



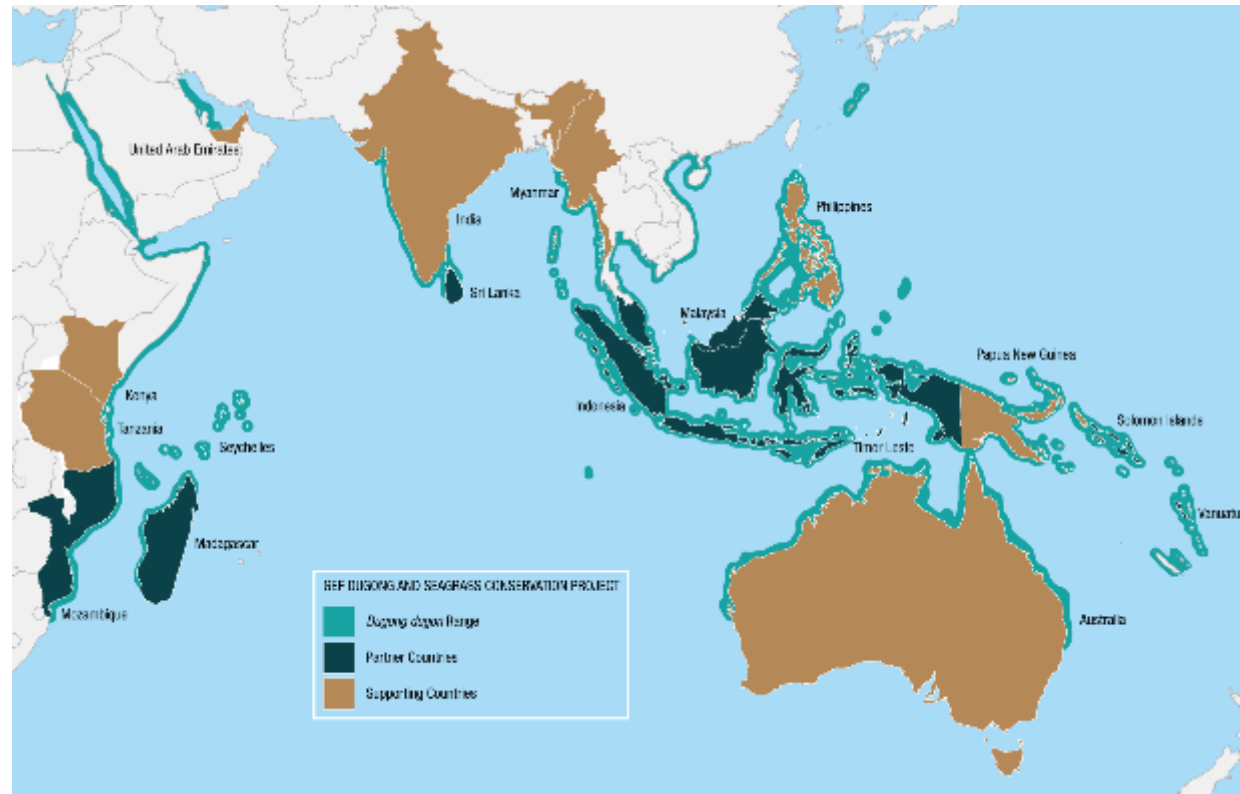
*This Project is executed by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund,
with financing from the GEF, implementation support by UNEP
and technical support from the CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat.*

MOS3: Conservation initiatives

13-14 March 2017
Abu Dhabi, UAE

The Dugong & Seagrass Conservation Project

- US \$5.88M investment in global dugong and seagrass conservation
- Implementing CMS Dugong MoU across 8 range countries
- Timeframe: 2015 to 2018



The Dugong & Seagrass Conservation Project

A global partnership

- 8 countries: Mozambique, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu
- 26 Partners implementing 38 local projects
- 19 Project regional sites (+120 local sites within)



