



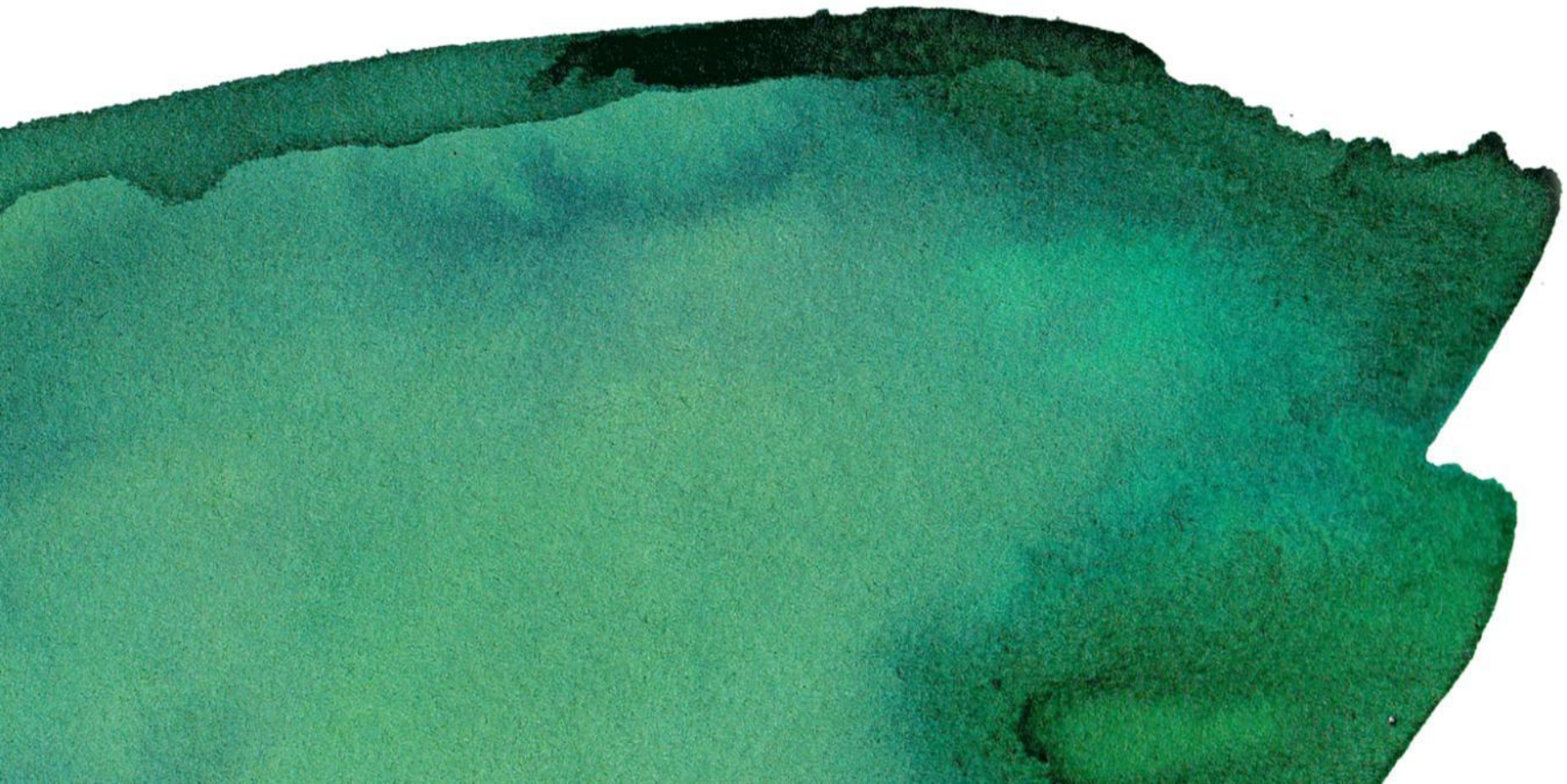
## *The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project*

