with the expectation of adaptive management and behavioral change.

Outputs

- A livelihood and resource profile of the people (primary stakeholders) who live in Vidathaltivu developed.
- Mannar community, managers and decision makers who are aware of and understand how livelihoods, resources and resource use are changing in Vidathaltivu.
- Vidathaltivu community who are able to contribute to and engage in decision-making about resource management.
- A communication plan for Informing an influencing stakeholders.

3.5. SocMon as a strategy to engage communities in management decisions

A presentation was made to show how SocMon has been used as a community-based participatory approach for collecting data in Gulf of Mannar, India and Bar Reef, Sri Lanka. This approach helped in making joint learnings while empowering the local community at the same time. The workshop participants felt that a similar SocMon approach could be used for Vidathaltivu. By doing this the stakeholders of Vidathaltivu, such as the church committee, fishermen, farmers and women, could

be engaged in a wider process of consultation and discussion on management issues concerning the natural resources of Vidathaltivu. This emphasis was important as it provided useful guidance on how to approach the SocMon process and on the relative emphasis to be given to data collection aspects of the process complementing the participatory engagement of communities and joint learning opportunities which SocMon creates.

It was agreed that, while it was important to ensure that accurate data on local conditions is collected during SocMon activities in Vidathaltivu, it was particularly imperative to make sure that the approach adopted encouraged engagement by a wide range of local stakeholders. Discussions with communities, and specific interest groups and key informants within communities, held as part of SocMon, can be used to develop platforms or forums for on-going discussion and participation by local stakeholders in wider decision-making.

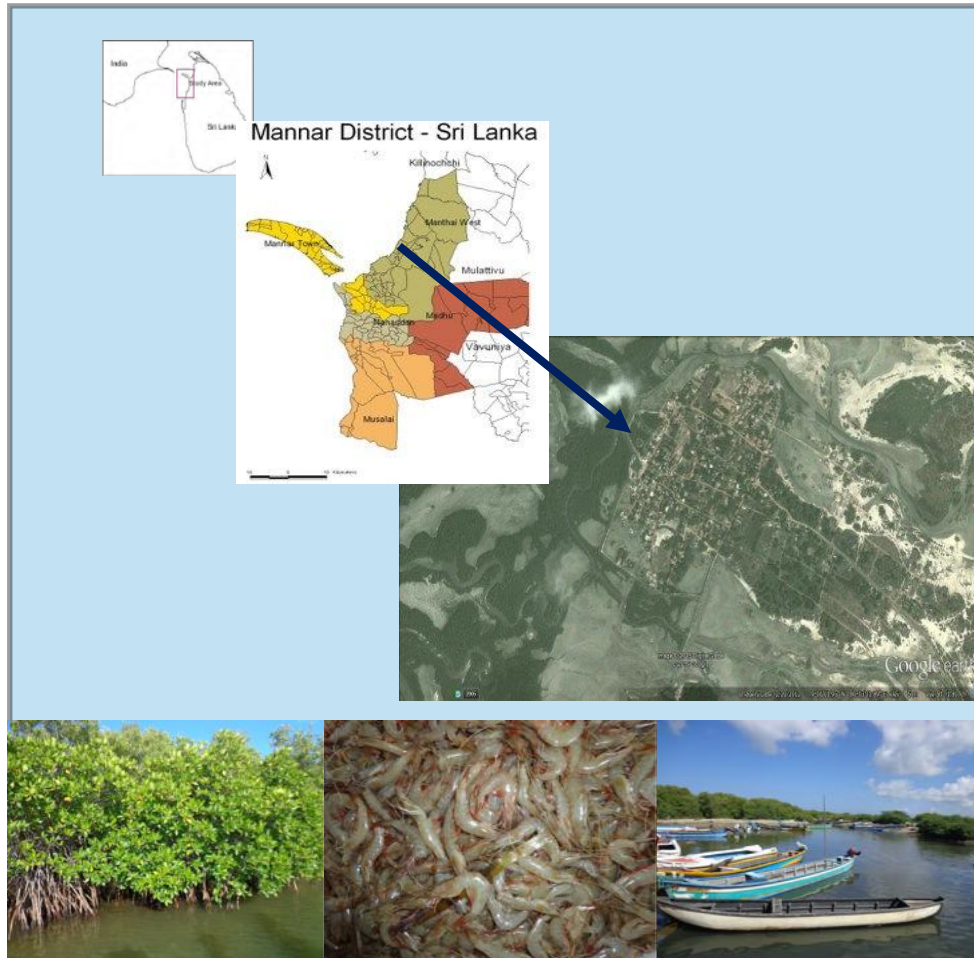


Figure 5 Location of Vidathaltivu and local resources

3.6. Identification of key parameters for data collection and appropriate methods to employ in the field

The key parameters listed in the SocMon guidelines were discussed. The participants were divided into two groups to make a list of the variables they would choose to collect data and the appropriate methods that they would employ in the field.

Table 2 Variables, information source and data collection method

Variables	Information source	Method
Community level demographics K1-K12	Published reports by IUCN, UNDP, Gram Niladhari	Secondary sources Study area map
Community infrastructure , Business development and ownership K 13	Gram Niladhari, shop keepers and WSHG members	Observation, KI
Coastal and marine activities K14-K27	Expert fishermen Fisher association	Observation, KI and FGD Visualisation
Government institutions and decision making bodies K28-K37	DOE, Defence, MOEF UNDP, Law Enforcement Agencies, GN	Secondary, Opinion survey on perception of MPA and ecological value of goods and services among Islanders
Material style of life	Villagers	Observation, FGD, KI questionnaire

The detailed list of the variables, information sources and data collection methods selected by the workshop participants are given in **Appendix IV**.

The questionnaire developed for the perceptions survey on ecological resources values is given in **Appendix V**.

3.7. Field work conducted during the workshop in Vidathaltivu

As part of the training activities, the participants were taken to Vidathaltivu twice to provide them with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the village administration, natural resources, and how the community uses them (Figure 6). The first visit was an informal visit where they had to use their observation skills and speak to people they met randomly. They were divided into four groups and told to wander about the village. One group met some women and listened to their stories; a second group met the Gram Niladhari and collected data on village demography and infrastructure. The third group enquired about livelihoods in the village while the fourth group met with fishermen and made a base map of Vidathaltivu showing the marine and coastal resources used in and around the village.



