

Report on a National Workshop and NGO-led field consultations in Thailand July-August 2006

***“Principles for a code of conduct for the management and
sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems”***



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Cover Photos

Thai scientist working in the mangrove ecosystem in Ranong, Thailand (Photo by: Donald J. Macintosh, cenTER)	Mangrove dwellers in the mangrove ecosystem in Ranong, Thailand (Photo by: Donald J. Macintosh, cenTER)
Seedlings ready for planting (Photo by: Sanit Aksornkoae, TEI)	Newly planted seedlings (Photo by: Sanit Aksornkoae, TEI)

1 Background

1.1 General Background

Thailand was included as an additional country for a national Workshop to present and discuss the draft Mangrove Principles. An NGO-led consultation at field level was also included, covering three provinces in Thailand. This was decided on after gaining experience from the national workshop and field testing in Vietnam. Difficulties had been encountered in Vietnam when trying to conduct field consultations in the Red River Delta using both English and Vietnamese.

It became apparent from the experience in Vietnam that, when consulting with field-level stakeholders, it is much better to conduct all discussions and other forms of feedback in the native language, supported by an experienced facilitator working throughout the field testing process. The facilitator should also be capable of providing an accurate translation into English of the key opinions and recommendations expressed by local stakeholders.

It was also experienced in Vietnam that government officials, especially those at higher level (provincial and district) tended to dominate the discussions over commune level and NGO representatives; or, alternatively, that the former expressed rather different priorities compared to commune stakeholders and NGOs when considering mangrove management issues. This meant that meetings with mixed stakeholder groups were difficult to manage in terms of keeping the discussions on track regarding the mangrove Principles, or in reaching a consensus view.

1.2 Background to the National Workshop

With the kind consent of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Corporation (SEAFDEC) in Bangkok, an opportunity was taken to arrange a special workshop session to present and discuss the draft Principles document at a SEAFDEC meeting convened in Hua Hin, Thailand from 4 to 7 July 2006.

This SEAFDEC meeting was an expert consultation on the Development of National and Regional Training Materials for Human Resources Development in Fisheries Management. This is an activity of the SEAFDEC-SIDA Collaborative Project on “Human Resources Development on the Support of Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management for the ASEAN Region.”

The Mangrove Principles session was arranged on the final day of the SEAFDEC meeting, just before the concluding plenary session. The mangrove presentation and discussion session was well attended with 18 participants from Thailand, Indonesia and Cambodia, as well as SEAFDEC experts and secretariat staff. An Information Note was circulated (Annex 1) and a Power Point presentation of the history of the Code of Conduct project was given by Don Macintosh which highlighted the complementary nature of the Mangrove Principles with the Code of Conduct for

Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) adopted since 1995 by FAO. This presentation is shown in Annex 2. A summary of the discussion following the presentation and other feedback received at the meeting is provided in section 2.2.

1.3 Background to the NGO-led field consultations

The draft Mangrove Principles were also discussed during the period 5 to 8 July with Prof. Sanit Aksornkoae (President of Thailand Environment Institute, TEI, a leading environmental NGO in Thailand) and Dr. Somsak Boromthanart (Director of the Coastal Resources Institute, CORIN, of Prince of Songkhla University). Based on these discussions, plus the lead consultant's experience of field testing the mangrove Principles in Vietnam, a strategy to ensure participation of NGO and local coastal community leaders in Thailand in the on-going process of improving and adapting the draft Principles, was prepared.

It was considered impractical to invite all the relevant NGO and community mangrove project managers to a single meeting. This was due not only to logistical and financial constraints, but also recognizing that the dialogue with these stakeholder groups should be conducted on a location by location basis, and in Thai only to ensure that their views were received directly, and not limited (interrupted) by the need for English interpretation. As explained above, this latter decision (i.e. to conduct all the discussions directly in Thai), was made on the basis of experience from field testing the draft Principles in Vietnam with NGO and local stakeholders. It had also been experienced in Vietnam that (understandably) local stakeholders were most concerned about local mangrove resource use issues – usually related to local area management policies, or the lack of clear policies to resolve user conflicts. This finding guided the decision to meet with mangrove users and other local stakeholders on a location by location basis.

Based on the above decisions, three satellite meetings, in the form of consultations with local stakeholders, were agreed after the national workshop in Hua Hin, covering two important provinces for mangroves, Trang and Nakhorn Si Thammarat, in southern Thailand, plus several mangrove managers and related experts at national level in Bangkok. As Nakhorn Si Thammarat and Trang are on opposite coastlines of the country (the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, respectively), these two provinces face rather different challenges regarding sustainable mangrove management and use. They illustrate well the important point mentioned above about the advantages of working with local mangrove stakeholders on a location by location basis.

A questionnaire was prepared and translated into Thai for TEI to use at these NGO led consultations. Prof Sanit acted as a facilitator for the whole consultation and feedback gathering process. He then prepared a summary of the main findings in English, which is provided in this report in section 3 and tables 1-4.