*Enhancing the Conservation  
Effectiveness of Seagrass Ecosystems  
Supporting Globally Significant  
Populations of Dugong Across the  
Indian and Pacific Oceans Basins*

## Overview of Presentation

1. Introduction: What is the Global Environment Facility (GEF)?
2. A Brief History/From Theory To Practice
3. Goal, Project Objective and Expected Outcomes
4. The GEF Project Timeline
5. Achievements to Date/National Meetings with GEF Project Partners
6. Next steps
7. Conclusion: Relevance to the Dugong MOU

## *1. Introduction: What is GEF?*



# The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project

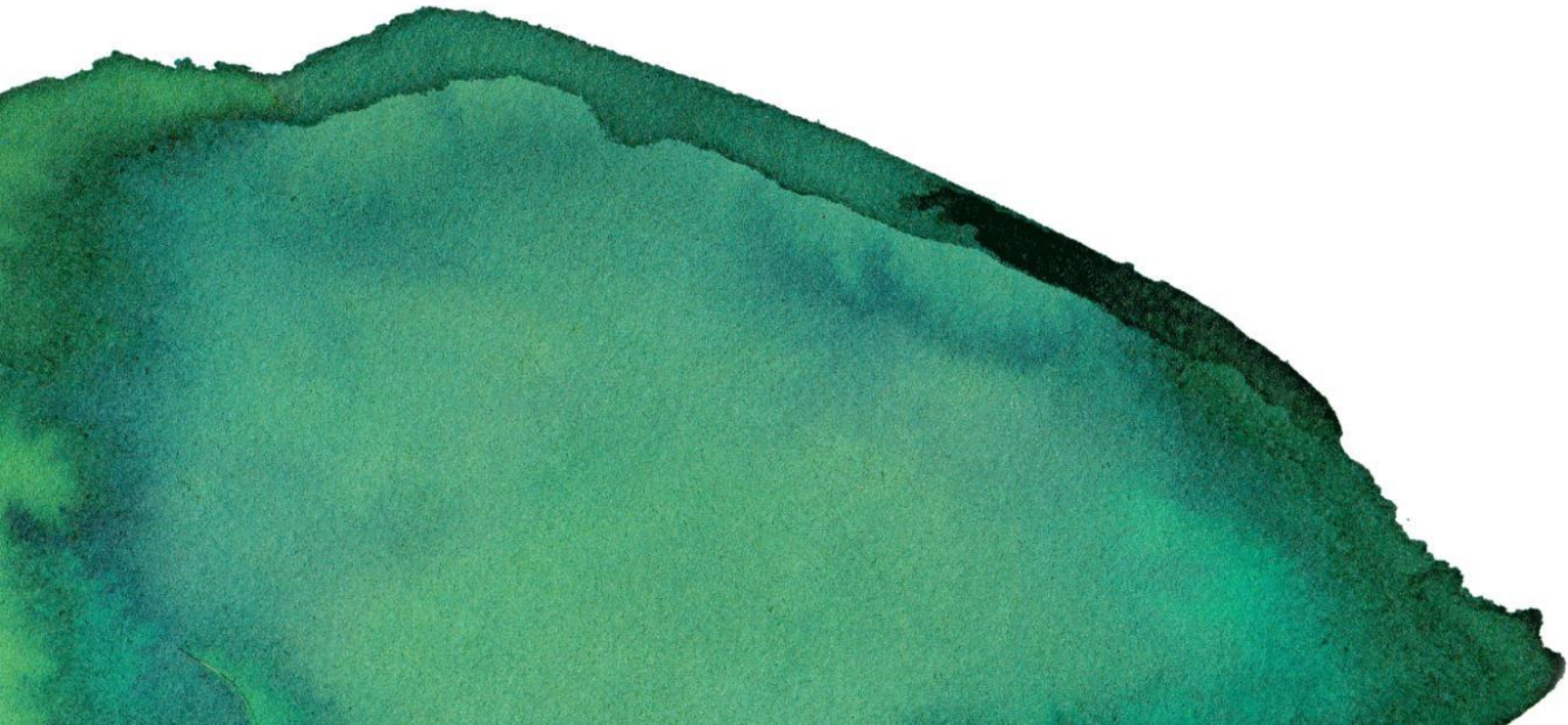
## What is the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project?