Figure 6 Field work in Vidathaltivu

During discussions, respondents were encouraged to make linkages between livelihoods and their impacts on the ecological goods and services. They noted that the village had a fish landing site, natural harbour and effective market linkages for their marine goods. Participants noted that a monofilament net which was banned in Mannar was being used by fishermen in the village.

The second field exercise consisted of one complete day of field work conducted in Vidathaltivu. The objective of this field work was to provide training to participants with an opportunity to put new learning into practice. They practiced how to approach the community and carry out visualisation techniques during a focus group discussion with the men and women of the village community. Once again the participants were divided into four groups. Group 1 was responsible for gathering data for the variables for community level demographics. Group 2 was responsible for gathering data on the variables for community infrastructure and business development. Group 3 was responsible for coastal and marine activities and Group 4 was responsible to gather information on governance, service providers and controllers.



Figure 7 Resource map of Vidathaltivu

Table 3 Seasonal distribution of occupations for men and women in Vidathaltivu

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sea cucumber fishing	♂	♂	♂									
Shank fishing	♂	♂	♂									
Crab fishing				♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂
Prawn fishing											♂♀	♂♀
Fish drying	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀
Set net fishing	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂
Agriculture (rice) farming	♂♀			♂♀	♂♀	♂♀				♂♀	♂♀	♂♀
Carpentry	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂	♂
Labouring	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀	♂♀

The field work exercises generated a significant body of data which has provided the basis for a SocMon report on Vidathaltivu. The information collected needs validation and this will part of future SocMon Mannar activities.

Vidathaltivu was a good choice of location for this field work exercise as it is a four hundred year old village rich in resources and steeped in history. The members of the community were displaced several times during the 30 year old civil war in Sri Lanka and it is only since 2009, following the end of the war, that they have known some stability and peace. They are now rebuilding their lives and are involved in a range of different livelihood activities in which many of the key issues and trends facing Vidathaltivu people are represented. The people have traditionally been involved in artisanal fisheries and agriculture.

Figures 7 and 8, as well as Table 3, illustrate some of the results obtained using visualization techniques to analyse, together with local people, their livelihood activities. These diagrams provide important indications regarding the boundaries of village resource use, the different resources used and activities carried out, the locations of livelihoods activities and the markets for the goods extracted.

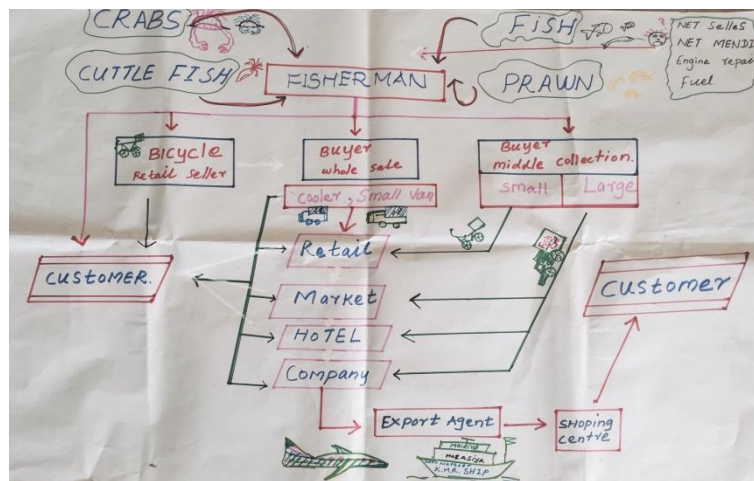


Figure 8 Market flow diagramme

Other key learning generated from the field work in Vidathaltivu included:

Community infrastructure

- The community has only seen displacement most of their lives. It is only since 2009 that there has been some semblance of normality and they are now concentrating in rebuilding their lives.
- There were a number of damaged houses. Many had no roof or no doors and window frames. According to the villagers these were damaged by firing or bombing and the house owners have not returned after displacement.
- There is one Women's Self Help Group with 40 members and they periodically receive training for various skills.
- The church has a strong hold over the people. There are two churches named St. James church and St Mary's church. St. James church has 400 years history and it is maintained very well.
- There are two schools: one is a Christian school named as St Joseph school, with 23 teachers and 400 students. The other one is a Muslim school known as Aligan Maha Vidyalaya (college) with four teachers and 2 students. They expect more students as resettlement continues.
- There is a library provided under the authority of Pradeshiya Saba office. It has around 1500 books. Majority of books are text books. 50 villagers have the library membership. During the war time the library did not function and it has been restarted on 2010.
- Most of the houses have an outdoor toilet with a septic tank.

Community livelihoods

- The natural resources are in relatively good condition.
- There is conflict with fishers from the neighbouring village who are said to use dynamite for fishing on Vidathaltivu reefs.
- Several trees of economic value play a role in local livelihoods including coconut, palmyra palm and tamarind.

Governance

- The Fisheries Cooperative Society in the community is functional and plays a role in supporting local fishers.
- The church committee exerts a strong influence on the people and carries out welfare activities.
- The Fisheries Inspector has considerable influence since he is the sole representative for the Ministry and all its Departments.

The analysis of the materials collected during the field work highlighted several additional areas of interest which will become the focus for further work to be conducted in Vidathaltivu in order to complete the SocMon report for this community. These key areas for further work are laid out in Table 4 below in the form of key questions that need to be answered and possible respondents who might need to be consulted in order to answer those questions, as well as some specific field methods that could be used.