2 Report on the National Workshop

2.1 General Comments

The draft Mangrove Principles were considered highly relevant to the subject of the SEAFDEC-SIDA Project meeting, because SEAFDEC and the ASEAN/SEAFDEC member countries have developed a set of Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia. In a similar manner to the process of adaptation of the Mangrove Principles for regional and national use (including local language versions), the “Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia” are adapted from the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) adopted by FAO in 1995.

Thus, the meeting in Hua Hin was also an ideal opportunity to gain the experience and views from SEAFDEC-SIDA and representatives from Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam on this adaptation process for fisheries management.

It is explained in the documented implementation strategy for the SEAFDEC-SIDA Project, that the CCRF has provided a comprehensive framework and principles to guide the countries for their consideration and appropriate actions to harmonize fisheries with the aquatic environment. As a major coastal ecosystem in many developing countries, mangroves support key aquatic processes, including coastal productivity, spawning/nursery habitats for fishery species, and physical protection of off-shore coral reefs and sea grass beds. Thus, the Mangrove Principles can be viewed as a potential tool to support the objective of better harmonizing fisheries management with the coastal aquatic environment in Southeast Asia.

The SEAFDEC-SIDA Project gives special attention to three important factors: (1) Fisheries Structure (especially in coastal or small-scale fisheries); (2) Ecological situation (multi-species type of fisheries); (c) Socio-economic and cultural factors (socio-economic integration of small-scale fisheries with the local community). Again, the sustainable management and use of mangroves can make an important contribution to achieving these fisheries-related priorities in Southeast Asia and other tropical regions.

2.2 Discussion and Recommendations

A round-the-table discussion followed after the presentation of the draft Mangrove Principles, in which mangrove-fisheries linkages were emphasized (see Annex 2). The key points from the discussion are summarized below. Other comments from the countries present were kindly provided on an individual basis, including the National Focal Point persons (for the SEAFDEC-SIDA Project) in the case of Cambodia and Indonesia.

SEAFDEC-SIDA

It was mentioned as a general point by SIDA's Adviser to SEAFDEC, Dr Magnus Torell, that better valuation estimates for mangroves are needed. Those presented in the draft mangrove Principles document are limited and rather outdated (they are based on published data mainly from the 1980s). It is certainly the case that mangroves are seldom valued properly and this is a key weakness in management terms as it can easily lead to poor decision-making – because the mangroves' true value is not well understood or appreciated.

Further discussion on mangrove valuation led to the conclusion that absolute valuations (in terms of USD/hectare values for mangroves) may be misleading between countries due to their different economic status. Thus, a relative value, shown in relation to other economic indices (e.g. average income levels, or the value of agricultural land) would be more appropriate. It also follows that some values for mangroves will be country-specific in nature or extent. Thus, the ASEAN/SEAFDEC countries should be guided to conduct their own individual mangrove valuations.

Cambodia

The National Focal Point person Mr Chan Sophat advised the meeting that the draft Principles are very helpful to his organization, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The new Fisheries Law in Cambodia mandates the Department of Fisheries to take responsibility for mangrove forests, but mangroves within protected areas come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment.

Mr Pich Seyeywath from the Department of Fisheries Cambodia, which is a department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, explained that the Department of Fisheries has a Marine Working Group dealing with research and conservation of marine resources, habitats (corals, mangroves and sea grasses) and endangered species. Also, a new Institute for Mangrove and Swamp Forests is being established in the country. The Mangrove Principles are highly relevant to help guide the work of these two bodies.

Mr Seyeywath also provided some recommendations: (a) the Mangrove Principles should be translated into local languages (Khmer in the case of Cambodia; (b) there should be consultations about their practical application among relevant agencies; (c) the legal framework should be developed to show clearly who should be responsible for mangrove conservation and management, especially at the local level where Cambodia faces some conflicts between stakeholders.

Indonesia

The National Focal Point person Mr Soen'an Pernomo informed the meeting about two new laws in Indonesia that are relevant to mangroves within the context of

coastal resources management. These are (a) Law on Coastal Management (Government Partner: Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries); and (b) Law for a System of Extension Services for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Government Partners: Min. of Agriculture, Min. of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Min. of Forestry).

There is now active collaboration between the people and the government regarding mangrove reforestation proposals. In this regard, and concerning other aspects of mangrove management as well, it is important to strike a balance between national and local management decision-making. [Understandably, this is a key issue in Indonesia given this country's vast size and complex geographical and cultural characteristics.]

Another speaker, Mrs Rebecca Guieb (FAO-Expert Cambodia/Philippines TCDC) suggested that the draft Principles should give more emphasis to the role of women regarding sustainable use of mangroves, because mangroves are an important source of income to many women in the region. In response, Don Macintosh proposed that a text box highlighting examples of the role of women could be added to the draft Principles document.

3 Report on the NGO-led Stakeholder Consultations

3.1 Organisation of the Consultations

A Questionnaire plus the 15 lead statements of the Principles were prepared for the Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) to use to guide the consultation with selected mangrove stakeholders (Annex 3). The questionnaire was modified only slightly from the one that had been used to support the field testing in Vietnam. However the selection of the mangrove stakeholders in Thailand, and the format for the consultations with them, was left entirely to TEI to decide on.