“The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is the largest public funder of projects to improve the global environment... [Under this remit,] the GEF provide grants for projects related to biodiversity”. ([www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org))

The Dugong MOU Secretariat, with support of partner countries, has preliminary approval for Dugong and Seagrass Conservation project in seven Range States.



## *2. A Brief History/From Theory To Practice*



## Establishing the GEF Project

### A brief history of the GEF Project

The Secretariat approached sixteen Range States who are eligible for the GEF-5 Biodiversity STAR Allocation:

|            |            |                  |             |
|------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| India      | Malaysia   | Papua New Guinea | Tanzania    |
| Indonesia  | Myanmar    | Philippines      | Thailand    |
| Kenya      | Mozambique | Solomon Islands  | Timor Leste |
| Madagascar | Palau      | Sri Lanka        | Vanuatu     |

Many of the countries were unable to participate as their Allocation had already been assigned to alternative programs.

## Participants and Partners

### Funding and Contributing States

Seven Range States provided cash funding from their GEF-5 Biodiversity STAR Allocations to become Project Partners. Each Project Partner contributed between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000 and agreed a 4:1 co-financing ratio; State Resources:GEF Funding.

Four Range States provided in-kind contributions to become Supporting Partners.

### The Seven Project Partners

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| Indonesia | Madagascar  |
| Malaysia  | Mozambique  |
| Sri Lanka | Timor Leste |
| Vanuatu   |             |

### The Four Supporting Partners

|             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| Australia   | Papua New Guinea |
| Philippines | Solomon Islands  |