Table 4 Key Questions for further field work in Vidathaltivu

Key questions	Possible respondents	Possible methods
Information on community level demography. Community infrastructure, business development and ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gram Nilidhari • Local leaders • Business owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary data collection from Gram Niladhari office
What is the material style of life at the village? What are the sources of income and pattern of employment in the households? What sets of assets are owned or accessed by different groups in the community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample of individual households selected based on social mapping of community • Sample to select households with different asset ownership characteristics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household interviews (HHIs)
What is the status of women in the community? What is their contribution to the household wellbeing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, either individually or in small groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHIs • FGDs • Stories • Daily time-use analysis
What forms of traditional leadership are there in the community and what influence do they have?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members • Traditional leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual key informant (KI) interviews • Venn diagrams
What is the role of the fisheries cooperative in the community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative members • Village leaders • Fishers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FGD • KI • Venn diagrams

<p>What changes have taken place in the community?</p> <p>How have people adapted to change?</p> <p>What has helped them or hindered them in adapting to change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals • Households • Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FGDs • HHIs • KI • Timelines of key changes
<p>What is the role of the Coast guard/Navy in environmental law protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coast guard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KI

3.8. Perceptions survey

A perceptions survey questionnaire was developed and survey carried out to teach the participants how to collect and analyze data through this method. Each participant was given 5-7 questionnaires and they had to interview respondents in their respective home villages and Mannar Junction. The data collected was subsequently analyzed using MS Excel and the results were presented at the closing ceremony. The questionnaire, which was developed in English and Tamil, is shown in **Appendix V**.

3.9. Incorporation of SocMon into current work being conducted in Vidathaltivu village

Attention was paid during the workshop to discuss how SocMon could build on the existing initiatives and contribute to on-going work.

Mannar District in the Northern Province is receiving a lot of International attention since they are focusing on helping the war affected community to rebuild their lives.

Vidathaltivu village in particular is receiving much of this as international aid agencies are targeting this village with its rich natural resources. Several projects to be implemented are in the pipeline. At the closing ceremony we were told that a channel deepening project has been sanctioned by an International agency and an “eco-tourism” project is also being explored by IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank. So far no stakeholder consultation has taken place in any of the coastal villages of Mannar. The Small Fisher Federation of Lanka who organised the workshop in Mannar is also focusing attention on Vidathaltivu to start a program in Mannar and have used the SocMon workshop as their entry point.

Vidathaltivu is the focus village for the GEF supported Mangrove Management and Conservation for Livelihood project being implemented by the CCD. This project has a socio-economic component that has to be completed by May. We have therefore zeroed in on CCD to be the partner agency in Sri Lanka to coordinate the efforts of the SocMon Mannar team in completing the site report for Vidathaltivu.

3.10. Informing and influencing plan

After the participants had completed the field work and analysed their findings they were asked to reflect on the audience for SocMon results: who they would want to inform and influence with their findings. The participants made a list of the internal and external stakeholder audiences who would be interested in the SocMon key learnings. They identified media to be used for conveying the information and also the expectations of behavioural change from the audience. The institutions and stakeholders selected by the participants are as follows:

Village stakeholders	External stakeholders
Fishers (crab, shrimp, conch, fish)	Department of Environment & Forests
Fish Cooperative Society	Coast Conservation Department
Women Self Help group	Department of Fisheries
Farmers	District Collector
Youth Groups	Media Journalists
Church Committee	Researchers and Scientists
Local Associations	NGO's/INGO's
Village Conservation Groups	

Participants discussed the value of the ecological resources found in Vidathaltivu and the knowledge regarding Ministry of Environment notifications to protect corals, mangroves, marine mammals and turtles.

Participants felt that a two pronged informing and influencing approach will be needed targeting both the village stakeholders on their rights and responsibilities and the governing institutions to carry out better governance in the coastal villages to protect the ecologically sensitive natural resources and the livelihoods of the local people.

The detailed informing and influencing plan is attached in **Appendix VI**.

The closing ceremony provided a venue for the participants to inform and influence decision making. Several Government Administrative officers were invited and the workshop participants gave power point presentations showcasing what they had learnt from the Vidathaltivu field trip and the perceptions survey. The chief guest Mr K. Sribaskaran, Mannar District Secretariat Planning Director, was very appreciative of their handwork and was impressed that so much data had been collected through PRA in such a short time.

3.11. Evaluation of SocMon training by participants

The participants' evaluation of the workshop was generally positive. The participants have appreciated the efforts of facilitating the sessions in Tamil and that a Tamil version of the SocMon guidelines was given to them. For most of the participants, problems with understanding discussion and presentations in English were clearly an issue and the need for more materials in local languages was highlighted.

Among the suggestions provided on how the SocMon training could be further improved, the key point seems to regard the use of local language. Clearly this represents a challenge for the facilitation team, but it does highlight how, in future workshops, special efforts will be required to create space and time for participants to discuss what they have learnt during the workshop in their own language, using those with better English to report back on these discussions to the facilitation team. The full results of the participant's evaluation of the workshop are shown in **Appendix III**.

4. Conclusions and recommendations

The SocMon workshop held at Mannar, Northern Province, Sri Lanka achieved all of its intended outputs. A cadre of trained staff can now be regarded as being able to support future SocMon activities around Mannar coastal areas. They will serve as the SocMon team for Mannar, Sri Lanka and, once they have acquired appropriate experience, will be able to train other SocMon teams in the Northern Province where Tamil is the spoken language.

The analysis of the materials collected during the field work highlighted several additional areas of interest which will become the focus for further work to be conducted in Mannar and Vidathaltivu in order to complete the SocMon report for this community. These key areas for further work are listed in Table 4 (section 3.7) in the form of some key questions that need to be answered and possible respondents who might need to be talked to in order to answer those questions, as well as some specific field methods that could be used.

4.1. Future work plan for SocMon Vidathaltivu

Vidathaltivu is the focus village for the GEF-supported Mangrove Management and Conservation for Livelihoods (MCML) project being implemented by the CCD. This project has a socio-economic component that has to be completed by May.

CCD office in Mannar has only one planning officer with no staff and limited resources. However, seeing the eagerness of the participants to complete the village profile and SocMon report, he has agreed to act as coordinator and provide a meeting place at his office.

The outline and key components of a future work plan for SocMon at Vidathaltivu has been prepared. The main features of this work plan are as follows:

4.2. Formation of the SocMon Mannar SHG

Participants elected to form a SocMon Mannar group who will work alongside CCD.

