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## Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)

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**Second Extraordinary Intergovernmental Meeting of the  
Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)**  
Bangkok, Thailand, 25-26 April 2018

### **Revised COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter First Draft**

#### **Background**

1. A draft framework document of the COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter was developed and presented to the First COBSEA Marine Litter Workshop held in Jakarta, Indonesia, 8-9 May 2007. The workshop reviewed and further developed the draft framework document. The outputs of the workshop were consolidated into the draft COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (COBSEA RAP MALI) that was circulated among the member countries during 2007.
2. The COBSEA RAP MALI was adopted by the 19<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting of COBSEA, in Siem Reap, Cambodia, 22-23 January 2008. The Regional Review on Marine Litter in the East Asian Seas Region 2008 identified a major lack of data on the sources, types, extent, distribution, impacts and trends over time of marine litter in the East Asian Seas Region, and that this lack of understanding is a barrier to effective marine litter prevention and management in the region.
3. Although the ‘New Strategic Direction for COBSEA (2008-2012)’ identified marine litter as an emerging issue, the lack of funds has limited activities towards implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI, including tracking of progress. Consequently, COBSEA’s activities on marine litter for several years focused mainly on participation to conferences and events organized and supported by international and regional organizations, and assistance to participating countries in developing funding proposals.
4. United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/6, 2/11, and 3/7 recognize marine litter as a global challenge and, inter alia, call for increased regional efforts in tackling it. In recent years COBSEA countries have also scaled up efforts to address marine litter, and several countries have made voluntary commitments towards delivery of Sustainable Development Goal 14, Target 1, or joined the Clean Seas campaign. COBSEA RAP MALI therefore merits revision, to ensure it is fit for purpose.
5. Review and revision of the COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter and its implementation through regional efforts were consequently included as activities in the final draft Strategic Directions of COBSEA, as prepared by the Workshop towards Finalization of Strategic Directions 2017-2021, held in Bangkok 9 September 2017.

### **Preparation of the draft revised RAP MALI**

6. The rationale for revision of COBSEA RAP MALI is to ensure it contributes to improving the quality of the marine and coastal environment in the East Asian Seas Region. The implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI will be facilitated with a number of international activities in which COBSEA is taking part or will take part. Furthermore, adoption of the revised RAP MALI may enable development of new partnerships towards addressing marine litter, and fundraising for activities from bilateral as well as other donors.
7. The draft revised COBSEA RAP MALI is presented in Appendix 1, including a draft resolution for its adoption. This has been prepared based on: (i) review of the 2008 version of the COBSEA RAP MALI; (ii) information on marine litter gathered about each of the COBSEA participating countries (presented in document INF 6 as a zero-draft of a Regional Review of Marine Litter in the region); (iii) Responses by COBSEA participating countries to the survey questionnaire sent out in October 2017; and (iv) Review of ongoing successful regional marine litter action plans, adopted in the framework of other Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans.
8. Activities contained in the RAP MALI adopted in 2008 were carefully studied and some of those activities are proposed to be retained also in the revised RAP MALI. Information gathered about COBSEA participating countries through questionnaires and literature review showed that the problem is very significant and that there is a big difference among countries with respect to marine litter assessment and efforts made to develop and implement appropriate responses. It should be noted that, at the time of preparing this document, not all participating countries had submitted responses to the questionnaire. Well-developed regional action plans for marine litter which are successful and in full implementation were also carefully studied and some activities from those documents found relevant to the revised COBSEA RAP MALI were included. Regional action plans reviewed were: NOWPAP Action Plan (2008); Mediterranean Action Plan (2013); North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) Action Plan (2014); and Baltic Action Plan (2015).

### **Structure and key elements of the draft revised COBSEA RAP MALI**

9. The draft revised COBSEA RAP MALI follows a structure similar to that of the RAP MALI adopted in 2008, with some modification. It specifically addresses major global policy development since the adoption of the RAP MALI in 2008, including UNEA resolutions as well as delivery against the 2030 Development Agenda and relevant Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets.
10. The overall objective of the revised COBSEA RAP MALI is to consolidate, harmonize and implement the necessary environmental policies, strategies and measures for sustainable integrated management of marine litter issues in the East Asian Seas Region. The rationale for this objective is that the East Asian Seas Region is of particular global importance for successfully addressing marine litter as a global challenge and is also vulnerable to the impacts of marine litter. The region has a high human population and considerable economic growth with changing production patterns and lifestyles, particularly high fishing, shipping and port development activities and, in most countries, inadequate solid waste management systems. Because of this, the region requires and deserves an adequate marine litter prevention and management approach encompassing all COBSEA participating countries, in order to diminish the leakage of marine litter to oceans, to reduce its environmental, social and economic impacts, and to improve the quality of living in all countries. Development and setting the stage for the implementation of such an approach has to be done at the regional level.
11. Four main *Actions* are proposed: 1. Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources; 2. Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources; 3. Monitoring and assessment of marine litter; and 4. Activities supporting implementation of RAP MALI. It is considered that at present these actions will cover properly and realistically the problem of marine litter management in the East Asian Seas Region.
12. Sixty-eight *Activities* are further proposed under the four actions, which Participating Countries shall make their best effort to implement, and which the COBSEA Secretariat should support and facilitate. It is expected that a range of actors will be involved in the development and implementation of activities under the revised RAP MALI. A detailed *Work Plan* including timelines, identified lead authority, entity incurring cost (countries or Secretariat; actual cost to be estimated) and indicators of progress/achievement is also provided.

**Recommended Action**

13. COBSEA Participating Countries are invited to review the revised COBSEA RAP MALI provided in Appendix 1, and agree on the process towards its finalization and adoption. This may include ensuring appropriate national and regional consultation. Countries that have not yet done so are encouraged to submit responses to the national marine litter survey questionnaire at their earliest convenience.
14. The COBSEA Secretariat will support the process towards finalization and adoption of the revised COBSEA RAP MALI as guided by the Participating Countries, including engaging with relevant regional and global entities to strengthen partnerships and collaboration towards its implementation.