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### *3. GEF Project:*

*Goal, Project Objective and Expected Outcomes*





# The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project: **Goal and Project Objective**

## **Goal**

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

## **Project Objective**

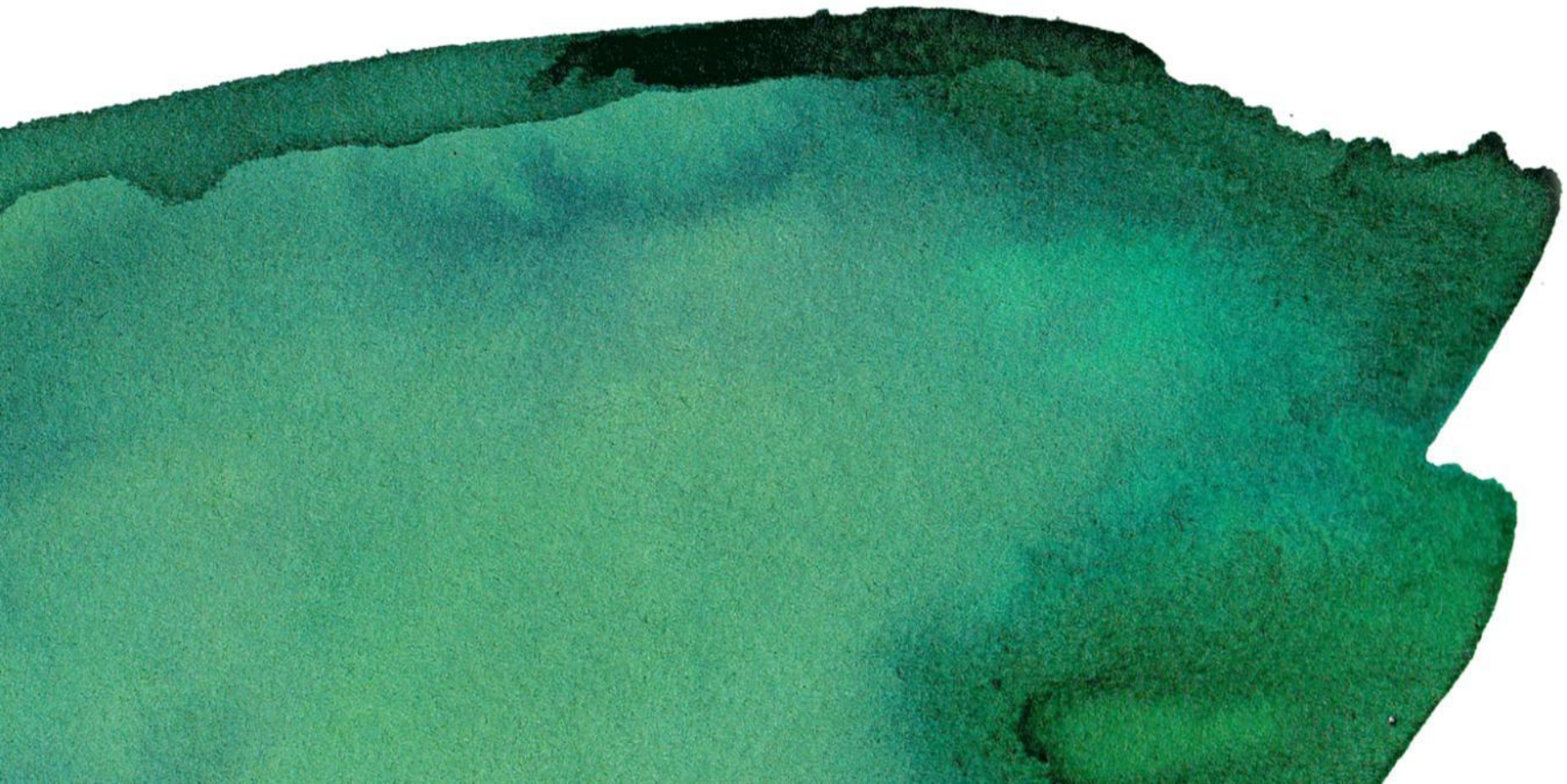
To enhance the effectiveness of conservation of dugongs and their seagrass ecosystem at selected globally important sites in the Indian and Pacific Oceans [through community-based stewardship, incentive-based conservation, removal of knowledge barriers and national and regional mainstreaming activities]

# The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project: Expected Outcomes



- Community-based stewardship of seagrass-dependent biodiversity at selected globally important sites (PAs and non-PAs) enhanced
- Responsible fisheries and other practices that reduce damage to dugong and seagrass ecosystems sustained through adoption of innovative financial incentive mechanisms
- Barriers to critical knowledge needed for decision-making for effective conservation of seagrass-dependent biodiversity removed
- Seagrass-dependent biodiversity conservation priorities and measures incorporated into relevant policy, planning and regulatory framework review processes (regional, national, local, coastal and sectorial, as appropriate)

