Meeting minutes of the First CEARAC Experts Meeting on Seagrass Blue Carbon Case Studies in the NOWPAP Region
(11 February 2022, online meeting)

1. Progress reports of case studies

Dr. Nishihara shared the case study result of Katagami Bay. He estimated seagrass blue carbon in Katagami Bay by CO_2 absorption. Dr. Komatsu recommended to mask deeper area by depth in Katagami Bay case study.

Dr. Kim shared the case study result of Dongdae Bay and introduced 2 scientific papers that contain regional values to estimate seagrass blue carbon in different parts of the world as reference.

Dr. Bazarov shared the case study result of Srednaya Bay. He suggested to unify the number of classes used in this case studies. After discussion, it was agreed to use the following 2 classes in the CEARAC case studies.

- None seagrass (sandy or muddy bottom less than 50% seagrass percent cover)
- Seagrass (More than 50% seagrass percent cover)

Dr. Bazarov pointed out problems in using Seagrass Mapper and CEARAC agreed to address these problems.

- "AOI not found" sometimes occurs
- Depth data cannot be loaded, even it is uploaded in Seagrass Trainer.
- Land mask option is not working as expected.

Dr. Bazarov then explained core sampling of seagrass blue carbon was estimated by Dr. Vladimir Shulkin and the result will be shared with this group soon.

2. Discussion for setting of regional value to estimate seagrass blue carbon in the NOWPAP region

Dr. Stankovich suggested using the average value of seagrass blue carbon by carbon stock estimated in Swan Lake, Dongdae Bay and Srednaya Bay. Participants agreed with this suggestion and using the reference provided by Dr. Kim as well.

3. Preparation of a booklet for seagrass conservation in the NOWPAP region

All participants agreed with the proposed requirements of the booklet for seagrass conservation in the NOWPAP region proposed by CEARAC as follows.

The booklet for seagrass conservation in the NOWPAP region should meet the following requirements

Purpose	To help seagrass conservationist map seagrass habitats by efficiently detecting seagrass habitat by Seagrass Mapper and Seagrass Trainer
Size and data format	A4 and Letter size in PDF
Language	English* *Translation into 4 languages of the NOWPAP member states will be done by NOWPAP CEARAC for checking and approval by the national experts
Table of contents	➢ What is blue carbon and seagrass ➢ Seagrass species in the NOWPAP region ➢ Seagrass blue carbon in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region ➢ Resources and efforts to conserve seagrass in the NOWPAP region
Others	Insert pictures and illustration as necessary Embed QR code to lead to Mapseagrass.org

4. Action items

CEARAC to follow up the case study in Swan Lake.

CEARAC to address reported problems of Seagrass Mapper.

CEARAC to share estimated seagrass blue carbon in Swan Lake and Srednaya Bay.