## Appendix 1.

### **Revised COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, First Draft**

**Draft Resolution**  
**COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) 2018**

*The Intergovernmental Meeting of the Coordination Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA),*

*Being concerned* with the harmful environmental and socio-economic impacts of marine litter in the East Asian Seas Region and that natural disasters and increasingly severe weather events cause significant input of marine litter and microplastics to the marine environment,

*Noting* that marine litter has become a global and regional issue affecting marine and coastal environment quality, human wellbeing and economic activity, as well as the important knowledge gaps on marine litter sources and impacts in the East Asian Seas Region marine and coastal environment,

*Convinced* that specific activities should be applied to overcome marine litter problems in the East Asian Seas Region,

*Taking note* of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2008 and appreciating the progress demonstrated by COBSEA participating countries,

*Considering* that the development and implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 can and should improve the situation regarding marine litter and facilitate the obligations of the participating countries with respect to multi-lateral environmental agreements to which they may be Contracting Parties,

*Noting* that the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 will assist COBSEA participating countries in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14, especially Target 14.1,

*Expecting* from COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 significant reduction of further introduction of marine litter from land-based and sea-based sources in the East Asia Seas Region and reduction of marine litter already present in the marine environment and of its potential impact on marine biota, habitats, public health and safety and of its socioeconomic costs,

*Bearing in mind* that all of the COBSEA participating countries have signed and ratified the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78) and that eight COBSEA participating countries ratified the Annex V of the MARPOL Convention,

*Bearing in mind* that the COBSEA Strategic Directions 2018-2022 has as one of its objectives to prevent and reduce marine litter and microplastics in the marine and coastal environment,

*Acknowledging* marine litter to be one of the eight contaminant categories of UN Environment Programme's Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities as well as one of the key issues of the Regional Seas Programme,

*Taking note* of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions A/RES/72/73 (2017), A/RES/70/303 (2015), and A/RES/69/245 (2014) on Oceans and the Law of the Sea,

*Recalling* the UN Environment Assembly's decisions and recommendations or measures to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics in the resolutions UNEP/EA.1/Res.6 (2014); UNEP/EA.2/Res.11 (2016); and UNEP/EA.3/Res.7 (2017),

*Recognizing* that private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the general public, can contribute significantly to prevent and reduce marine litter through a number of various actions,

***Decides to:***

*Adopt* the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 which is contained in Annex I to this decision,

*Urge* the COBSEA participating countries, intergovernmental organizations, donor agencies, industry, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 providing sufficient financial, technical and scientific contributions, including the implementation of country-based activities and projects,

*Request* the COBSEA participating countries to report biennially on the progress of the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 to the COBSEA Secretariat,

*Urge* the COBSEA participating countries to enhance leadership, implementation and quality of government efforts regarding marine litter management,

*Urge* the COBSEA participating countries to establish sound and sustainable solid waste management systems in accordance with the relevant activities provided for in the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018, and urge relevant International Organizations to strongly support such efforts through the development and implementation of necessary investment projects, and

*Request* the Secretariat to develop a regional project, including the establishment of a Coordinating Body, and upon request and subject to availability of funds, develop relevant national activities in participating countries.

## **Annex I**

### **COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter 2018**

#### ***Part I – General provisions***

##### **1. Rationale for the Regional Action Plan**

Marine litter is a global concern affecting all the oceans of the world. It poses environmental, economic, health, aesthetic and cultural problems that are rooted in poor solid waste management practices, lack of infrastructure, indiscriminate human activities and behaviours, inadequate understanding on the part of the public of the potential consequences of their actions, lack of adequate legal and enforcement systems, lack of implementation of existing legal systems and a lack of financial resources. Marine litter is a complex and multi-dimensional problem and despite efforts made internationally, regionally and nationally, there are indications that the marine litter problem continues to worsen.

There is no single solution to the marine litter problem, and efforts must encompass reduction in waste generation, better waste management on land and at sea and educational and awareness-raising activities to bring about a change in attitudes and behaviours of people. In addition to preventing the generation of marine litter at the source, it is necessary to deal with existing marine litter in the marine and coastal environment.

Marine litter is not only an aesthetic problem but incurs socioeconomic costs, threatens human health and safety and impacts on marine organisms. It is broadly documented that entanglement in, or ingestion of, marine litter can have negative consequences on the physical condition of marine organisms and even lead to death. Marine litter is known to damage and degrade habitats, for example through smothering. There is growing evidence of increases in disease prevalence in marine biota due to marine plastic litter. Ingestion of micro plastics is also of concern as it may provide a pathway for transport of harmful chemicals into the food web. Additionally, marine litter is a possible vector for the transfer of alien species.

COBSEA adopted a Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) in 2008, at the 19<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting of COBSEA (Siem Reap, Cambodia, 22-23 Jan. 2008). While countries have individually implemented certain activities identified in the RAP MALI 2008, the extent to which the RAP MALI has been implemented has not been consistently tracked and reported.

The rationale for the preparation of this COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 is to improve the quality of the marine and coastal environment in the East Asia Seas Region, including by catalyzing coherent regional and national efforts towards delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals, including in particular Sustainable Development Goal 14, Target 14.1, and reporting on progress in this regard. The implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 will be facilitated with a number of international activities in which the COBSEA participating countries will take part in.

A regional approach to marine litter management is very important because of the transboundary nature of the problem. Through a regional approach each of the participating countries could contribute to and benefit from the collective effort which should result in synergistic effects. Exchanging views, approaches and results should help the development and implementation of a coordinated and harmonized regional programme. Surveying, monitoring and reporting all require regionally coherent methods and indicators to be effective. The advantage of a regional approach has been proven in several regional programmes around the world.