## *4. The GEF Project: Timeline*

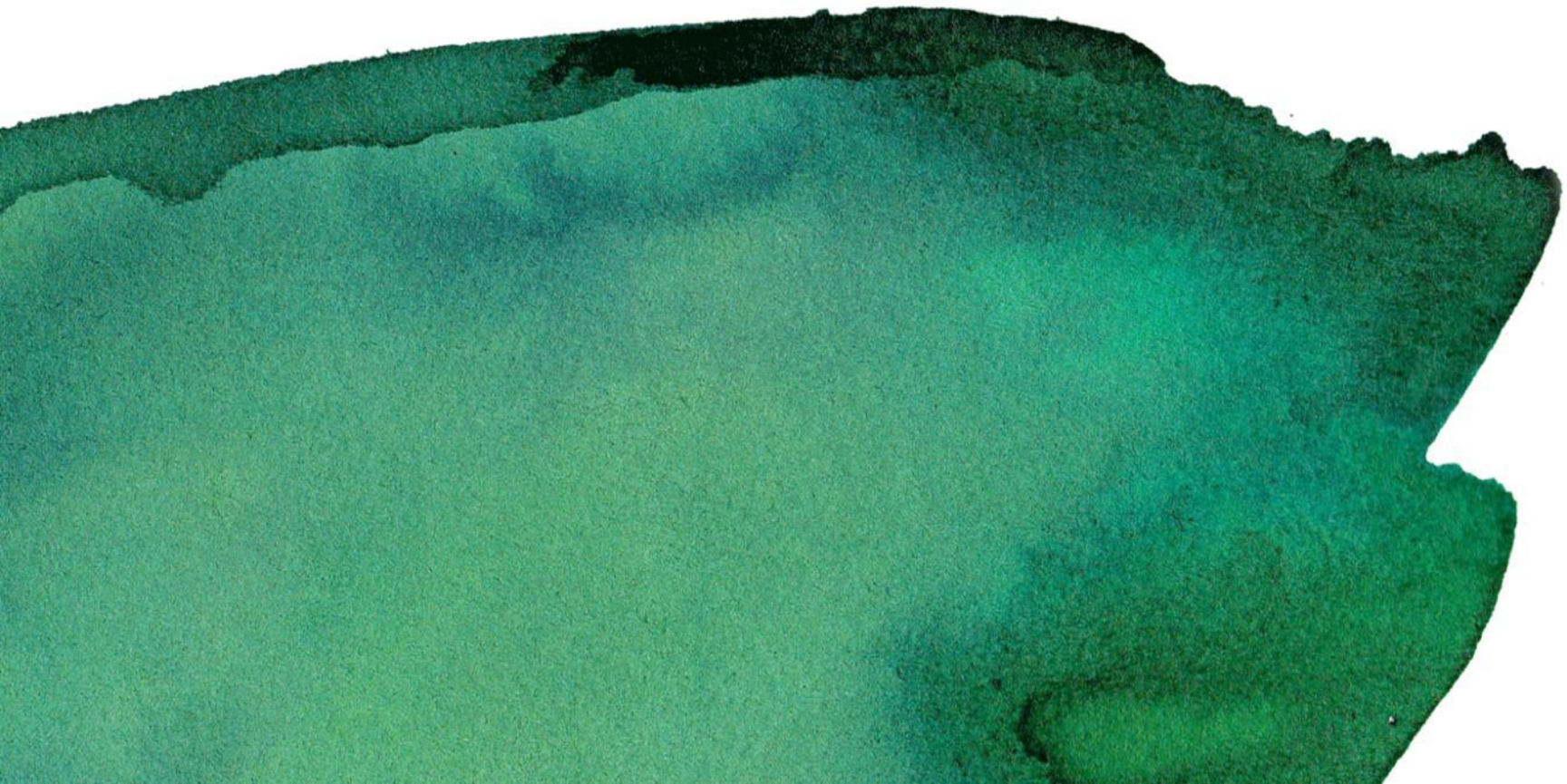


## Overview of project timeline and key dates

- **June 2012** : Approval of PIF and PPG grant
- **15 September 2012 – 15 April 2013** – Develop/agree activities (international/regional/national/local-level), partner/stakeholder involvement, budgets, co-financing, and project implementation arrangements
- **15 April 2013**: Submission of draft Project Document (ProDoc) and CEO endorsement request (CEO ER) to UNEP for review
- **15 May 2013**: Feedback from UNEP on ProDoc and CEO ER
- **16 May -31 May 2013**: Corrections/changes to draft ProDoc and CEO ER
- **1 June 2013**: Submission of ProDoc and CEO ER to GEFSEC, followed by STAP, other IAs, GEF Council, with re-submissions as required
- **31 October 2013**: Latest date for endorsement of final CEO ER by GEF CEO