As it turned out, TEI was able to arrange consultations with 18 stakeholders that well represented the diverse range of interests in mangroves in Thailand. They included government officials, researchers, NGO staff, village leaders, shrimp farmers and the owner of a private mangrove plantation and charcoal kiln. The list of respondents is provided in Table 1.

The consultations were arranged individually, or with small group of these stakeholders (maximum five) at different locations in the coastal provinces of Trang, Nakhorn Si Thammarat, Phang Nga, Samut Songkram and in Bangkok.

The respondents were asked to rate each principle as "excellent", "good" or "fair", in relation to its potential value to support mangrove management needs in Thailand. The results are shown in Table 2. TEI then developed a score card to record the combined views of the stakeholders in terms of (a) their grading of each Principle (Table 3) and (b) the overall ranking given to each Principle, in terms of its perceived importance (Table 4).

3.2 General Comments and Recommendations

A number of key issues were raised during the consultations; the general comments and some recommendations arising on these issues are summarized below.

1. The stakeholders largely accepted the entire Mangrove Principles; they recognized their potential value and were able to discuss and prioritize them in relation to mangrove management needs in Thailand. However, the key issue now is their implementation – action is needed after the Principles/Code of Conduct is approved/adopted.
2. The precautionary principle (Mangrove Principle 2) is particularly favoured in the case of managing Thailand's forests. But there are still weaknesses regarding enforcement of the legal protection now given to mangrove forests. For example, fishing boats from other areas still enter and damage mangrove forests illegally.
3. Related to the precautionary principle, the "Sufficient Economy" concept of the King of Thailand (as opposed to a more wasteful, or "Consuming Economy"), should be promoted.
4. The older stakeholders considered that the Mangrove Principles can help to improve the condition of Thailand's mangrove forests so that they can be passed on in better shape to the next generation.
5. The Department of Marine and Coastal Resources is responsible for mangroves in Thailand. There is still a "gap" apparent between this department and local mangrove stakeholders. It would be very positive for the department and local stakeholders to work together with the Principles/Code, supported by a clear policy towards mangrove management.
6. There is a concern about the lack of financial support available in Thailand to have an effective follow up to the Code of Conduct. Funding is needed to generate projects based on implementing the Code in Thailand.
7. Staff of the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, as well as local stakeholders, will require training in the use of the Principles/Code. Information seminars will be a useful means to publicize them.
8. Implementation of the Principles should be monitored. Manuals should also be produced to help provide practical tools to support implementation of the Principles. The manuals should include coverage of (i) laws and regulations; (ii) mangrove planting; (iii) community participation; (iv) sustainable utilization of mangroves; (v) coastal fisheries management.
9. Information leaflets dealing with the topics listed above, with illustrative photographs, should also be produced for public awareness raising.

3.3 Specific Comments

As noted in section 3.1 on organization of the mangrove consultations, TEI scored the individual opinions of all 18 respondents in order to achieve an overall ranking for the 15 principles, as shown in Tables 2 and 3.

The respondents were virtually unanimous in ranking mangrove conservation and the need for sound management of coastal aquaculture development as highest priorities. These were followed by capacity development, socio-economic considerations and mangrove assessment as their next priorities. Mangrove research and information dissemination also scored highly, whereas mangrove tourism and responsible trade in mangrove products were ranked low by the respondents.

Table 4 reveals some clear differences in the opinions of the government representatives compared to local stakeholders, especially mangrove users. For example, government staff agreed strongly with Principle 4 on integration and implementation, but this was less supported by most local stakeholders. Similarly, the principle of multiple-use management for mangrove forests (Principle 9) was less supported by local mangrove users, than by the governmental group. Opinions also differed (were equally divided) among the stakeholders regarding the importance of managing mangroves for tourism, recreation and education (Principle 13).

Table 1: Details of the Mangrove Stakeholders involved in the NGO-led consultation in Thailand.

No	Name	Address	Position	Responsibility
1	Mr Maitree	Forest Mangrove Management, Phang Nga	Chief of Conservation and Rehabilitation	Protecting mangrove, planting, extension and conservation
2	Mr Chairat	Fisheries Development Center, Nakorn Si Thammarat	Staff	Coastal fishing, research, extension, aquaculture
3	Ms Benjamas	Thai Environment Institute, Bangkok	Senior Researcher	Local community participation, planting, conservation – Tsunami Project
4	Mr Chongrak	Local Government Office, Trang	Vice-Chief (president)	Conservation of mangroves, community mangrove
5	Mr Samart	Rasda District, Trang	Head of District (Amphoe)	Mangrove policy, mangrove community, central mangrove research
6	Mr Saman	Community Village, Trang	Head, Union	Conservation and sustainable utilization of mangrove resources, use of and fishery
7	Mrs Visit	Community Village. Trang	Head, Union	Conservation and control of mangrove and fishery collecting
8	Mr Tongchai	Nakorn Si Thammarat	Shrimp pond owner	Less in intensive shrimp culture. NOW – integrated systems, mangrove plantation and shrimp culture
9	Mr Somchai	Nakorn Si Thammarat	Shrimp pond owner	Less in intensive shrimp culture. NOW – integrated systems, mangrove plantation and shrimp culture
10	Mr Prasarn	Yongstar School, Trang	Director	Student participation in mangrove conservation
11	Mr Chainarong	Fishery Village, Trang	Villager, Fisherman Coastal Fisheries	Coastal fishery on-shore, join conservation of mangrove activities
12	Mr Sai	Private Mangrove Plantation, Samut Songkram	Owner of plantation and charcoal kilns	Produce charcoal in sustainable way (/ 100 yrs)
13	Dr Sanit	Thai Environment Institute, Bangkok	President	Mangrove Research and Policy planning
14	Dr Kallaya	Dept. of Marine Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok	Associate Professor, Senior Researcher	Research - Coastal and Mangrove Ecosystems
15	Mr Tongchai	King Initiative Project, Ao Pakpanang, NST	Director	Integrated management of Coastal Resources, Ao Pakpanang, King Initiative Project
16	Mr Surapol	Department of Marine and Coastal	Director, Coastal Land	Control Land Use, Classification