The Dugong & Seagrass Conservation Project

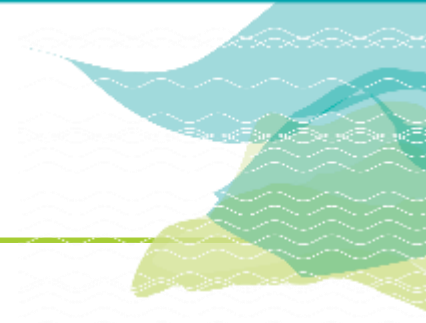
A global partnership (2)



Project Inception Workshop – Oct 2015, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dugong & Seagrass Conservation Project

The commitment



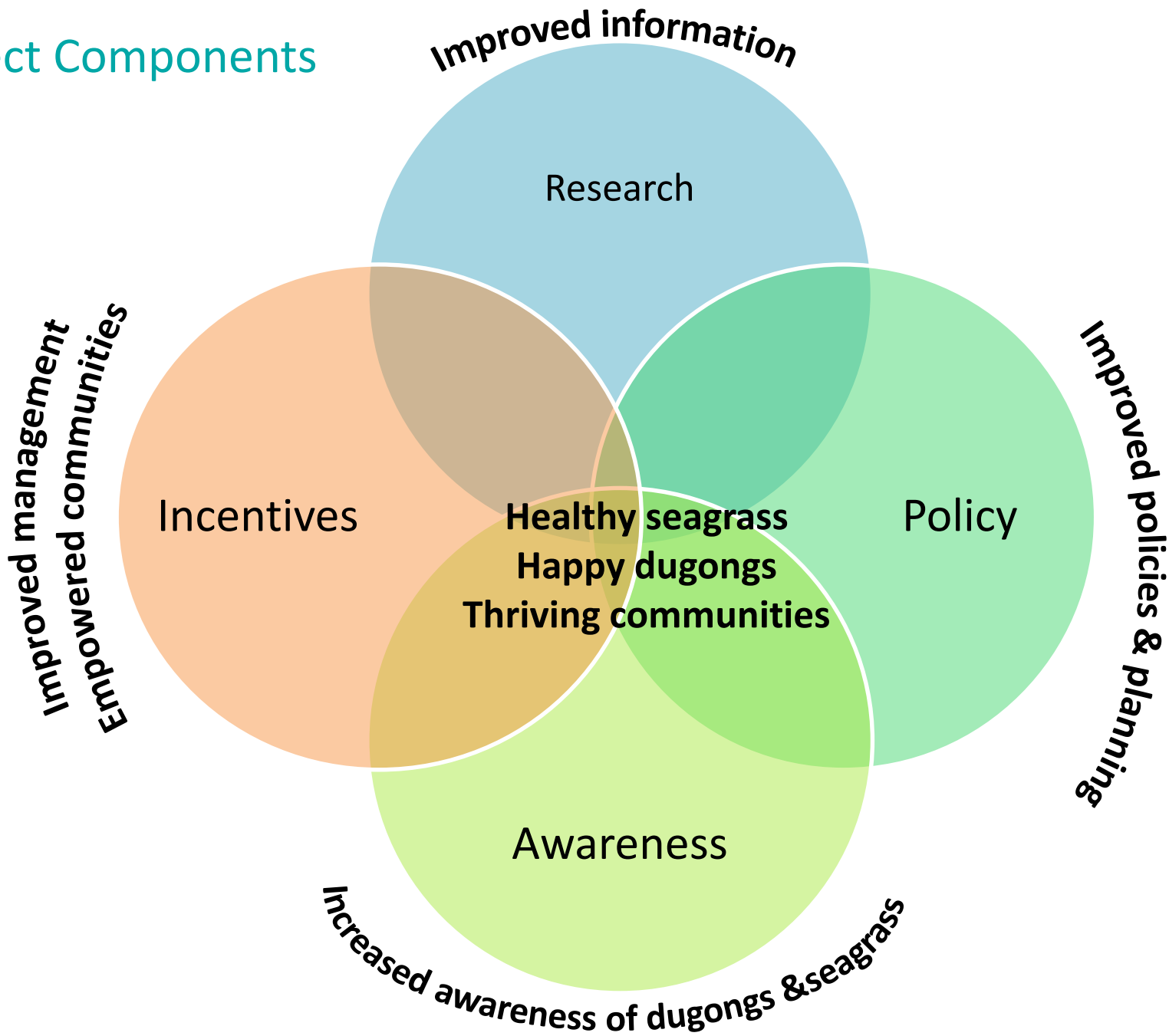
- **Goal**

To improve the conservation status of dugongs and their seagrass habitats across the Indian and Pacific Ocean basins.

- **Objective**

To enhance the effectiveness of conservation of dugongs and their seagrass ecosystems across the Indian and Pacific Ocean basins

Project Components



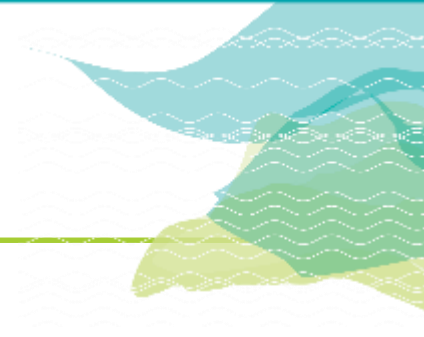
Dugong & Seagrass Conservation Project

The commitment

Global objective	2015	2018
	524,368 ha of seagrass	1,000,000 ha of seagrass under improved conservation management
	11 existing, 16 new/expanded PAs	
	Bycatch/ incidental catch “bad” fishing gear Bad fishing practices	-50% “bad” fishing gear 0 dugong mortality in incentives sites +20% income for local communities +20% female participants

Conservation challenges & barriers

Before we started



- Unknown baseline
- Socio-economic context
 - communities heavily dependent on marine resources
 - fishing activities - main source of income and protein
- Weak policy framework or implementation
- No incentives for communities or knowledge to change fishing practices
- No/ limited alternatives to fishing

Project Components & Results