## *5. The GEF Project:*

*Achievements to Date / National  
Meetings with GEF Project Partners*



# The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation: National Meetings



## National Meetings with GEF Project Partners

- Malaysia (Putrajaya, 3 – 4 October 2012 )
- Sri Lanka (Colombo, 9 – 10 October 2012)
- Mozambique (Maputo, 26 – 27 October 2012 )
- Madagascar (Antananarivo, 30 – 31 October 2012 )
- Indonesia (Jakarta, 6 – 7 November 2012)

### **Objective of the National Meetings :**

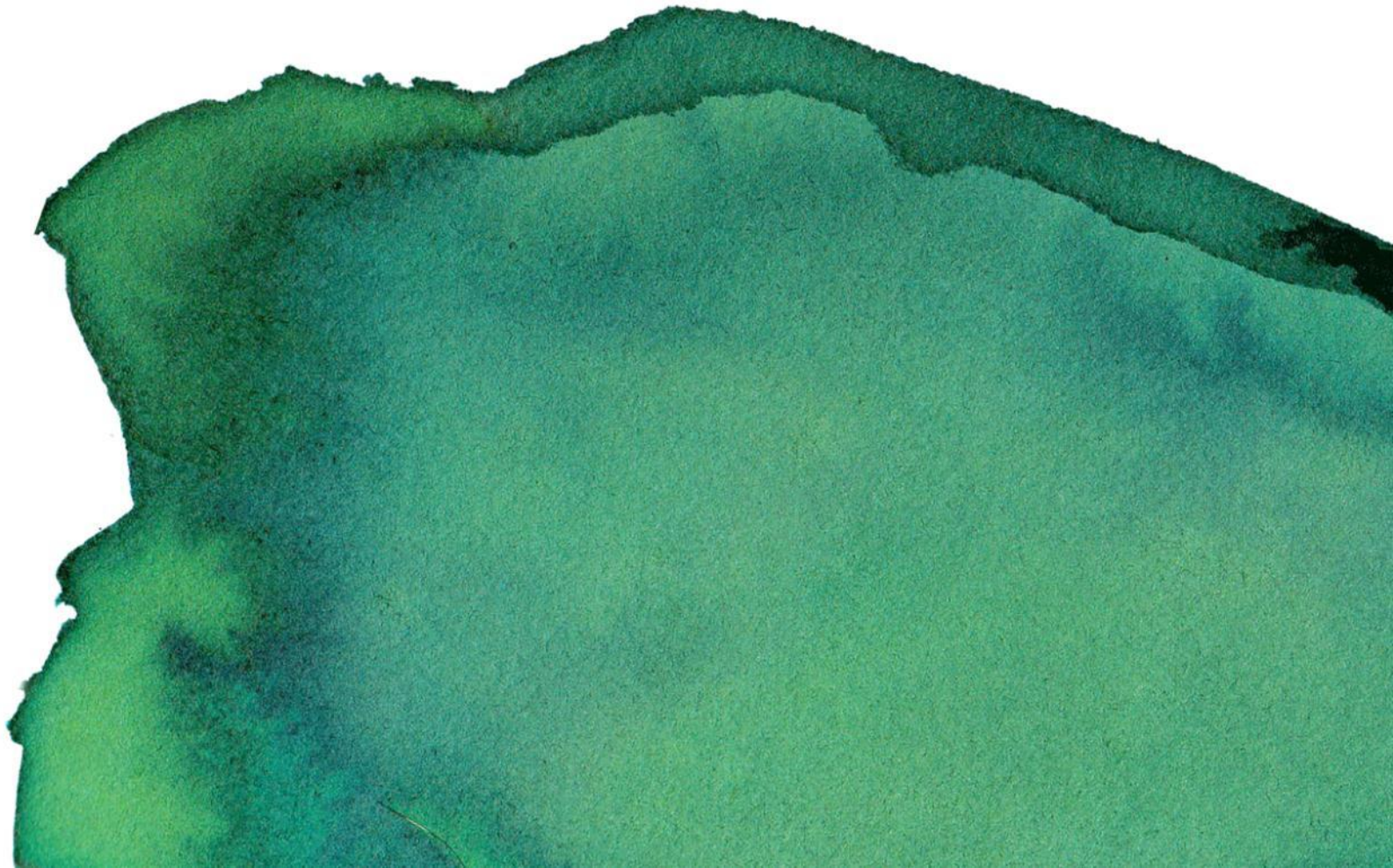
1. To brief project partners on GEF process and development of the ProDoc and CEO endorsement request
2. To discuss budget, management and incentive tools, possible execution arrangements
3. To analyse possible threats and needs for project development