The 1st meeting of the Mannar Group was held on the 11 January after the closing ceremony of the workshop and the following decisions were taken:

Office bearers elected

President: Annesley, Pallimunai village

Vice President: Nathan, Vidathaltivu village

Secretary: Romacy Baslica Croos, Pesalai village

Asst Secretary: Jeromia M, Thalvupadu village

Treasurer: Kiyas Nafees, Puthukudyrippu village

Registration and methods of working

- The newly elected body will be registered
- The entrance fee and annual fee is fixed as Rs. 50
- Monthly meeting - 1st Tuesday of each month
- Office bearers elected
- Monthly meeting will be at AD office
- The SocMon - Mannar team should be acknowledged by SocMon South Asia
- Contact address to be decided
- Rule and regulation for the organisation will be framed in next meeting
- It was decided that the group will be registered as a CBO at district level
- It was decided that Mr Nathan will be Facebook page coordinator
- Nathan and Surenth, will be the custodians of all the Vidathaltivu field work charts and questionnaires. They will organise a SocMon informing and influencing meeting at Vidathaltivu before the end of March 2015

Immediate task:

- The next meeting will be held on 19 March at CCD office under the guidance of Mohammed Haleem, Planning officer.
- The work required to complete the Vidathaltivu SocMon report will be completed by 31 May 2015 and made available to the CCD MCML project.

4.3. Validation of information collected

The next step in this work will be to conduct a validation meeting for the data collected and analysed, with members of the community of Vidathaltivu and local authorities. Particular emphasis was laid on the importance of this step in ensuring that the SocMon Mannar team's interpretation of findings is correct and to ensure that the local community takes full ownership of the findings of the process. Participation by local agencies, including government departments such as CCD, Fisheries and local Administration Tourism, who may not have been directly involved in the SocMon process, will also be an important feature of these validation meetings. This is an essential step in ensuring appropriate follow-up action.

4.4. Financial support needed for completing this work

The workshop gave consideration to the fact that some financial resources will be needed in order to complete the Mannar process and report.

Support will be needed to pay to cover the SocMon team time, supplies and travel to Mannar for completing the work identified. The budget required to complete the work along with a narrative is given in **Appendix VII**.

It is recommended to have a second workshop with the Mannar SocMon team before finalising the outputs.

4.5. Wider regional SocMon strategy

This was the first time that a SocMon workshop was conducted in Mannar, Northern Province, Sri Lanka. It has therefore contributed to the wider global SocMon strategy to promote the use of SocMon approaches in more countries and show how socio-economic monitoring can complement biophysical monitoring and provide a basis for better management of coastal ecosystem resources and its fisheries.

With the Mannar SocMon team established there are now 4 country teams and 7 site teams in South Asia. Engagement with the wider SocMon network, both regionally and globally, can ensure that key lessons generated from this experience are more widely recognized and possible applications in other settings made possible.

BOBLME's support and the involvement of the SocMon SA regional coordinator in the workshop will ensure that an appropriate level of visibility is given to the workshop and to future SocMon work in Northern Province, Sri Lanka, in particular and South Asia in general. Active engagement of SocMon Mannar team and Coast Conservation Department in the network will also be encouraged in the future. As the trainers were from India and Maldives, it provided an opportunity to strengthen the SocMon SA network and share experiences.

Particular elements in the Vidathaltivu, Mannar experience which may provide important lessons for other SocMon partners globally would include:

1. Sharing experiences on how SocMon has been used in Mannar, Sri Lanka
2. Workshop participants form a SocMon Mannar Self Help Group to promote SocMon in Mannar
3. Involvement of Government agencies and Non-Government Organisations working in Vidathaltivu, Mannar and the modes of operation for its cooperation
4. The Particular emphasis placed by the workshop participants on the concept of sustainable use, as opposed to concentrating purely on protection of the coastal environment
5. The emphasis placed on using SocMon as a strategy to engage communities in management decisions and take a more proactive role in managing their coastal resources

The February 2014 meeting of the global SocMon network proposed the development of regional SocMon strategies to complement the strategy of the global network. In the development of such a strategy for the South Asia region, it would be extremely important to ensure that partners such as

Mannar SocMon group are actively involved, as they will be able to provide invaluable learning and experience to feed into that strategy and ensure that it fully reflects the specific characteristics of coastal areas in the region.

4.6. The role of Coast Conservation Department, PAD and Mannar SocMon Group

The excellent collaboration with the planning officer from CCD, PAD and the participants representing different villages achieved during the workshop suggests that they would be in a good position to provide further inputs to the development of this strategy in the future.

The participants at the workshop represented Coast Conservation Department, the Fisheries Cooperative Society, fishermen and students from 7 coastal villages. They have demonstrated a clear understanding of what can and cannot be achieved through SocMon in the area and how they can use it to further their own work in Mannar. There is considerable potential for developing a more complete SocMon program for Mannar and it is clear that the participatory approach recommended for implementing SocMon are appropriate for the work that the participating institutions are proposing in the future. SocMon can make an important contribution to setting up a network of communication and consultation between concerned agencies and local stakeholders, in addition to providing key data to facilitate monitoring of changes in resource use in the area.

PAD, an NGO based in Tamil Nadu, India, has trained SocMon practitioners and they are willing to conduct further training and provide guidance in Tamil. CCD, the Coast Conservation Department, Sri Lanka, is in an excellent position to make best use of SocMon approaches in the future. Several key international development agencies active in Sri Lanka in the field of coastal management (UNDP, GEF, the World Bank) use CCD as their Nodal office, hence Mr Mohammed Haleem has good knowledge of where SocMon can fit in. There is every indication that, should this work receive additional support, they would be able to achieve the wider development objective of the SocMon training program, which is to ensure that socio-economic monitoring contributes to improved decision-making processes for coastal management in Sri Lanka and, specifically, for Vidathaltivu.

It is therefore recommended that a partnership with CCD, SocMon Mannar & PAD India for continued SocMon work in Mannar should be developed and supported.