		Resources	Classification	
17	Mr Viroj	Mangrove Technical Section, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources	Mangrove Inspector	Policy and Planning
18	Dr Pornsuk	Coastal Water Section, Department of Pollution Control	Director	Policy and Planning of “Coastal Water Control activities”

Table 2: Scorecard for the 15 Mangrove Principles based on the views of 18 Mangrove Stakeholders consulted in Thailand

Principle	N	Excellent	Proportion (%)		Total
			Good	Fair	
Principle 1: Objectives of Mangrove Ecosystem Management	18	95	5	0	100
Principle 2: Precautionary Approach to Management	18	83	17	0	100
Principle 3: Policy and Legal Frameworks	18	83	17	0	100
Principle 4: Implementation and Integration	18	78	22	0	100
Principle 5: Mangrove Assessment	18	95	5	0	100
Principle 6: Socio-Economic Considerations	18	84	11	5	100
Principle 7: Cultural and Community Issues	18	73	22	5	100
Principle 8: Capacity Development	18	89	11	0	100
Principle 9: Forest Management and Silviculture	18	61	39	0	100
Principle 10: Fisheries	18	95	5	0	100
Principle 11: Aquaculture	18	100	0	0	100
Principle 12: Agriculture, Salt Production and Mining	18	50	50	0	100
Principle 13: Tourism, Recreation and Education	18	44	56	0	100
Principle 14: Mangrove Products and Responsible Trade	18	28	61	11	100
Principle 15: Mangrove Research and Information Dissemination	18	89	11	0	100

Table 3: Ranking of the 15 Mangrove Principles (according to their importance to mangrove management in Thailand), by the 18 respondents (ranked 1 - most important, to 15 - least important).

RANK	Mangrove Principle
1	Principle 1: Objectives of Mangrove Ecosystem Management
2	Principle 11: Aquaculture
3	Principle 8: Capacity Development
4	Principle 6: Socio-Economic Considerations
5	Principle 5: Mangrove Assessment
6	Principle 7: Cultural and Community Issues
7	Principle 15: Mangrove Research and Information Dissemination
8	Principle 3: Policy and Legal Frameworks
9	Principle 2: Precautionary Approach to Management
10	Principle 4: Implementation and Integration
11	Principle 9: Forest Management and Silviculture
12	Principle 10: Fisheries
13	Principle 12: Agriculture, Salt Production and Mining
14	Principle 13: Tourism, Recreation and Education
15	Principle 14: Mangrove Products and Responsible Trade

PROVINCIAL:

Trang (6 respondents)

Nakhorn Si Thammarat (4 respondents)

Phangnga (1 respondent)

Samut Songkhram (1 respondent)

NATIONAL:

Government (4 respondents)

NGO (2 respondents)

Table 4: Summary of Interviews - Perception of the Principles by different mangrove stakeholders in Thailand**Principle**

		Govt Officer - Forestry	Govt Officer - Fisheries	NGO	Chief, Local Govt	Chief of District	Head of Local Community	Head of Local Community	Shrimp Farmers - 1	Shrimp Farmers - 2	Teachers	Coastal Fishermen (on shore)	Owner of Mangrove Plantation	Researcher 1	Researcher 2	Field Operator	Coastal Mgt Proj. Lad Mgt	Administrator Forestry	Coastal Water Control	No	%
Principle 1: Objectives of Mangrove Ecosystem Management	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	17	95
	Good							✓												1	5
	Fair																			0	0
Principle 2: Precautionary Approach to Management	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	15	83
	Good								✓	✓						✓				3	17
	Fair																			0	0
Principle 3: Policy and Legal Frameworks	Excellent																			0	0
	Good	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		15	83
	Fair														✓	✓			✓	3	17
Principle 4: Implementation and Integration	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	14	78
	Good											✓	✓		✓	✓				4	22
	Fair																			0	0
Principle 5: Mangrove Assessment	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	17	95
	Good																			1	5
	Fair																			0	0
Principle 6: Socio-Economic Considerations	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		15	84
	Good														✓	✓				2	11
	Fair																		✓	1	5
Principle 7: Cultural and Community Issues	Excellent	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		13	73
	Good				✓					✓			✓			✓				4	22
	Fair																		✓	1	5
Principle 8: Capacity	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		16	89