# The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation: National Meetings



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## *8. Next steps*





## What happens next?

### The GEF International Workshop, Manilla, Philippines, 21-22 February 2013



The Seven Project Partners have compiled National Reports, National Reviews and been developing potential projects.

The GEF International Workshop is a platform for all Project Partners to align their activities with the GEF process and timetable.

The GEF International Workshop offer an opportunity to meet representatives of the project teams from each of the seven project countries.

## The GEF International Workshop

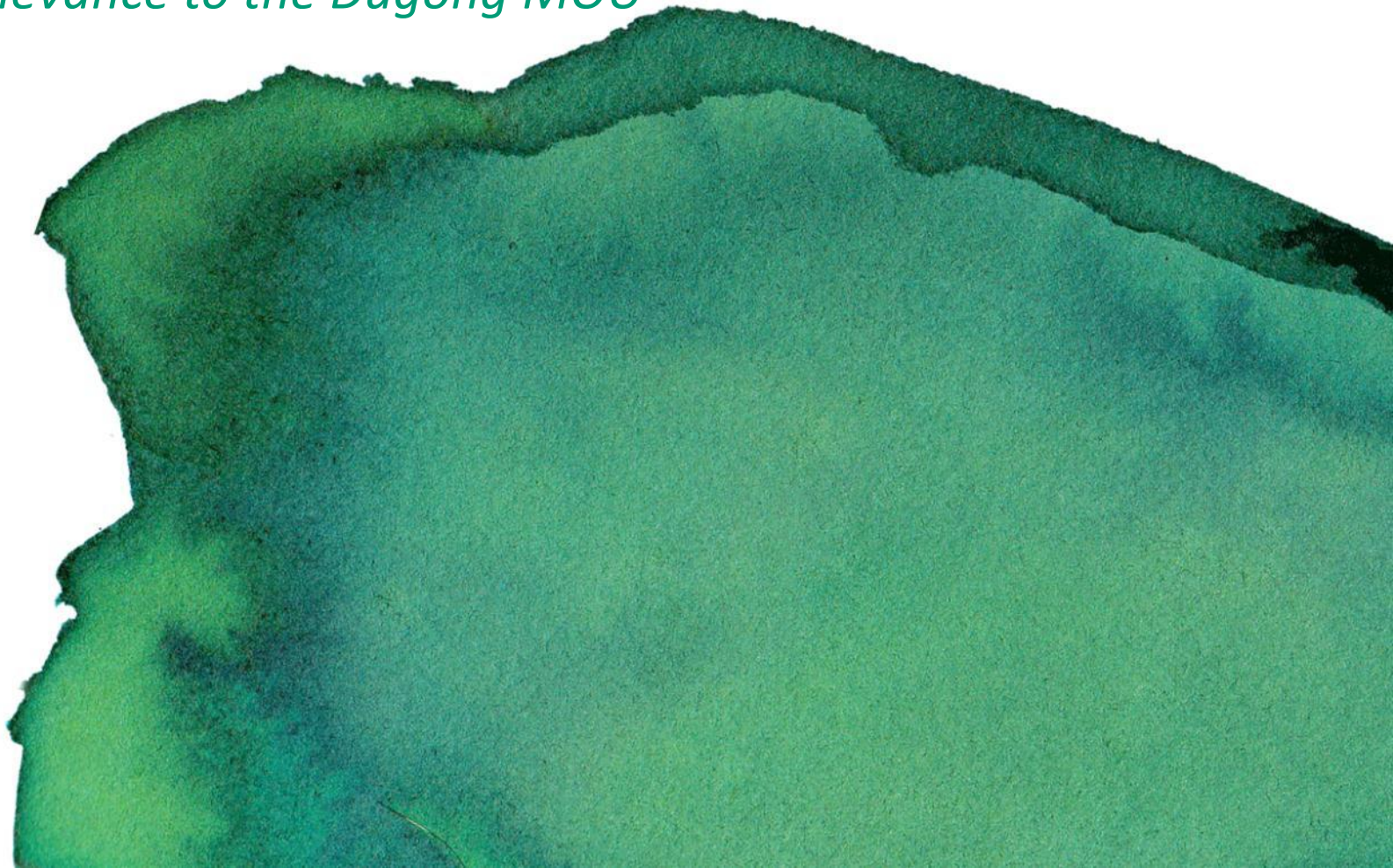
The GEF Workshop will allow the Project Partners to:

- Review, discuss and compile a GEF Project Document
- Identify and discuss potential regional and international activities for the GEF Project
- Collaborate to form working partnerships between countries on this multi-national, multi-regional project



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*7. The GEF Project:  
Relevance to the Dugong MOU*



# How the GEF Project implements the Dugong MoU: An Opportunity for Range States to Make a Difference for Dugongs and their Critical Seagrass Habitats



## How does the GEF Project implement the Dugong MoU?

- Addressing threats to dugongs

The GEF Project facilitates reporting of local threats such as:

- Bycatch
- Direct catch
- Vessel accidents

- Addressing threats to seagrass habitats

The GEF Project is an enabler for communities to consider the importance of seagrass and the impact of human activities on seagrass health, such as:

- Coastal development
- Fishing gear
- Harmful fishing methods

## How the GEF Project implements the Dugong MoU

### How does the GEF Project implement the Dugong MoU?

- Generating community-led solutions to real life problems

The involvement of communities in the GEF Project provides opportunities for local people to discuss issues which may prevent them from changing their behaviour in order to reduce threats to dugong and seagrasses

- Encouraging Community Stewardship of Dugongs and their Habitats

Rewards or incentives provided by GEF Funding will:

- Allow communities to appreciate the importance of dugongs and seagrasses to their own survival, for example the direct benefits on healthy fish populations
- Enable those dependent on dugong or seagrass damaging activities to find alternative sources of income and protein, for example establishing local aquaculture practices

# Relevance of the GEF Project to the Dugong MOU

## How does the GEF Project benefit the Dugong MOU?

### Clearing House Mechanism

Establish an internet-based platform to:

- Share knowledge among Range States
- Report progress
- Receive advice
- Encourage community involvement

### Extension of Projects and Results to Signatory and Range States

- Building capacity and baseline databases
- Extension of successful projects across national boundaries
- Application of GEF Project results to the future of dugong conservation



## Relevance of the GEF Project to the Dugong MOU

### How does the GEF Project benefit the Dugong MOU?



#### **Raises the Profile of Dugong MOU & Range States**

- Attract media attention to the MOU and Range States
- Generate international interest in dugong conservation

#### **Raising Funds for Conservation of Dugong Populations and Seagrass Habitat**

- Enhance communication of conservation actions to a global audience
- Inspire donations from local, regional and national corporate parties



*Thank you for your attention!*