## **2. Area of application**

The geographical area of application of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 covers the geographical areas of COBSEA participating countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The nine East Asian Seas countries are collectively home to over 2 billion people, 60 per cent of whom are concentrated in coastal areas. Their total surface area is over 13 million km<sup>2</sup>, with a total coastal length of over 200 thousand km and 23 major rivers/riverbasins (with length over 300 km) draining into the sea (total length of rivers 39,170 km). In the last decades, the region has been the centre of considerable economic growth, bringing about increasing urbanization. Around 300 million people in the region are now living in coastal urban areas.

Around 30 per cent of the world's coral reefs, one-third of the world's mangroves as well as many other important critical habitats like seagrass beds are found in the region. The region comprises the world's richest marine biodiversity and produces about 41 per cent of the total fish catch of the world.

The region also has one of the world's highest concentrations of shipping and fishing vessel activity and with a high rate of ongoing economic development, most major industrial ports in the region are undergoing significant expansion, and many new ports are being developed.

## **3. Definition of terms**

For the purpose of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018:

*COBSEA area* means coastal and marine areas of participating countries: Cambodia; Indonesia; Malaysia; The People's Republic of China; The Philippines; The Republic of Korea; Singapore; Thailand; and Vietnam.

*Marine litter, including plastic and microplastic*, regardless of the size, means any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment. Marine litter consists of items that have been made or used by people and deliberately discarded into the sea or rivers or on beaches; brought indirectly to the sea with rivers, sewage, storm water or winds; accidentally lost, including material lost at sea in bad weather (fishing gear, cargo); or deliberately left by people on beaches and shores (UN Environment).

*Marine litter monitoring* means repeated surveys of beaches, surface waters, water columns, sea beds and biota to determine litter types and quantities in a representative manner such that information can be compared with baseline data to follow trends.

#### **4. Objectives**

*The overall purpose* of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 is to consolidate, coordinate and implement the necessary environmental policies, strategies and measures for sustainable integrated management of marine litter in the East Asia Seas Region. The RAP MALI will thereby directly support COBSEA participating countries deliver Sustainable Development Goal 14, target 14.1 (prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution) and also contribute to achievement of other Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets (identified in Annex 2).

*The specific objectives* of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 are to:

- (i) *Prevent and reduce* to the minimum marine litter pollution in the marine and coastal environment of the East Asian Seas Region and its impact on habitats and species, ecosystem services, economic development, public health and safety;
- (ii) *Remove* to the extent possible already existent marine litter by using environmentally acceptable methods;
- (iii) *Enhance* knowledge and awareness about marine litter and its impacts amongst all stakeholders in the East Asian Seas Region, including but not limited to citizens, government decision makers, the private sector such as fisheries, shipping, ports, tourism, plastic and packaging industry, and civil society including the general public;
- (iv) *Strengthen* national institutional arrangements to prevent and reduce the amount of marine litter effectively, with clearly defined responsibility of the governing authority based on best management practices to deal with marine litter from its generation to disposal;
- (v) *Assist in establishment of* cross-sectoral cooperation among relevant national and local authorities which are involved in the marine litter issues; and
- (vi) *Ensure* that the management of marine litter in the East Asian Seas Region is performed in accordance with accepted international standards and approaches and as appropriate in harmony with programmes and measures applied in other regional seas.

#### **5. Principles**

In implementing the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 the participating countries shall be guided by:

- (i) *Integration principle* by virtue of which marine litter management shall be addressed across relevant sectors and as an integral part of solid waste management;
- (ii) *Prevention principle* by virtue of which measures should prioritize addressing the prevention of marine litter generation at the source;
- (iii) *Precautionary principle* by virtue of which where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation;
- (iv) *Polluter-pays principle* by virtue of which the costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures are to be borne by the polluter, with due regard to the public interest;
- (v) *Ecosystem-based approach* by virtue of which the cumulative effects of marine litter on the marine and coastal ecosystem, habitats and species with other contaminants and substances that are present in the marine environment should be fully taken into account in management of marine litter;
- (vi) *The principle of public participation and stakeholder involvement* by virtue of which the general public including local communities, private sector, NGOs, and local authorities will be involved in the development and implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018; and
- (vii) *Sustainable Consumption and Production principle* by virtue of which current unsustainable patterns of consumption and production must be transformed to sustainable ones that decouple human development from environmental degradation.

## ***Part II – Actions and Activities***

### **6. Definition of Actions and Activities**

Actions and activities of this revised COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 have been developed drawing on:

- The RAP MALI 2008 adopted by the 19<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting of COBSEA (Siem Reap, Cambodia, 22-23 Jan. 2008);
- Extensive desk review, information provided by participating countries to a survey questionnaire and consultation; and
- Well developed regional action plans for marine litter which are successful and in full implementation, including: Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, adopted in March 2008; Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol, adopted by the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 Dec. 2013). This document became legally

binding to all Parties to the Barcelona Convention on 8 July 2014; Regional Action Plan for Prevention and Management of Marine Litter in the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR), adopted by the OSPAR Commission in 2014; and Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter in the Baltic Sea, adopted by the HELCOM Commission on 4 March 2015.

### *Actions*

Taking into account the current knowledge and situation regarding marine litter in the COBSEA region and based on the study of the above mentioned regional action plans, the following actions are proposed:

- Action 1: Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources.
- Action 2: Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources.
- Action 3: Monitoring and assessment of marine litter.
- Action 4: Activities supporting implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.

It is considered that at present these actions will cover properly and realistically the problem of marine litter management in the COBSEA region.

### *Activities*

Based on the study of the existing COBSEA RAP MALI 2008 and also the study of the above mentioned Regional Action Plans, action components and activities are further detailed in sections 7 to 10.

Participating countries shall make their best effort to ensure that activities provided for in sections 7 to 10 are implemented, as specified in the respective sections, in a coherent manner to improve the situation regarding marine litter in the East Asian Seas Region. Various actors shall be involved in the development and implementation of agreed activities as provided for in section 10.