Development	Good																✓				✓	2	11
	Fair																				0	0	
Principle 9: Forest Management and Silviculture	Excellent	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	11	61			
	Good				✓		✓		✓		✓					✓		✓	7	39			
	Fair																				0	0	
Principle 10: Fisheries	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	17	95		
	Good																✓				1	5	
	Fair																			0	0		
Principle 11: Aquaculture	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	18	100		
	Good																			0	0		
	Fair																			0	0		
Principle 12: Agriculture, Salt Production and Mining	Excellent	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	9	50			
	Good					✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	9	50			
	Fair																			0	0		
Principle 13: Tourism, Recreation and Education	Excellent	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓		✓				8	44		
	Good			✓			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	10	56		
	Fair																			0	0		
Principle 14: Mangrove Products and Responsible Trade	Excellent	✓	✓						✓				✓	✓						5	28		
	Good				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		11	61		
	Fair																✓				✓	2	11
Principle 15: Mangrove Research and Information Dissemination	Excellent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		16	89		
	Good																✓				✓	2	11
	Fair																			0	0		

ANNEX 1: Information note for the National Workshop, Thailand

The Principles for a Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Management and Use of Mangrove Ecosystems

The Principles for a Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Management and Use of Mangrove Ecosystems is a guide to assist States, local and national non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to cooperatively develop local codes, laws and/or regulations to protect mangroves and the critical functions they serve through sustainable management.

Mangroves provide important contributions to local livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and coastal protection, to the extent of saving lives and property during typhoons and other storms. The objective is to help bring attention to the importance of mangrove ecosystems, particularly to policy makers, to help arrest and reverse their loss.

The Principles have been discussed in a range of forums around the world that involve representatives from governments, NGOs, multilateral organizations, research institutions, grassroots organizations and other interested individuals and groups.

The Principles were formulated based on a review of global mangrove management experience, about fifteen country case studies from all regions where mangroves exist (including in SE Asia Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam), and seven regional workshops.

Feedback, comments and constructive criticism on the Principles are welcomed, particularly from researchers, mangrove managers, users of mangrove ecosystems and other stakeholders in Thailand, and especially from those working with coastal communities and natural resources management.

The full version of the Principles, and many of the background documents and summaries of the feedback from workshops conducted to date, can be found on the following website: http://www.biology.au.dk/cenTER/MCB_Ph2_ToR.htm.

The Principles are now also being adapted for practical use in Vietnam. This adaptation is a work in progress. The Vietnamese version of the Principles is intended as a simple, practical guide and reference tool to assist mangrove users and managers at all levels in Vietnam. Relevant examples, experiences, practical advice, references to resources and photographs specific to mangrove management in Vietnam are provided.

The adapted (simplified) version of the Principles for use in Vietnam is attached.

NGOs and other interested agencies and individuals in Thailand are invited to attend a national workshop to be held in Hua Hin on 7-8th July 2006, to discuss the full Code Version and to suggest whether a modified version for use in Thailand (in Thai as well as English) would be a helpful development from this work? This workshop will be organised by TEI in association with a regional meeting being conducted by SEAFDEC 4-7 July.

Annex 1 (continued): Lead Statements of the 15 Mangrove Principles

Principle 1: Objectives of Mangrove Ecosystem Management

The fundamental objective of mangrove ecosystem management is to promote conservation, and where necessary restoration or rehabilitation and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems and their associated habitats to benefit local to global populations.

Principle 2: Precautionary Approach to Management

The overall approach to mangrove management should be a precautionary one, but a lack of scientific information should not be used as an argument for postponing, or failing to conserve mangroves or to manage them sustainably.

Principle 3: Policy and Legal Frameworks

National and international policy and legal frameworks are required to provide overall guidance for the conservation and sustainable use of mangrove resources and to ensure protection for mangrove-associated biodiversity.

Principle 4: Implementation and Integration

There is a general weakness in the implementation of policy and legal frameworks for mangroves, lack of consultation between the management agencies and the various mangrove stakeholders, inadequate monitoring and evaluation of implementation performance and lack of integration of mangrove management with coastal zone and river basin area management.

Principle 5: Mangrove Assessment

Mangrove survey, mapping, inventory and monitoring data are required to support the sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems.

Principle 6: Socio-Economic Considerations

Mangroves provide important socio-economic benefits to indigenous peoples and local communities worldwide; it is essential therefore to manage mangrove ecosystems and their resources sustainably to maintain and improve their livelihoods.

Principle 7: Cultural and Community Issues

Mangrove ecosystems are associated with unique human traditions and knowledge, but they are also under severe pressure from some forms of exploitation, both traditional and non-traditional.

Principle 8: Capacity Development

Capacity development for mangrove ecosystem management, and awareness raising about mangroves in general are needed at all levels from decision makers in government, to district and municipal officials, community leaders and educational institutions (teachers, students and school children).