Appendix I Program schedule

Day	Activity
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions & background to the SocMon training • Introduction to livelihood framework • Livelihoods of coastal villages around Mannar
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish resources around Mannar and their status by AD Fisheries, Mannar • Economic valuation of ecological services - Maldives • SocMon in Gulf of Mannar - India • Introduction the terms ecological goods and services as in the guidelines • Goals and objectives for Vidathaltivu SocMon
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SocMon in Bar Reef, Kalpitiya - Sri Lanka • Introduction to SocMon parameters and methods to collect data • Field work preparation - developing detailed parameters for SocMon • Participants orientation trip to Vidathaltivu
Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap of orientation trip and planning field sessions
Day 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd fieldwork session at Vidathaltivu
Day 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data analysis and reporting of field work output
Day 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of audience for Vidathalthivu SocMon results • Strategy for informing and influencing
Day 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication strategies for making use of SocMon results • Preparing presentation for the closing ceremony
Day 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing ceremony and distribution of certificates • Planning of future SocMon strategies and activities

Appendix II List of participants

	Name	Department/organisation	Mobile No. +94	E-mail
1	Daniyal Milton	Nadukadu Pesalai - Student	779735908	
2	Arulprath A	Nadukadu - Student	772692458	
3	Surenth S	Vidathaltheev - Fisher	779921027	
4	Nadanraj J	Vidathaltheev - Student	779211326	vttitans95@gmail.com
5	Nafees K	Puthukudyrippu - A level unemployed	713079326	nafeeskiyas@yahoo.com
6	Md. Nadeer M.S	Puthukudyrippu -A level unemployed doing agriculture	777481955	
7	Anesley figurado LAJ	Pallismunai -ST Lucius Fisheries Secretary	719452506	a.figurado@yahoo.com
8	Prathiban figurado SJ	Pallismunai - Buisnessman Fish Agent	773585510	
9	Priyatharsini Miranda J	Vankalai (Manager FCS)	776973145	
10	Jeromia M	Thalvupadu - (Manageme nt Assistant FCS)	779767529	
11	Dionyas Fernando	Thalvupadu	776940823	
12	Baslica Kollas SA	Pesalai (Manager FCS) Ward No 8 Pesalai Mannar	767686035	romicykulas@gmail.com
13	Invadi Croos J	Ward No. 5, Pesalai, Mannar Fisheries Cooperative Society (Accountant FCS)	75736483	
14	Nikalina Croos CD	Pesalai (fishers loan Bank Veevar Bank FCS) Ward No.8 Pesalai, Mannar	776688272	
15	Priyadarsini JML	Kalpitiya (PEARLS NGO Microfinance Manager Mohamik group	722143995	
16	Raheem AA	Chilawthurai Social Worker , Mannar district Fishermen Federation Secretary	77939358435	rafkaraheem123@email.com

17	Subasini KB	Kalpitty/Mawanella MCRCF	773482825	
18	Mohammed Haleem	Planning Officer, CCD, Mannar	718363905	armhaleem@gmail.com
19	Tawapala Ratnam S	SFFL, Organiser	774567894	
20	Jaya thilaka WP	SFFL, Organiser	766695931	
21	Doughlas T	SFFL, Organiser	773045444	
22	Primrose Anet	SFFL, Organiser	771948040	
23	Marie Saleem	SEMARC, Trainer		
24	Vineeta Hoon	CARESS , Trainer		vineetahoon@gmail.com
25	T. Marirajan	PAD, Co-trainer		
Special invitees at the opening ceremony				
1	Mrs Stanley De Mel: Mannar District Secretarial Additional Government Agent			
2	Mr M.A.K Jayakody: Mannar District Forest Officer			
3	Mr B.S Mirando: Department of Fisheries Mannar			
4	Mr A.R.M Haleem: Coast Conservation & Coastal Resources Management Dept.			
5	Mr T. Rajeshwaran: Mannar District Central Environmental Authority			
6	A.J Soisa: Mannar District Fisheries Federation President			
Special invitees at the closing ceremony				
1	Mr K Sribaskaran, Mannar District Secretariat Planning Director			
2	Mrs R.Wimlada, Mannar District Central Environmental Authority			
3	Mr A.R.M Haleem: Coast Conservation & Coastal Resources Management Dept.			

Appendix III Participants workshop evaluation

Overall average evaluation mark over 5 categories: 4.41/5

1 – insufficient 2 – could be better 3 – OK 4 – good 5 – very good

Category	Rating average
1. Workshop planning and organisation	5.00
• Venue	4.87
• Food	3.6
2. Workshop facilitation	4.87
3. Workshop materials	4.26
4. Your understanding of SocMon	4.6
5. Your understanding of SocMon to inform and influence	4.6
Overall comments	

1. Workshop planning and organization	Average rating: 5.00
<p>What went well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trainers activities were good • The information by KI and FGD gave me better understanding of the area • Vineeta explained things in Tamil • Though it is in English we received Tamil translation and we could clearly understand concepts • Training went well • This training organized to improve livelihood for villages • From SocMon training we identified livelihood resources of Vidathaltivu people and made an action plan • Trainers explanation was good • I understood village resources, management and protection and this was discussed in FGD • I can understand PRA methods & how to do them • Now I understand SocMon, location of the other sites and how to conserve resources • I learnt how to conserve, develop, protect coastal resources • The explanation given by trainer and technical knowledge is very good • It's a new experience 	<p>What could have been better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The venue should be arranged with transport facilities though you wanted us to stay we did not want to stay there • Nothing to improve • Food and transport could be improved • When the sessions ended late then transport was a problem, this could be improved • Transport and food could be improved • Training days could be increased • Food needs more attention it was tasteless, computer literacy is needed • Little more time was needed • Things could be improved • Food and transport could be improved • Transport needs attention