## **7. Action 1. Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources**

In working to prevent and reduce marine litter from land-based sources, COBSEA will seek to work closely with the UN Environment Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) coordination office, including joint funding and/or implementation of projects where appropriate.

The following action components and activities are proposed under Action 1. Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources:

1. Legal and economic instruments:
  - Encourage and assist countries to enhance leadership, implementation and quality of government efforts.
  - In countries where many government agencies and departments are involved in waste management efforts, it is advised that a policy making body and supporting agency be

established for the implementation of solid waste management policies.

- Encourage and assist countries to develop and adopt legal and economic instruments to assist the management and prevention of marine litter from land-based sources.
- Develop policies that lead to circular economy.
- Implement possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer Responsibility by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management.
- Integrate marine litter into the national legislation on solid waste management with application of the 6R principles (Reduce, Redesign, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle and Recover).

## 2. National Action Plans on Marine Litter:

- Develop National Action Plans on Marine Litter (NAP MALI) which shall include: (i) Development and implementation of appropriate policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements regarding marine litter management; (ii) Prevention and reducing marine litter from land-based sources; (iii) Prevention and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources; (iv) Monitoring and assessment programmes for marine litter; (v) Programmes of removal and environmentally sound disposal of existing marine litter according to the national legislation about management of this kind of waste; and (vi) Awareness raising and education programmes. This may be done in the context of development of, or updating of existing, GPA National Plans of Action (NPAs) to strengthen the management and mitigation of land-based pollution.
- Provide support to participating countries for the integration of actions addressing marine litter into GPA NPAs or other relevant national frameworks.
- Develop regional sectoral guidelines, in support of NAP MALI, on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from land-based sources, particularly for sectors of waste management, tourism and plastic manufacturing.
- Develop at the regional level a reporting format for NAP MALI.

## 3. Integrated waste management:

- Develop and implement measures to reduce plastic bag consumption including, for example, through the use of fiscal and economic instruments such as tax on plastic bags and packaging, and banning of single-use plastic bags in stores.
- Cooperate on the establishment and/or further development of deposit refund systems for bottles, containers and cans (for example glass, plastic and aluminium).
- Enter into dialogue with the industry, working towards highlighting waste management practices that impact on the marine environment.
- Implement adequate waste reduction, reuse and recycling measures in order to reduce the amount of litter, particularly the fraction of plastic waste that goes to landfill or incineration without energy recovery. Where incineration with energy recovery is used, this should use modern technology with controls on combustion conditions capable of meeting stringent emission standards.
- Organise the front and middle end of the waste system by building a modern waste collection and separation system, including for example integrating waste pickers into formal system of waste management and accelerating recycling, while ensuring non-processed waste is disposed of safely in sanitary landfills at the back of the chain.
- Take the necessary measures to address illegal dumping, including closing existing

illegal dump sites on land and strengthening enforcement measures to combat illegal dumping, such as littering on the beach and illegal solid waste or sewage disposal in the coastal zone and rivers, in accordance with national legislation.

- Seek cooperation with the River Authorities, municipalities and other relevant authorities in order to address impacts of litter on the marine environment from riverine inputs, including through introduction and improvement of trash traps at river and drainage areas; floating booms and barriers.

4. Removal of existing litter and its disposal:

- Where it is environmentally sound and cost effective, remove existing accumulated marine litter, subject to EIA procedure where required.
- Identify, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, accumulation hotspots of litter, and implement national programmes for regular removal and sound disposal.
- Enhance public participation in addressing marine litter through clean-ups, exploring and implementing the Adopt-a-Beach concept, or similar practices.

## **8. Action 2. Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources**

Activities to reduce and prevent marine litter from sea-based sources should ensure the provision of adequate reception facilities for all types of ship-generated waste and cargo residues, in particular solid waste and garbage, at ports, fishing harbours, marinas and beach resorts. The lack of adequate port reception facilities could result in solid waste being disposed at sea and being transported by winds and currents to shore often in locations distant from the original sources of litter. The local municipality must accept the responsibility for further management and treatment of garbage.

The following action components and activities are proposed under Action 2. Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources:

1. Legal and economic instruments:

- Encourage and assist countries to develop and adopt legal and economic instruments to assist the management and prevention of marine litter from sea-based sources.
- Reinforce the implementation and enforcement of the existing national legal instruments in compliance with marine litter related international conventions and agreements like the MARPOL convention and its Annex V, the London convention and its Protocol, the Basel convention, the Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
- Develop sectoral guidelines on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from sea-based sources, particularly for sectors of shipping and fisheries.

2. Port waste reception facilities:

- Provide assistance in the implementing of the requirements of Annex V to the MARPOL Convention to provide and improve reception facilities for all types of ship-generated waste in their ports, harbours, terminals and marinas.
- Explore and implement ways and means to charge reasonable fees for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system.

- Prepare a review of the adequacy of port reception facilities in the COBSEA region.
3. Fishing gear:
- Develop and/or strengthen existing legislation requiring all fishing gear to be identified/marked in order to contribute to reducing fisheries-related marine litter.
  - Develop and apply operational fishing methods that minimize the loss of fishing gear and the ghost fishing effects of lost or abandoned fishing gear, according to the FAO technical guidelines for the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
  - Assess the possibility of implementing waste gear buy-back schemes at the national level.
  - Organize a technical training workshop to share experiences on successful management initiatives such as the waste gear buy-back scheme implemented in the Republic of Korea.
4. Removal of existing marine litter and its disposal:
- Develop and implement, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, regional and national programmes to locate, remove and dispose of accumulations/hot spots of sea-based marine litter related to marine transport, fisheries, mariculture and aquaculture.
  - Promote identification and removal of Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG).
  - Explore and implement the “Fishing for Litter” environmentally sound practice, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen, to facilitate clean up of floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gear.
  - Apply cost effective measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities, in particular maintenance dredging in port areas.
  - Consider and address potential marine litter arising from ship maintenance and ship dismantling.