Principle 9: Forest Management and Silviculture

Mangrove forestry/silviculture objectives may have an economic, environmental or aesthetic basis, or a combination of these. Wherever, possible, multiple-use management should be the ultimate goal of mangrove forest management.

Principle 10: Fisheries

Mangrove associated fisheries have worldwide importance in providing subsistence food and income, as well as commercial benefits, for a wide range of stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local fisher communities. However, lack of enforcement of existing fishery regulations, including lack of protection of mangrove nursery sites and habitat degradation are among the major reasons for the widespread decline in mangrove fisheries.

Principle 11: Aquaculture

Mangrove associated aquaculture has worldwide importance in providing subsistence-level food and income, as well as commercial benefits, for a wide range of stakeholders. Unfortunately, some aquaculture development has also resulted in severe environmental degradation and socioeconomic problems, due in part, to poor management practices and/or lack of enforcement of environmental

regulations. The importance of sound management in relation to mangrove aquaculture development in mangrove ecosystems cannot be overestimated.

Principle 12: Agriculture, Salt Production and Mining

The conversion of mangroves to other forms of land use, including agriculture and salt pans has been a major cause of wetland habitat loss in many countries. Mining has also caused significant localized damage to mangrove ecosystems, especially in Africa and parts of Asia.

Principle 13: Tourism, Recreation and Education

Tourism is one of the largest and fastest growing sectors of the global economy. Mangrove ecosystems can provide ecotourists with unique habitats and biodiversity opportunities, with many potential activities, including recreational fishing, bird watching, viewing wildlife and scenic boat trips.

Principle 14: Mangrove Products and Responsible Trade

Sustainably produced mangrove products should be promoted by "green labelling" and they should be marketed following the principles of fair-trading and benefit sharing.

Principle 15: Mangrove Research and Information Dissemination

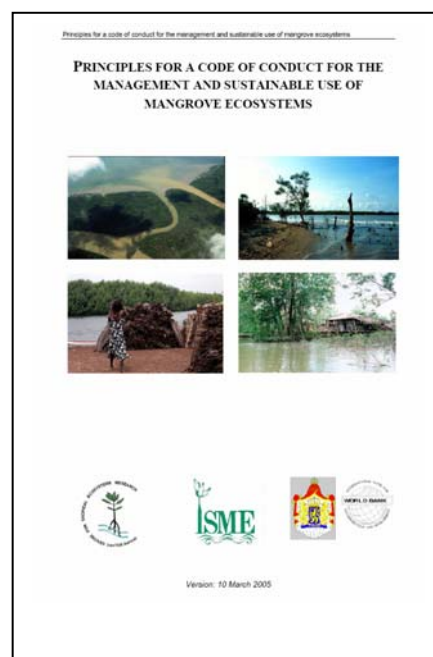
Inadequate understanding of the functions and values of mangrove ecosystems is one of the main constraints to conserving and managing mangrove resources sustainably. However, there are already considerable skills, information and opportunities available worldwide to use research knowledge more effectively to improve mangrove management.

ANNEX 2: Power Point Presentation on the draft Mangrove Principles

PROJECT:

Mainstreaming Conservation of Coastal Biodiversity through Formulation of a Code of Conduct for Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems

Centre for Tropical Ecosystems Research
University of Aarhus, Denmark
and
International Society for Mangrove
Ecosystems (ISME)



Preparatory Expert Meeting on Development of the National and Regional Training Materials for HRD in Fisheries Management 4-7 July 2006, Hua-Hin, Thailand

FISHERIES SECTOR-BASED:

- Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (FAO, 1995), then adapted into
- Regional Guidelines in Southeast Asia (ASEAN/SEAFDEC)

COASTAL HABITAT-BASED:

- Code of Conduct for Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems
- >Regionally-adapted versions to meet specific needs

PRINCIPLE 10: FISHERIES

LEAD STATEMENT

*Mangrove associated fisheries have worldwide importance in providing subsistence food and income, as well as commercial benefits, for a wide range of stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local fisher communities. However, lack of enforcement of existing fishery regulations, **including lack of protection of mangrove nursery sites and habitat** degradation are among the major reasons for the widespread decline in mangrove fisheries.*

PRINCIPLE 10: FISHERIES

- ***States should protect mangrove nurseries and breeding habitats of fish, crustacean and molluscan species** important to subsistence and/or commercial fisheries.*
- States should consider the following measures for habitat protection ***(a) prohibiting fishing within clearly defined areas; and (b) giving local communities management responsibilities for specific fishery sites*** under a stewardship arrangement, or similar community-based agreement, which includes appropriate fishery conservation measures.

PHASE 1 (2001-02): A Brief History

A desk review was undertaken in 2001 on mangrove biodiversity and conservation to formulate information and guidance materials for a Code of Conduct for Sustainable Mangrove Forest Management (the Code) for World Bank staff and World Bank development partners.



PHASE 1: Outputs

- A draft review was submitted to the World Bank in March 2001, supported by model country case studies from Malaysia and Thailand.
- An additional country case study for the Philippines was completed in September 2001.
- National experts, assisted by the consultants, prepared these case studies.