- **Component Research**

Baseline of dugong and seagrass conservation established, including information on coastal communities, their daily interactions with the marine environment and needs; New data on dugongs and seagrass; Mobile applications



Project Components & Results

- **Component Incentives**

Communities involved in management & monitoring of dugong hotspots; alternative livelihoods solutions for communities; addressing social demands of coastal communities together with environmental problems



Project Components & Results

- **Component Education & Awareness**

Pre awareness survey, Dugong festival, education programmes, Project website; films and photos of dugongs; a lot of awareness raising activities with fishers, local women, kids, etc.





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SAVE THE DUGONG!

A global effort to conserve dugongs
and their seagrass habitats

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Project website

Project Components & Results

- **Component Policy**

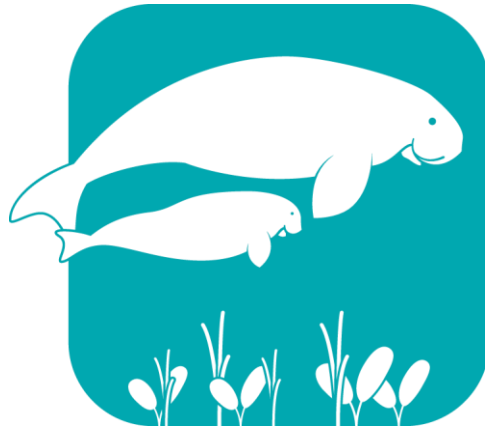
Annual Executive Project Steering Committee meetings, National Facilitating Committees, policy gap analyses, National Plans of Actions



Next steps

- Consolidate and interpret results
- Monitor/ adapt the community-based models
- Continue awareness raising
- Continue education activities
- Measure our impact





Dugong & Seagrass

CONSERVATION PROJECT