### **9. Action 3. Monitoring and assessment of marine litter**

Monitoring and assessment of the marine and coastal region is the indispensable basis for the management of human activities, in view of promoting sustainable use of the seas and coasts and conserving marine ecosystems and their sustainable development. In order to successfully manage the impacts from marine litter there is a need to improve our knowledge on the main types, sources and amounts of litter that enter the marine and coastal environment. Sound marine litter monitoring and reporting is also required to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, including in particular Target 14.1, and contribution to other relevant Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets. As recognized in the UN General Assembly Resolution one of the significant barriers to addressing marine litter is the absence of adequate science-based monitoring and assessment programmes that will provide useful information, from which the most critical impacts of litter, on national, regional and global scales can be determined.

To effectively manage and thereby mitigate the impacts from marine litter, there is a need to develop a good understanding of the problems and specifically to increase our knowledge about the principle types and sources of litter and the behaviours that result in litter entering the marine environment. To achieve this aim, there is a need to ensure that good quality data are available that will allow for a comprehensive analyses of the nature and sources of litter in marine environments and how these vary through time and in response to management interventions.

The Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme for the East Asian Seas Region shall assess marine litter status and trends, the impact of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment and human health as well as the socio-economic aspects of marine litter management based on coordinated common agreed methodologies, national monitoring programmes and surveys. The programme will thereby track and report on delivery against Sustainable Development Goal 14, Target 1 and other relevant goals and targets.

The Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme for the East Asia Seas Region will be developed in two phases: (i) Pilot Monitoring Programme and (ii) Full Monitoring Programme. In the Pilot Monitoring Programme the number of sampling stations will be much smaller than in the full programme, and could run for two to three years. The advantage of this is that considerable effort will be spent among COBSEA Secretariat and participating countries to harmonize and intercalibrate sampling, measurement techniques, presentation and interpretation of results and other details. A Pilot Monitoring Programme would lay the foundation for development and implementation of an effective and comprehensive Full Monitoring Programme.

The following action components and activities are proposed under Action 3. Monitoring and assessment of marine litter:

1. Expert Group:

- Establish a Marine Litter Monitoring Committee under the Regional Working Group on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.

2. Regional and National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes:

- Develop and implement a Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme. Such a programme should be developed in consultation with ongoing relevant regional monitoring programmes.
- Develop and implement National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes. Such programmes should be developed in consultation with ongoing regional and national monitoring programmes.

3. Guidelines:

- Prepare guidelines for the implementation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme.
- Prepare guidelines for the development and implementation of National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes, in consultation with the relevant international, regional and national organizations.

4. Reports:

- Prepare a biennial regional report on the implementation of the Regional Marine Litter

Monitoring Programme and delivery against Sustainable Development Goal 14, Target 1 and other relevant goals and targets.

- Prepare biennial national reports on the implementation of the National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes.

5. Regional Database:

- Establish COBSEA Regional Database on Marine Litter, for the storage, management, analysis and interpretation of the results of the regional and national marine litter surveys and monitoring programmes, ICC events and other relevant sources of marine litter information in the region.

## **10. Action 4. Activities supporting the implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018**

Implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 requires enabling conditions.

Without adequate cross-sectoral as well as regional and international cooperation; implementation of research activities necessary for effective action plan; efficient involvement of stakeholders, NGOs and civil society; and adequate information, education, outreach and public awareness, it is unlikely that the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 would be successful.

COBSEA shall have a role of a catalyst of actions that support regional delivery the RAP MALI 2018, and provides the regional mechanism for supporting planning, tracking and reporting on RAP MALI 2018 including contribution to relevant Sustainable Development Goals.

The following action components and activities are proposed under Action 4. Activities supporting the implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018:

1. Regional and international cooperation and reporting on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018:
  - Establish a Regional Working Group on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018, to include national focal points and experts. This group is to assist and advise the COBSEA Secretariat on the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.
  - Establish institutional cooperation with relevant global and regional entities in relation to implementation of, for example, the MARPOL Convention and its Annex V, the London Convention and its Protocol, the Basel Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
  - Establish partnership with cities, to provide effective transfer of knowledge and innovation, and promote collaboration among cities/between countries.
  - Convene regional conferences and stakeholder meetings.
  - Produce national biennial reports on the implementation of NAP MALI and the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.
  - Produce regional biennial reports on the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.

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- Review status of the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 at every second COBSEA Intergovernmental Meeting.

## 2. Research activities:

Adequate results of the proposed research activities could help a lot to the East Asian Seas Region to improve its state regarding the marine litter and its management both at the national and regional levels:

- Develop technology and approaches to prevent marine litter input from land-based sources (for example floating booms and barriers; trash traps at river and drainage areas; innovative solutions in supply chain; innovations in waste reduction; reduction in packaging).
- Support research on environmentally sound technologies and production methods and promote the use of such research outcomes (for example use of plastic for road construction; semi-automatic recognition of marine debris on beaches (LIDAR)).
- Develop and carry out research on the impact of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment and economy (including economic costs and impact on human health and safety).
- Develop and support research on the effectiveness of market based instruments related to marine litter.
- Undertake marine litter trajectory modelling in the COBSEA region, to identify sources and accumulation zones for marine litter. Such models will assist participating countries in tracking progress towards Sustainable Goal 14, Target 14.1.
- Evaluate potential loss of fish stocks due to abandoned/lost fishing gear.
- Evaluate direct costs and loss of income to tourism and fishery.