Citation: Macintosh DJ and Ashton EC (2002). A Review of Mangrove Biodiversity Conservation and Management. Centre for Tropical Ecosystems Research, University of Aarhus, Denmark (PDF File)

PHASE 2 (2002-03): Program of Activities to Prepare a Draft Code of Conduct

- The work was undertaken by consultants from ISME (International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems, based in Okinawa Japan) in association with cenTER Aarhus (Centre for Tropical Ecosystems Research, University of Aarhus, Denmark).

14 Country Case Studies

(i.e 3 from phase 1, plus 11 additional countries in phase 2)

South and Southeast Asia

- Bangladesh
- India
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Vietnam



Country Case Studies

Africa

- Ghana
- Kenya
- Mozambique
- Senegal



Country Case Studies

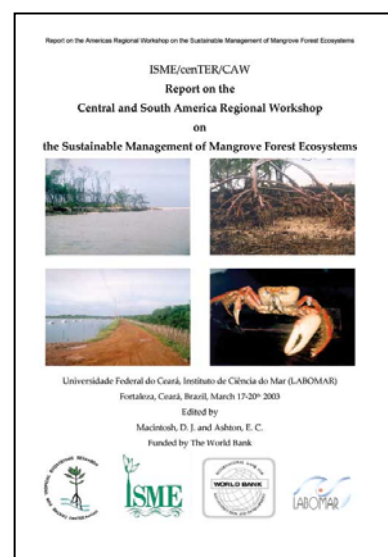
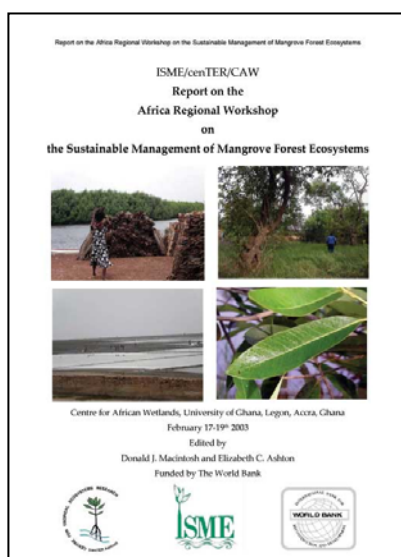
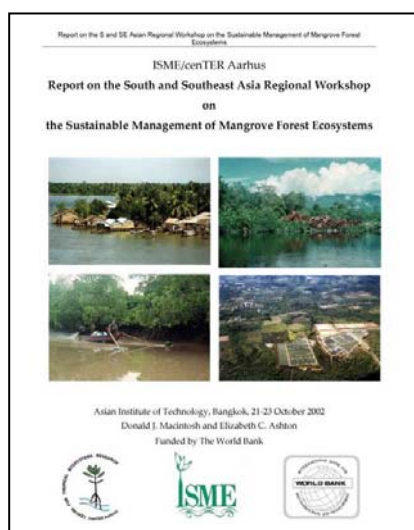
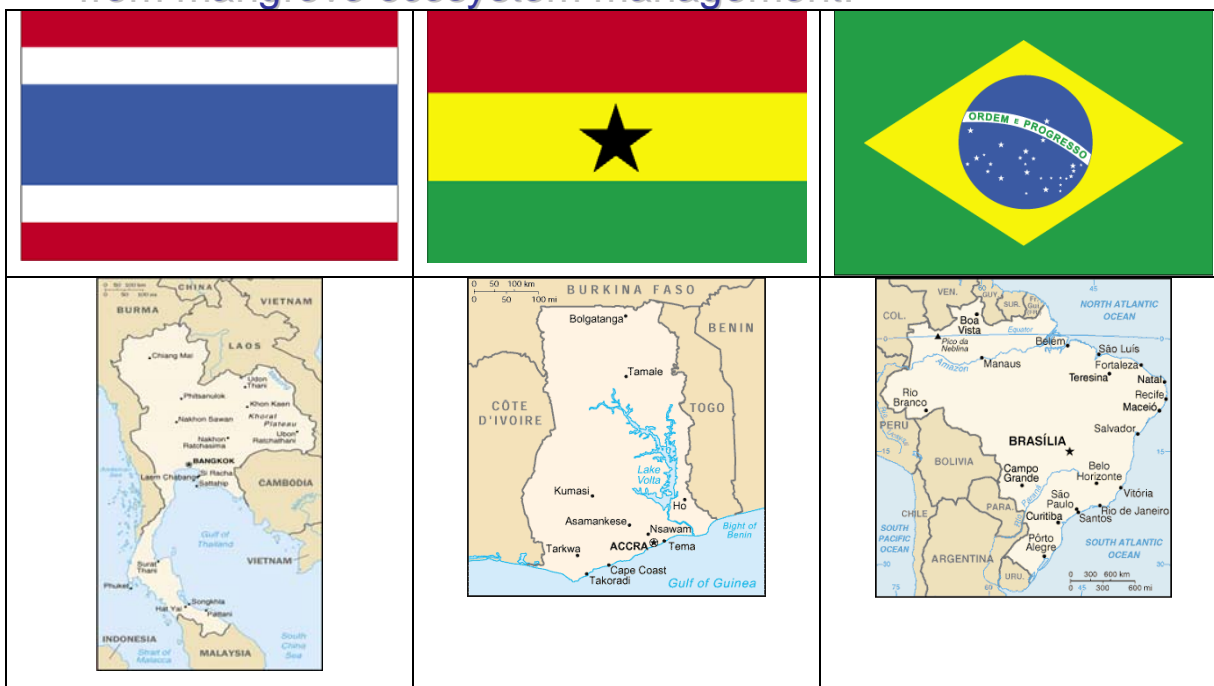
The Americas