<p>2. Workshop facilitation</p>	<p>Average rating: 4.87</p>
<p>What went well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The training was fantastic, interactive, lots of group of work, we enjoyed it • The field trip to Vidathaltivu was good • The training sessions are good • SocMon training is good • The training conducted is good, video, photos the concept clarification through video and photos is necessary • Training is good • Training session is good • SocMon training was good • The approach by the trainers is good, the language difficulties were addressed in different ways • Training and field visits were good • Group work is very good • Field visit especially the sea and mangroves was good • I learnt SocMon as an individual I came to know all my special characteristics • The trainers mingled with the trainees and made us comfortable • Every day we learnt several new things the explanation was very good • Interaction was very good 	<p>What could have been better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every point should be translated in Tamil sometimes this didn't happen, there should be more energizers, more than one study site should have been selected • We need to allot more time to field visits • SFFL members could have participate in the workshop • Demonstration session could be improved • English used often, this should be avoided • It should be in Tamil only for complete understanding by everyone • Training • We could have included one more village for learning comparison • To continue with the SocMon work we should form a group • More trainers speaking Tamil • Trainers should wear a uniform dress • Practical sessions could be improved

3. Workshop material and hand-outs	Average rating: 4.26
<p>What went well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SocMon manual in Tamil was good, when they presented the questions were raised to the group which led to good discussion • We collected information • I received the guidelines • The manual is correct and easily understandable • Good • The training materials are good and informative • The information is helpful to understand the situation • Within the training manual the explanations were useful • The maps, earlier SocMon studies explained though LCD is good • Thanks to CCD officer for training manual • Practical sessions help us to work as a team, field note and other guideline manual helps us to teach our villagers • Training manual have lots of information which will help me understand • Training manual and references are good • Training manual is good • Training manual is good 	<p>What could have been better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All good • We should give more time to field visit • Things could be improved, the guideline should be given earlier • Training manual could have been given earlier • The training manual font size should be bigger and language rhythm is not understandable • The training methodology related literature could be given • Training manual should have been given the first day • In the group sessions a few members did not participate • The manual could be given in CD

4. Your understanding of SocMon	Average rating: 4.6
<p>What went well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trainers activities were good • The information by KI and FGD gave me better understanding of the area • Vineeta explained things in Tamil when she could • Though it is in English we received Tamil translation and we could clearly understand the concepts • Training went well • This training is organized to learn and improve livelihood for villages • From SocMon training we identified livelihood resources of Vidathaltivu people and made an action plan • Trainers explanation was good • I understood village resources, management and protection and this was discussed in FGD • I can understand PRA methods and how to do them • Now I understand SocMon where are the other sites and how to conserve resources • I learnt how to conserve, develop, protect coastal resources • The explanation given by trainer and technical knowledge is very good • It is a new experience 	<p>What could have been better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SocMon trainers should have been able to understand Tamil • Translation could be improved • We should have visited all 3 villages rather than selecting 1 • In future this could be taken to villages as power point • Take us to other SocMon sites • It should be a one month training with linkages to relevant institutions • Other villages could be included in field visits • This kind of training should be conducted frequently to improve our understanding • Practical sessions could be longer

<p>5. Your understanding of SocMon to inform and influence</p>	<p>Average: 4.6</p>
<p>What went well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everything good • I learn the livelihoods of Vidathaltivu people • The explanations went well • Training session is good • Trainer approach is good • Training aids is good inputs from trainers is fine • The facilitation was good • Now I know SocMon information and where it should go • Now I understand why we should conserve and utilize resources for the future • This kind of training exhibit others personality • Explanation is very good • Guidance given by SocMon is good 	<p>What could have been better?</p>

List something new that you learnt	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I learn many things especially about the marine resources in the sea, understood the roles of institutions, all the information is new to us. • I came to know that we have so many resources in our area. Vidathalthivu is the breeding place for fish I learnt about fishing methods. • Everything is good. • This is the first time I learnt that those he live in Sri Lanka should learn three languages; Tamil, Sinhala and English. The things we decided in the training should be implemented. • Even though I am born in fishing family here I learnt a lot and the things I saw through visuals and field visit is a new experience, even though trainers are outsiders the mingled with us well and participated along with us. Normally the training program is long with lectures and boring but in this I didn't feel the passing of time and didn't want the workshop to end the 10 days passed too quickly. • Resource activity map, role of government department, community infrastructures, conservation laws and their relevance. • As trainees English is a common language and everyone should learn English. • If I knew English I could have benefitted more, learnt how to collect data, leader ship quality, identifying KI stakeholders, interview skills. • I learnt research methodology, how to write report, role of various department, research done at shore and sea. • The workshop organized by SFFL did not include their full cooperation. • I faced language problem, we are in Sri Lanka we should know at least English as a common language to discuss with others. • Now I understand coastal resources of Mannar, why it should be conserved, cheaters of individuals, as a team how to work, the guidance given to future Mannar team is good. • The field trip, coastal resources are precious and I understand the need to conserve them, I understand the various institutional roles. • I understand about illegal fishing and banned nets. • The training certificate will help me find job in the future. • I learnt the connection between conserving natural resource and improving the life of fishers. 	

Appendix IV Variables for Vidathaltivu

Community level demographics

No	Parameter	Source of information
K1	Study area	Available
K2	Population	Gram Niladhari
K3	No. of households	Gram Niladhari
K4	Migration rate	Gram Niladhari
K5	Age	Gram Niladhari
K6	Gender	Gram Niladhari
K7	Education	Gram Niladhari
K8	Literacy	Gram Niladhari
K9	Ethnicity/caste/tribe	Gram Niladhari
K10	Religion	Gram Niladhari
K11	Language	Field survey
K12	Occupation	Field survey

Community infrastructure, business development & ownership

No	Parameter	Source of information
K13	Community infrastructure, business development and ownership	G.N, field survey

Coastal and marine activities

No	Activity name	Source of information
K14	Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries • Tourism • Agriculture 	DoF (Mannar) – Partial data, PRA in village DoE (Mannar, CCD) DoF (Mannar)

K15	<p>Goods and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turtle • Fish • Crab • Lobster • Prawn • Seaweed • Shell 	FGD
K16	<p>Types of use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various nets • Fiberboat & vallam • Trawler 	Fisheries Association, KII and FGD
K17	<p>Value of goods & services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish • Shell • Coral • Seagrass • Seaweed 	KII and FGD
K18	Target markets of goods & services	Fish landing site, KII and FGD
K19	Traditional knowledge	FGD
K20	Use patterns, activity location, seasonality	FGD
K23	Level & types of impact	DoE, DoF, MoEF, secondary sources, FGD
K24	Level of use by outsiders	DoE, DoF, MoEF, secondary sources, FGD
K25	Household use	Primary information,
K26	Stakeholders	FGD
K27	Tourist profile	No tourism as yet