## 3. Involvement of stakeholders, NGOs and civil society:

- Encourage and assist the appropriate involvement of various stakeholders including local authorities, NGOs, civil society and private sector to implement the activities of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.
- Encourage stakeholder engagement in relevant international initiatives, such as the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) campaigns, Clean Up The World (CUW) campaigns, Green Fins and similar campaigns or programmes, as well as in national or sub-national efforts to educate the public, including school children, on marine litter issues as well as to encourage positive behaviour changes that will help to reduce the generation of litter.
- Support the implementation of the National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns (beaches, riverbanks, storm water drainage) on a regular basis.
- Organize and coordinate comprehensive voluntary beach cleanups as a tool in educating and involving local communities, stakeholders and media to increase knowledge and awareness of the problem caused by marine litter, in combination with public awareness campaigns by means of distribution of printed materials, environmental exhibitions and school children posters.
- Encourage and assist entities with a particular interest in, or responsibility for certain coastal areas, such as tourist resorts and port authorities, to undertake regular cleanups of their areas.

4. Information, education, outreach and public awareness:

- Develop a brochure on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 and translate it into national languages.
- Formulate and implement awareness raising campaigns and activities, including development of materials (for example booklets, leaflets, flyers, etc.) and organization of workshops and fora, in line with the Clean Seas campaign and relevant other regional or national campaigns, for the general public, various sectors, municipal authorities, local communities, school children and youth and other groups, to change behaviors and attitudes, reduce the generation of waste and to apply environmentally sound disposal and reuse in order to produce less marine litter.

5. Training and capacity building:

- Develop and implement education and training programmes for different target groups in order to enhance understanding of which sectors and groups are responsible for contributing to the generation of marine litter, why the problem with its significant implications for the marine and coastal environment still exists and what they can do to prevent and reduce the generation of marine litter.
- Facilitate the application of technical sectoral guidelines for different target groups through regional workshops and training programmes.
- Provide technical training and capacity building to staff from national and municipal governments, port authorities and the shipping industry on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from land-based and sea-based sources through regional workshops and training courses.

*Part III – Work Plan and Timetable*

**11. Work Plan and Timetable for the implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018**

The COBSEA Secretariat and participating countries shall implement the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 according to the Work Plan and Timetable.

<b>Action 1. Preventing and reducing marine litter from land-based sources</b>					
<b>Action component</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Lead authority</b>	<b>Verification indicator</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1.1. Legal and economic instruments	1.1.1. Encourage and assist countries to enhance leadership, implementation and quality of government efforts.	2019	Secretariat	Countries encouraged and assisted	Secretariat
	1.1.2. In countries where many government agencies and departments are involved in waste management efforts, it is advised that a policy making body and supporting agency be established for the implementation of solid waste management policies.	2019	Countries	National policy making body and supporting agency established	Countries
	1.1.3. Encourage and assist countries to develop and adopt legal and economic instruments to assist the management and prevention of marine litter from land-based sources.	2019	Secretariat	Countries encouraged and assisted	Secretariat
	1.1.4. Develop policies that lead to circular economy.	2020	Countries	Policies developed	Countries
	1.1.5 Implement possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer Responsibility by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management.	2020	Countries	Measures implemented	Countries

	1.1.6. Integrate marine litter into the national legislation on solid waste management with application of the 6R principles (Reduce, Redesign, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle and Recover).	2019 2021	Secretariat Countries	Marine litter integrated	Secretariat Countries
1.2. National Action Plans on Marine Litter (NAP MALI)	1.2.1. Develop National Action Plans on Marine Litter (NAP MALI) which shall include: (i) Development and implementation of appropriate policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements regarding marine litter management; (ii) Prevention and reducing marine litter from land-based sources; (iii) Prevention and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources; (iv) Monitoring and assessment programmes for marine litter; (v) Programmes of removal and environmentally sound disposal of existing marine litter according to the national legislation about management of this kind of waste; and (vi) Awareness raising and education programmes. This may be done in the context of development of, or updating of existing, GPA NPAs to strengthen the management and mitigation of land-based pollution.	2020	Countries	NAP MALI developed	Countries
	1.2.2. Provide support to participating countries for the integration of actions addressing marine litter into GPA NPAs or other relevant national frameworks.	2019	Secretariat	Countries supported	Secretariat
	1.2.3. Develop regional sectoral guidelines in support of NAP MALI on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from land-based sources, particularly for sectors of waste management, tourism and plastic manufacturing.	2019	Secretariat	Published	Secretariat
	1.2.4. Develop at the regional level a reporting format for NAP MALI.	2019	Secretariat	Reporting formats developed	Secretariat
	1.3.1. Develop and implement measures to reduce plastic bag consumption including for example, through the use of fiscal	2022	Countries	Measures implemented	Countries

1.3. Integrated waste management	and economic instruments such as tax on plastic bags and packaging, and banning of single-use plastic bags in stores.				
	1.3.2. Cooperate on the establishment and/or further development of deposit refund systems for bottles, containers and cans (for example glass, plastics and aluminium).	2021	Countries	Deposit refund system established	Countries
	1.3.3. Enter into dialogue with the industry, working towards highlighting waste management practices that impact on the marine environment.	2020	Countries	Dialogue established	Countries
	1.3.4. Implement adequate waste reduction, reuse and recycling measures in order to reduce the amount of litter, particularly the fraction of plastic waste that goes to landfill or incineration without energy recovery. Where incineration with energy recovery is used, this should use modern technology with controls on combustion condition capable of meeting stringent emission standards.	2022	Countries	Measures implemented	Countries
	1.3.5. Organise the front and middle end of the waste system by building a modern waste collection and separation system, including for example integrating waste pickers into formal system of waste management and accelerating recycling, while ensuring non-processed waste is disposed of safely in sanitary landfills at the back of the chain.	2020	Countries	Organised waste system	Countries
	1.3.6. Take the necessary measures to address illegal dumping, including closing existing illegal dump sites on land and strengthening enforcement measures to combat illegal dumping, such as littering on the beach and illegal solid waste or sewage disposal in the coastal zone and rivers, in accordance with national legislation.	2022	Countries	Measures taken	Countries
	1.3.7. Seek cooperation with the River Authorities, municipalities and other relevant authorities in order to address impacts of litter on the marine environment from	2019 2021	Secretariat Countries	Cooperation established	Secretariat Countries