- Brazil
- Columbia
- Ecuador



3 Regional Consultation Workshops

- National representatives and mangrove experts from each region worked to combine knowledge of the legal framework for mangroves in each country with practical experiences from mangrove ecosystem management.



Review Workshop, World Bank, Washington DC, August 2003

Main Objectives:
Review output from regional workshops
Peer-review draft Code of Conduct
Plan Phase 3 activities



Main Conclusion of World Bank Workshop

- Follow up actions needed to ensure that the Code is widely accepted and used to support sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems.
- Document should be Principles for a Code of Conduct



Phase 3: 2005-06 - Translation and Field Testing of the Principles in Vietnam and Brazil



Replanted Mangroves, Red River Delta, Vietnam



Women collecting oysters in the Mangrove in Brazil

Phase 3: 2005-06 - Four National/Regional Workshops and request additional feedback, especially from local level users, managers and

- Feedback from ASEAN Member Countries and SEAFDEC will be much appreciated.
- A questionnaire is included, but feedback should be based on open discussion.
- Suggestions for further adaptation and testing (e.g. via local language versions?) are also welcomed.
- E-mail comments are welcomed at any time up to 31 August 2006.

ANNEX 3: Questionnaire for the NGO-led Stakeholder Consultations in Thailand

Principles for a Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Management and Use of Mangrove Ecosystems

Name:

Location you are working in:

Organisation you work for:

Position in your organisation:

What best describes your organisation and its work: *(e.g. Gov. Department, Research Institute, Management Unit, NGO, Multilateral/Donor organisation, Local Community Leader, etc.)*

What main involvement do you/your organisation have with mangrove management issues?

PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW THAT ARE RELEVANT TO YOU/YOUR ORGANISATION (QUESTIONS DENOTED a., b., c. SUPPLEMENT THE MAIN QUESTION)

1. Are the Principles useful for guiding decisions about mangrove management or use, and at what levels (national, provincial, district/amphur, tambon/village)?
 - a. Are they helpful for land use planning (e.g. decisions to have a mangrove protection zones, decisions on allowable land uses, or to resolve disputes?
 - b. Explain why they are useful or not useful? What improvements should be made?
2. Do you think that the Principles can help community stakeholders to be more aware of mangrove management issues? What limitations do you identify in using the Principles at local level?
3. Are the Principles useful to help local stakeholders (local Gov. managers, local communities, NGOs) to plan mangrove management at district/commune/village level?
 - a. Are the Principles useful for drafting a local area Mangrove Management Plan, or for reviewing and improving an existing Plan?
 - b. Will the Principles change the way you use and manage mangroves in your district/commune/village? If so, how?
4. Can the Principles help specific mangrove users, such as forest users, aquaculture farmers and aquatic collectors, to understand better about sustainable use of mangrove resources, or similar issues?
 - a. If so, how do the Principles help?
 - b. What are their limitations?

- c. Have any key mangrove user groups and/or user issues been overlooked?
 - d. How should information like this be “delivered” to these key user groups?
- 5. In relation to you/your organisation, are the Principles useful on a day-to-day basis, or just for general reference?
 - a. For what activities or decision-making would you regularly consult the Principles? What sections do you consider are most useful? How are they useful?
- 6. Do the Principles have relevance to the present relevant decisions/ regulations/ rules about mangrove management in your country/province/local area? If so, please give some explanation about how or why they are relevant?
 - a. Are the Principles consistent with the existing mangrove and coastal resource plans in your country and at local level?
- 7. If you are a policy maker, manager or adviser at higher level (provincial or central), what would you recommend to improve the Principles?
- 8. Overall, are the Principles practical and useful? (rank 1 to 5, 5 being the highest)
 - a. Who are the Principles most useful for and who is most likely to use them?
 - b. What is the likelihood that they could actually be used regularly and applied by you/your organisation?
 - c. In what format(s) and language(s) should the Principles be available in, to make them most effective, and how should they be delivered to local mangrove stakeholders?
- 9. Other comments and suggestions?

**PRINCIPLES FOR A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE MANAGEMENT
AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MANGROVE ECOSYSTEMS**

FIELD TESTING

Thailand

Professor Sanit Aksornkoae

Thai Environment Institute

PHOTOS



Sanit Picture
1



Sanit Picture
2



Sanit Picture
3



Sanit Picture
4



**Sanit Picture
5**



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6**



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7



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8



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9



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10



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11**



**Sanit Picture
12**



Sanit Slide 1



Sanit Slide 2



Sanit Slide 3