Governance, institutions & decision-making bodies

No	Parameter	Source of information
K28	<p>Management body</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerning bodies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defence • District collector • CCD, DOE&F, DOF 	DoE
K29	Management plan	DoE
K30	Enabling legislation	MoEF, DoF, CCD
K31	Management resources	MoEF, DoF, CCD

K32	Formal tenure and rules	MoEF, DoF, CCD
K33	Informal tenure & rules, customs and traditions	Fishermen, church (KI)
K34	Community incentives	UNDP – DoE, DoF
K35	Stakeholder participation and satisfaction	Survey
K36	Community and stakeholder organisations	FGD
K37	Power and influence	Law enforcement agencies, FGD

Details of community infrastructure, business development and ownership

1. Hotel

No. of hotel/guest house	Name of owner	Owner's residence (Vidathaltivu or other)	Credit source (own/friend's bank)

2. Restaurants

No. of restaurant	Name of owner	Owner's residence	Credit source (own/friend's bank)

3. Shops

Category of shop	No. of shops	Name of owner	Owner's residence	Credit source (own/friend's bank)
Grocery Stationery Souvenir Mechanics Fuel shop Fax/phone/reload studio Hair salon Laundry Dry fish shop Petty business vendors				

Appendix V Questionnaire for perceptions survey

Questionnaire on Natural Resources in Mannar – SOCMON

(மன்னார் பகுதி இயற்கை வள ஆதாரங்கள் சம்பந்தமான சோகமோன் தனிநபர் ஆய்வு வினாப்பட்டியல்)

1. What are the benefits of protecting a natural area for you as an individual? (தனிநபராக உங்களுக்கு இயற்கை வளங்களை பாதுகாப்பதன் மூலம் கிடைக்கும் பலபலன்கள் என்னென்ன?)
 - a. Safeguarding the sources of income (பாதுகாப்பான நிரந்தர வருமானமீட்டல்)
 - b. Preserving the biodiversity for future generations (பல்லுயிரினங்களின் பாதுகாப்பு எதிர்கால தலைமுறைக்கானது)
 - c. Increase in natural resources (இயற்கை வளங்கள் பெருக்கமடைய)
 - d. Protection of island (தீவுகளின் மூலம் கிடைக்கும் பாதுகாப்பு)
 - e. Increase in aesthetic value (பார்வைக்கு அழகானதென்ற மதிப்பு)
 - f. All of the above (மேற்சொன்ன எல்லாம்)
 - g. Other (இன்னபிற) _____
2. Indicate degree of agreement with the following statements using the scale of agree strongly (5), agree (4), neither agree nor disagree (3), disagree (2) and disagree strongly (1). (கீழ்க்கண்ட கருத்து வடிவத்தில் உங்களுக்குள்ள உடன்பாட்டினை கீழ்க்கண்ட மதிப்பு அளவீட்டின் அடிப்படையில் குறிப்பிடவும் மிகவும் உறுதியாக (5), உறுதியாக (4), ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவோ அல்லது மறுக்கவோ இல்லை (3), மறுக்கிறேன் (2), கடுமையாக மறுக்கிறேன் (1))
 - ____ (a) Coral habitats are important for protecting land from storm waves (சல்லிகள் என் பவளப்பாறைகள் கடற்கரை நிலங்களை புயல் அலைகளில் இருந்து பாதுகாப்பதற்கு முக்கியமானவை)
 - ____ (b) The seagrass beds provide food to turtles (கடற்புல் படுக்கை கடல் ஆமைக்கு உணவு கிடைக்கு பரப்பாக இருக்கிறது)
 - ____ (c) Coral habitat provide us with beautiful fish and shells (பவள வாழ்விடம் அழகான மீன்களை சிப்பிகளை நமக்கு கொடுக்கின்றன)
 - ____ (d) Mangroves are important as nursery grounds for sea animals (கண்டல் மற்றும் கன்னா காடிகள் கடல் உயிரினங்களின் பெருக்கத்திற்கான நாற்றாங்கால்களாக விளங்குகின்றன)
 - ____ (e) Coral reefs are important because they are beautiful (பவளப்பாறைகள் மிகவும் முக்கியமானவை ஏனெனில் அவை அழகாக இருக்கும்)
 - ____ (f) I want the future generations to enjoy the mangroves (நான் எதிர்கால தலைமுறை அனுபவிக்க கண்டல் மற்றும் கன்னா காடிகள் தேவை என நினைக்கிறேன்)
 - ____ (g) I want the future generations to enjoy the coral reefs (நான் எதிர்கால தலைமுறை அனுபவிக்க பவளப் பாடிகள் தேவை என நினைக்கிறேன்)
 - ____ (h) Fishing should be restricted in certain areas to allow the fish and corals to grow (மீன்கள் மற்றும் பவளப் பாடிகள் வளர குறிப்பிட்ட பகுதிகளை மீன்பிடி தடை செய்யப்பட்ட பகுதிகளாக ஆக்கலாம்)
 - ____ (i) We should restrict development in some areas so that future generations will be able to enjoy natural environments (குறிப்பிட்ட சில பரப்புகளை எதிர்கால சந்ததிகள் இயற்கையான சுற்றுப்புற சூழலை அனுபவிக்க வேண்டி வளர்ச்சியை மட்டுப்படுத்தலாம்)