	riverine inputs, including through introduction and improvement of trash traps at river and drainage areas, floating booms and barriers.			Trash traps introduced	
1.4. Removal of existing litter and its disposal	1.4.1. Where it is environmentally sound and cost effective, remove existing accumulated litter, subject to EIA procedure where required.	2020	Secretariat Countries	Accumulated litter removed	Secretariat Countries
	1.4.2. Identify in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, accumulations/hotspots of litter and implement national programmes for regular removal and sound disposal.	2020	Countries	Implemented	Countries
	1.4.3. Enhance public participation in addressing marine litter through clean-ups, exploring and implementing the Adopt-a-Beach concept, or similar practices.	2020 2020	Secretariat Countries	Concept implemented	Secretariat Countries
<b>Action 2. Preventing and reducing marine litter from sea-based sources</b>					
2.1. Legal and economic instruments	2.1.1. Encourage and assist countries to develop and adopt legal and economic instruments to assist the management and prevention of marine litter from sea-based sources.	2019 2022	Secretariat Countries	Countries assisted	Secretariat Countries
	2.1.2. Reinforce the implementation and enforcement of the existing national legal instruments in compliance with marine litter related international conventions and agreements like the MARPOL convention and its Annex V, the London convention and its Protocol, the Basel convention, the Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.	2019 2021	Secretariat Countries	Compliance reinforced	Secretariat Countries
	2.1.3. Develop sectoral guidelines on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from sea-based sources, particularly for sectors of shipping and fisheries.	2020	Secretariat	Guidelines developed	Secretariat

2.2. Port waste reception facilities	2.2.1. Provide assistance in the implementing of the requirements of Annex V to the MARPOL Convention to provide and improve reception facilities for all types of ship-generated waste in their ports, harbours, terminals and marinas.	2020 2020	Secretariat Countries	Assistance provided	Secretariat Countries
	2.2.2. Explore and implement ways and means to charge reasonable fees for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system.	2020 2022	Secretariat Countries	Implemented Assistance provided	Secretariat Countries
	2.2.3. Prepare a review of the adequacy of port reception facilities in the COBSEA region.	2020 2021	Countries Secretariat	Review prepared	Countries Secretariat
2.3. Fishing gear	2.3.1. Develop and/or strengthen existing legislation requiring all fishing gear to be identified/marked in order to contribute to reducing fisheries-related marine litter.	2020 2021	Secretariat Countries	Legislation developed	Secretariat Countries
	2.3.2. Develop and apply operational fishing methods that minimize the loss of fishing gear and the ghost fishing effects of lost or abandoned fishing gear, according to the FAO technical guidelines for the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.	2020 2022	Secretariat Countries	Operational methods applied	Secretariat Countries
	2.3.3. Assess the possibility of implementing waste gear buy-back schemes at the national level.	2020 2022	Countries	Possibility addressed	Countries
	2.3.4. Organize a technical training workshop to share experiences on successful management initiatives such as the waste gear buy-back scheme implemented in the Republic of Korea.	2020 2021	Secretariat Countries	Workshop held	Secretariat Countries
2.4. Removal of existing marine litter and its disposal	2.4.1. Develop and implement, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, regional and national programmes to locate, remove and dispose of accumulations/hot spots of sea-based marine litter related to marine transport, fisheries, mariculture and aquaculture.	2019 2020	Secretariat Countries	Programmes Implemented	Secretariat Countries

	2.4.2. Promote identification and removal of Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG).	2020 2020	Secretariat Countries	Removal promoted	Secretariat Countries
	2.4.3. Explore and implement the “Fishing for Litter” environmentally sound practice, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen, to facilitate clean up of floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gear.	2020 2021	Secretariat Countries	„Fishing for litter“ implemented	Secretariat Countries
	2.4.4. Apply cost effective measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities, in particular maintenance dredging in port areas.	2021	Countries	Measures applied	Countries
	2.4.5. Consider and address potential marine litter arising from ship maintenance and ship dismantling.	2019 2019	Secretariat Countries	Considered Considered	Secretariat Countries
<b>Action 3. Monitoring and assessment of marine litter</b>					
3.1. Expert Group	3.1.1. Establish a Marine Litter Monitoring Committee under the Regional Working Group on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.	2019	Secretariat	Expert Group established	Secretariat
3.2. Regional and National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes	3.2.1. Develop and implement a Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme. Such a programme should be developed in consultation with ongoing relevant regional monitoring programmes.	2021 2021	Secretariat Countries	Regional Monitoring Programme developed	Secretariat Countries
	3.2.2. Develop and implement National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes. Such programmes should be developed in consultation with ongoing regional and national monitoring programmes.	2021	Countries	National Monitoring Programme developed	Countries
3.3. Guidelines	3.3.1. Prepare guidelines for the implementation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme.	2020	Secretariat	Guidelines prepared	Secretariat

	3.3.2. Prepare guidelines for the development and implementation of National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes, in consultation with the relevant international, regional and national organizations.	2020	Secretariat	Guidelines prepared	Secretariat
3.4. Reports	3.4.1. Prepare a biennial regional report on the implementation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme and delivery against Sustainable Development Goal 14, Target 1 and other relevant goals and targets.	2024	Secretariat	Biennial reports prepared	Secretariat
	3.4.2. Prepare biennial national reports on the implementation of the National Marine Litter Survey and Monitoring Programmes.	2024	Countries	Biennial national reports prepared	Countries
3.5. Regional Database	3.5.1. Establish COBSEA Regional Database on Marine Litter, for the storage, management, analysis and interpretation of the results of the regional and national marine litter surveys and monitoring programmes, ICC events and other relevant sources of marine litter information in the region.	2024	Secretariat	Regional Database established	Secretariat
<b>Action 4. Activities supporting the implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018</b>					
4.1. Regional and international cooperation and reporting on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018	4.1.1. Establish a Regional Working Group on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018, to include national focal points and experts. This group is to assist and advise the COBSEA Secretariat on the implementation of COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.	2018	Secretariat	Regional Working Group established	Secretariat
	4.1.2. Establish institutional cooperation with relevant global and regional entities in relation to implementation of, for example, the MARPOL Convention and its Annex V, the London Convention and its Protocol, the Basel Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine	2020	Secretariat	Institutional cooperation established	Secretariat

