



# **SACEP's role as a sub-regional CHM**

# At Policy Level

- **SACEP Mission Statement says that**

to promote regional co-operation in South Asia in the field of environment, both natural and human in the context of sustainable development and on issues of economic and social development which also impinge on the environment and vice versa; to support conservation and management of natural resources of the region and to work closely with all national, regional, and international institutions, governmental and non governmental, as well as experts and groups engaged in such co-operation and conservation efforts

- **Governing Council Decision**

9<sup>th</sup> GC of SACEP held in 2006, identified information management as one of the 4 priority areas for the work plan for next two years.

- **Ministerial Declaration on 'South Asia's Biodiversity beyond 2010'**

# At Programme/Activity Level

- South Asian Seas Programme
- Manual for the Assessment of Faunal Biodiversity in South Asia , 1997
- Assessment of Floral Biodiversity
- Capacity Development for Long Term Management and Conservation of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas of South Asia
- Regional Strategy for Coral Reef Management in South Asia, December 2008
- Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook South Asia Report, 2010
- Biodiversity CHM
  1. Awareness and Capacity Building
  2. Preparation of Regional CHM proposal

# **Awareness and Capacity Building under CHM**

- **SACEP signed a MoU with Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) which is the Belgian National Focal Point for CHM**
- **Developed In-house Capacity on CHM with assistance of Belgian National Focal Point for CHM**
- **Under took 2 National awareness/capacity building programmes for Postgraduate Students of Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of National Focal Point for CHM**

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- **Organised National Capacity Building workshop on Bio-safety CHM for the Government Officials of Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of Government of Sri Lanka and UNESCO**

# Preparation of Regional CHM proposal

## Background of the proposal

- Lack of information or un-accessibility of the available information on biodiversity in the region
- None of the South Asian countries other than India is having their National CHMs
- CBD (COP7) decision on regional CHMs invited parties “...to develop regional clearing-house mechanisms to further promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation and the exchange of information on technology transfer at the regional and national levels”
- SACEP with the assistance of Belgian CHM Focal Point developed the proposal

# Why we need regional CHM

- Regional CHM is a mechanism to integrate the National CHMs
- It would eventually encouraged and assist member countries to develop and maintain their National CHMs
- It would facilitate the technical and scientific cooperation among our member countries
- It will assist for management planning and policy making process at regional level

# Goal and Objectives of the Project

The goal of the project is to contribute to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity target 19 and to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in South Asia through the establishment and maintenance of one regional and eight national clearing-house mechanisms in SACEP member countries

Objectives are;

- To increase the capacity of SACEP member countries to establish and maintain national clearing house mechanisms that provide effective information services to facilitate the implementation of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- To establish a sustainable regional clearing-house mechanism on biodiversity for South Asia that links together its national clearing-house mechanisms and provides a forum for regional cooperation within SACEP member countries.




# Project Deliverables

- A strategic document, including the site objectives and target audience, the recommended information architecture, and the content management strategy;
- The list of web pages with their purpose;
- The identification and compilation of corresponding information, such as a list of related websites and online references;
- The minimal visual elements including branding, banner, logo and typography;
- The initial setup on a host server, using the European CHM toolkit;
- The gradual creation of the web pages;
- The collection of web usage feedback and analytics;
- Information updates on a regular basis.

# What is the current status of the project

- Developed a Complete Proposal with the Guidelines of GC
- 11<sup>th</sup> GC held in 2008 approved the proposal and directed SACEP to implement is as follows;
  - a) Assist member countries of South Asia to build capacity to develop and maintain National CHMs
  - b) Assist member countries to develop and maintain National CHMs
  - c) Develop a regional CHM that meets the needs of the region, links together the national CHMs and provides a forum for promoting regional scientific and technical cooperation

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- The proposal was submitted to number of donor agencies for seeking possible funding support, but yet we could not secure the necessary funding
  - Belgian National Focal Point for CHM already assured the technical assistance
  - SACEP is looking at two scenarios
- a) small-scope scenario with existing resources and modest expected benefits
  - b) full-scope scenario with additional resources and higher expected benefits

# Small-scope scenario

- Countries start the National CHM on a free available hosting server eg. SACEP/Be-CHM server
- Country includes from the national budget a small amount to the National CHM development
- When ever the SACEP CHM expert visit a country for other meeting or workshop, add extra day to assist the development of the National CHM

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# South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme



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- South Asia Coral Reef Task Force (SACRTF)
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## SABCHM: South Asia Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism

- About the BCHM
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# **Available Options for Secure Funding to go for Full-scope Scenario**

- **Again look for donor agencies**
- **Member Countries divert some funds from other projects to develop National CHMs**
- **Ensure inclusion of CHM development in the GEF allocation for the NBSAP from each country be allocated to this project that can be used to organized national training with technical assistance from SACEP and/or Belgium CHM**

# **Other Similar Development In SACEP's Programme Activities**

- **Establishment of Environmental Data and Information Management System for South Asia**
- **Inaugural workshop will be held from 9 to 10 February 2012 at Colombo**