3. Are you aware that the following are protected by law under the Wildlife Act? (கீழ்க்கண்டவைகள் வன உயிரின சட்டப்படி பாதுகாக்கப்பட்டவை என தெரியுமா?)
- a. Corals (பவளப் பாருகள்) yes (ஆம்) / no (இல்லை)
- b. Marine mammals (கடல் மெல்லுடலிகள்) yes (ஆம்) / no (இல்லை)
- c. Turtles (ஆமைகள்) yes (ஆம்) / no (இல்லை)
4. Do you think fuel wood collection should be allowed from the mangrove areas? (விறகு பொறுக்குவது கண்டல் மற்றும் கன்னா காடுகளில் அனுமதிக்கப்படுவது அவசியம் என நினைக்கிறோம்) yes (ஆம்) / no (இல்லை)
5. What in your opinion are the barriers to effective implementation of environmental laws? (சுற்றுதழல் பாதுகாப்பு சட்டங்களை சிறப்பாக நிறைவேற்றுவதில் உள்ள கீழ்க்கண்ட தடைகள் குறித்த உங்கள் கருத்துக்கள் என்ன)
- a. Lack of will from local authorities (உள் நிறைவேற்று அமைப்புகள் உந்துசக்தியின்மை)
- b. Lack of will from the Government (அரசின் உந்துசக்தியின்மை)
- c. Lack of capacity of the local authorities (உள்ளூர் நிறைவேற்று அமைப்புகளுக்கு திறன் குறைவு)
- d. Lack of awareness about benefits of conservation (வளங்களை பாதுகாப்பதனால் ஏற்படும் நன்மைகள் குறித்த விழிப்புணர்வு இல்லாமை)
- e. Financial constraints (பொருளாதார கட்டுப்பாடுகள்)
- f. All of the above (மேற்சொன்ன எல்லாம்)
- g. Other. Please specify (இன்னா பிற. குறிப்பிடவும்) _____

BACKGROUND QUESTIONS (பங்கேற்பாளரின் பின்னணி குறித்த கேள்விகள்)

6. Sex (பாலினம்) : (please tick - செய்யவும்) Male (ஆண்) Female (பெண்)
7. In which of the following age group do you fall? (please tick) (கீழ்க்கண்ட வயது பிரிவில் தங்களுக்குரியதை - செய்யவும்)
- Below 15 15-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 Over 55
8. What is your level of Education? (please tick) (உங்களுடைய கல்வித்தகுதியை செய்யவும்)
- No formal education (வரையறுக்கப்பட்ட முறையில் படிக்கவில்லை)
- Primary School (ஆரம்ப பள்ளி)
- Secondary School (மேல்நிலை பள்ளி)
- O Level (o தரம்)
- A Level (A தரம்)
- Some University or College/Technical School (பல்கலை (அ) கல்லூரி (அ) தொழில்நுட்ப பள்ளி)
- Completed University (முழுமை பெற்ற பல்கலை கழக கல்வி)
9. What is your profession? (உங்களுடைய தொழில் என்ன) _____
10. We would like to know your approximate annual income ? (உங்களுடைய வருடாந்திர வருமானத்தை குறிப்பிடவும்) (please tick)
- Below LKR 250,000
- LKR 250,000 – LKR 500,000
- LKR 500,000 – 750,000
- LKR 750,000 – 1,000,000
- Above LKR 1,000,000

Appendix VI Informing and influencing plan for Vidathaltivu

Audience	Media	What to do	Expectations of change in behaviour
Fishermen coral and shell collectors	Announcement with public address system, street play film shows, documentary video posters street corner meetings	Awareness for conservation, existing laws, information, Government incentives	Fishermen will not catch fish in breeding time will be aware of existing laws will not use illegal fishing gear stop dynamite fishing not use net on coral boulders will not destroy coral with nets will not discard nets in the ocean
womens group	Audio-visual documentation, village group meeting, direct contact, brochures, road drama	Awareness for conservation, existing laws, Government incentives	will not collect juvenile molluscs will not use live coral for their handicraft items will not cut trees for firewood will only collect dead fallen branches for firewood
youth club	awareness camps, campaigning, radio/TV broadcasting, leaflets, posters	coastal clean-up	will be active in conservation issues conduct coastal clean-up
Teachers & students	orientation meetings, awareness camps, workshops, posters	Awareness workshop capacity building regarding leadership and conservation	They will be able to deliver message and take part in conservation do skits for public
Local leaders SHG president Fisher Coop\erative Church committee	Meetings, workshops, leaflets, newspaper,	Awareness capacity building regarding leadership and conservation	They will be able to deliver message and take part in conservation Laws are implemented effectively counsel the offenders
Journalists	Radio/TV/newspaper /souvenirs	Awareness informing on conservation , management and livelihood issues	They will be able to deliver message and take part in conservation They will be able to deliver message in proper time

<p>CCD, Forest department NGO/INGO</p>	<p>direct meeting at district office field visit letter project report brief</p>		<p>they will consult with people to plan projects and implement programs in case they have a sanctioned project they will do adaptive planning where possible by consulting with people on relevant issues</p>
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Appendix VII Budget required for completing the planned SocMon work in Vidathaltivu + 2 villages

	budget US\$
Personnel	3400.00
Travel	1600.00
Supplies	500.00
Validation meeting	500.00
	6,000.00.

Notes on budget

Personnel: US\$ 3,400

- Mannar site field teams of 6 people will provide a total of 120 person days for collecting and analysing SocMon data @ US\$ 20 per day. Total US\$ 2,400
- PAD team analysis and report writing lump sum (US\$1,000)

Travel: US\$ 1,600.00

- Travel for two personas from India to Mannar for supporting the team for data collection (for 2 roundtrips) including accommodation and food (US\$ 1,400)
- Travel by boat to verify fishing sites in the villages for two trips consuming boat hire at @ US\$ 100/per trip (US\$ 200)

Supplies: US\$ 500

- Funds will be needed to cover costs of stationary and printer, internet and telephone (US\$ 500)

Validation meeting: US\$ 500

- Cost of covering half day validation dissemination meeting, venue rental (US\$ 100) and refreshments for 50 participants (US\$ 200) travel and transport hire (US\$ 200)

Total: US\$ 6,000/-

Matched funding

CCD will provide coordination and office space infrastructure for the field team to meet and work; this has not been included in the budget.

CARESS and PAD will provide guidance to the field teams. This has not been included in the budget.



Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand are working together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project to lay the foundations for a coordinated programme of action designed to better the lives of the coastal populations through improved regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is the implementing agency for the BOBLME Project.

The Project is funded principally by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the FAO, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA.

For more information, please visit www.boblme.org



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