	Environment from Land-based Activities and FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.				
	4.1.3. Establish partnership with cities, to provide effective transfer of knowledge and innovation, and promote collaboration among cities/between countries.	2020	Countries	Partnership established	Countries
	4.1.4. Convene regional conferences and stakeholder meetings.	As agreed	Secretariat	Meetings held	Secretariat
	4.1.5. Produce national biennial reports on the implementation of NAP MALI and the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.	2022	Countries	Biennial reports produced	Countries
	4.1.6. Produce regional biennial reports on the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.	2022	Secretariat	Biennial reports produced	Secretariat
	4.1.7. Review status of the implementation of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 at every second COBSEA Intergovernmental Meeting.	2021	Secretariat	Status reviewed	Secretariat
4.2. Research activities	4.2.1. Develop technology and approaches to prevent marine litter input from land-based sources (for example floating booms and barriers; trash traps at river and drainage areas; innovative solutions in supply chain; innovations in waste reduction; reduction in packaging).	2022 2022	Secretariat Countries	Technologies developed	Secretariat Countries
	4.2.2. Support research on environmentally sound technologies and production methods and promote the use of such research outcomes (for example use of plastic for road construction; semi-automatic recognition of marine debris on beaches (LIDAR)).	2022	Countries	Research supported	Countries
	4.2.3. Develop and carry out research on the impact of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment and economy (including economic costs and impact on human health and safety).	2024	Countries	Research developed	Countries

	4.2.4. Develop and support research on the effectiveness of market based instruments related to marine litter.	2024	Countries	Research supported	Countries
	4.2.5. Undertake marine litter trajectory modelling in the COBSEA region, to identify sources and accumulation zones for marine litter. Such models will assist participating countries in tracking progress towards Sustainable Goal 14, Target 14.1.	2022	Countries	Modelling undertaken	Countries
	4.2.6. Evaluate potential loss of fish stocks due to abandoned/lost fishing gear.	2022	Secretariat Countries	Loss evaluated	Secretariat Countries
	4.2.7. Evaluate direct costs and loss of income to tourism and fishery.	2022	Secretariat Countries	Direct cost evaluated	Secretariat Countries
4.3. Involvement of stakeholders, NGOs and civil society	4.3.1. Encourage and assist the appropriate involvement of various stakeholders including local authorities, NGOs, civil society and private sector to implement the activities of the COBSEA RAP MALI 2018.	2020	Countries	Stakeholders assisted	Countries
	4.3.2. Encourage stakeholder engagement in relevant international initiatives, such as the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) campaigns, Clean Up The World (CUW) campaigns, Green Fins and similar campaigns or programmes, as well as in national or sub-national efforts to educate the public, including school children, on marine litter issues as well as to encourage positive behaviour changes that will help to reduce the generation of litter.	2019	Countries	COBSEA participating countries encouraged	Countries
	4.3.3. Support the implementation of the National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns (beaches, riverbanks, storm water drainage) on a regular basis.	2019	Secretariat Countries	National Cleanup campaigns supported	Secretariat Countries
	4.3.4. Organize and coordinate comprehensive voluntary beach cleanups as a tool in educating and involving local communities, stakeholders and media to increase knowledge and awareness of the problem caused by marine litter, in	2019	Countries	Voluntary beach cleanups organized	Countries

	combination with public awareness campaigns by means of distribution of printed materials, environmental exhibitions and school children posters.				
	4.3.5. Encourage and assist entities with a particular interest in, or responsibility for certain coastal areas, such as tourist resorts and port authorities, to undertake regular clean-ups of their areas.	2020	Countries	Regular cleanups assisted	Countries
4.4. Information, education, outreach and public awareness	4.4.1. Develop a brochure on COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 and translate it into national languages.	2020	Secretariat	Brochure published	Secretariat
	4.4.2. Formulate and implement awareness raising campaigns and activities, including development of materials (for example booklets, leaflets, flyers, etc.) and organization of workshops and fora, in line with the Clean Seas campaign and relevant other regional or national campaigns, for the general public, various sectors, municipal authorities, local communities, school children and youth and other groups, to change behaviours and attitudes, reduce the generation of waste and to apply environmentally sound disposal and reuse in order to produce less marine litter.	2021	Secretariat	Awareness raising campaigns, workshops held and materials developed	Secretariat
4.5. Training and capacity building	4.5.1. Develop and implement education and training programmes for different target groups in order to enhance understanding of which sectors and groups are responsible for contributing to the generation of marine litter, why the problem with its significant implications for the marine and coastal environment still exists and what they can do to prevent and reduce the generation of marine litter.	2021 2021	Secretariat Countries	Programmes implemented	Secretariat Countries
	4.5.2 Facilitate the application of technical sectoral guidelines for different target groups through regional workshops and training programmes.	2020	Secretariat	Application of guidelines facilitated	Secretariat

	4.5.3. Provide technical training and capacity building to staff from national and municipal governments, port authorities and the shipping industry on the prevention and reduction of marine litter from land-based and sea-based sources through regional workshops and training courses.	2021 2021	Secretariat Countries	Technical training and capacity building provided	Secretariat Countries
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## ***Annex II. Relevant Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets***

COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 directly supports participating countries in delivering Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources; Target 14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

COBSEA RAP MALI 2018 also contributes to national efforts towards the following Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets:

Sustainable Development Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

Sustainable Development Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation; Target 9.4: By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.

Sustainable Development Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; Target 11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management.

Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production; Target 12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment; and Target 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse.

Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals; Target 17.6: Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism; Target 17.7: Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed; and Target 17.16: Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.