



NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE

highlights

The INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE (IPO) is the focal point for National Ocean Service (NOS) international activities to enhance U.S. and international capabilities for ocean and coastal management. Specifically, IPO facilitates international partnerships, capacity building, scientific and technical exchanges, and access to NOS products and services. IPO chairs and staffs the NOS International Coordinating Council whose mission is to coordinate all NOS international activities.

Throughout fiscal year 2008, IPO worked to improve international capacities to protect, conserve, and restore coastal habitat; mitigate the impacts of climate change; ensure safe and efficient marine navigation; and reduce impacts from natural disasters on coastal resources.

NOS PARTNERS WITH CHINA TO ADDRESS WATERSHED POLLUTANTS & BIODIVERSITY

NOS is working on two projects with China. One project addressed land-based sources of pollution in China's Xiamen Bay from the Julong River. These ecosystems are impacted by pollutant loading from excessive application of agricultural nutrients and pesticides, sedimentation and soil erosion, and domestic waste disposal practices. NOS led U.S. experts from academia, private industry, and State governments to help the Chinese Government develop a plan of action to address these problems. NOS is also partnering with the China South Seas Marine Biodiversity Program in Shenzhen, China, to provide technical assistance in areas such as spatial planning and environmental monitoring. Partners include 60 representatives from more than a dozen key scientific, resource management, and finance organizations. NOS plays an ongoing role as a technical advisor and Steering Committee member for the program, providing assistance in capacity building for four protected area sites with a focus on the conservation of mangroves, corals, offshore islands, and migratory corridors involving multi-jurisdictional administration.



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO COMPLETE PLAN TO IMPROVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

NOS assisted Trinidad and Tobago in the completion of a final National Program of Action (NPA) to improve watershed management and reduce negative impacts on coastal resources. An NPA provides a framework for coastal management and is a national plan to prevent, reduce, control, and/or eliminate marine degradation from land-based activities. NOS helped identify major land-based pollution sources and refined specific actions to mitigate pollutant impacts.

KEY INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT MILESTONES DEVELOPED WITH VIETNAM

NOS worked with key partners in Vietnam to set directions for a provincial level integrated coastal management program. The work is part of an ongoing project to promote the application of integrated coastal management principles in Vietnam. NOAA's primary partners in Vietnam are the Ministry of Fisheries, the International Union for Conservation of Nature-World Conservation Union, and two provincial governments.

NOS LEADS NOAA COOPERATION WITH KOREA ON SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN INTEGRATED COASTAL & OCEAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

NOS manages ongoing cooperation with two Ministries in the Republic of Korea – the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs and the Ministry for Food, Fisheries, Agriculture and Forestry. Training and collaboration is in areas such as coastal and protected area management, harmful algal blooms, aquaculture, coastal and ocean observations and warnings, fisheries and ecosystem-based resources, watershed planning, Sea Grant, and ocean data exchange. In 2008, the Korean government transferred \$519,000 to the NOS International Program Office to administer this NOAA-wide program with participation from the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, the National Weather Service, and other partners.

NOS LEADS ON GLOBAL OCEAN ISSUES WITH THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

John H. Dunnigan, Assistant Administrator of NOS, advanced U.S. global leadership in integrated management of the oceans through his leadership as the U.S. Representative to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). The IOC, a part of the United Nations system, is a scientific organization comprised of government agencies from around the world and is the United Nations' focal point for ocean sciences and services in collaboration with 136 member countries. IOC's efforts draw substantially on NOAA's scientific and policy expertise to promote global and regional scientific coordination.

NOS PARTNERS ON GUIDEBOOK *ESTABLISHING RESILIENT MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORKS — MAKING IT HAPPEN*

NOAA, The Nature Conservancy, and the World Commission on Protected Areas of The World Conservation Union released *Establishing Resilient Marine Protected Area Networks — Making It Happen*. The guidebook provides essential guidance for marine protected area (MPA) planners, managers, and conservation practitioners striving to build functional MPAs and MPA networks in order to achieve marine conservation goals. NOS advises on designing and implementing effective marine protected area networks worldwide.



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