



# **Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting**

**Virtual Meeting**

**February 7, 2018**

## Overview

The **Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)** was launched in 2009 to address the global challenges faced by the mismanagement of nutrients and nutrient over-enrichment. It is a global partnership of governments, scientists, policy makers, private sector, NGOs and international organizations. It responds to the 'nutrient challenge' – how to reduce the amount of excess nutrients in the global environment consistent with global development. The GPNM reflects a need for strategic, global advocacy to trigger governments and stakeholders in moving towards more efficient and effective nitrogen and phosphorous use and lower losses associated with human activities. It provides a platform for governments, UN agencies, scientists and the private sector to forge a common agenda, mainstreaming best practices and integrated assessments, so that policy and investment responses/options are effectively 'nutrient proofed'. The GPNM also provides a space where countries and other stakeholders can forge more co-operative work across the variety of international and regional fora and agencies dealing with nutrients, including the importance of impact assessment work. The work of the GPNM is advanced by a Steering Committee, a sub-set of the Partnership members and is supported by the GPA Unit of the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch of the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation of UNEP, which serves as the Secretariat to the Steering Committee.

### Meeting Participants:

1. Ramesh Ramachandran	Director of the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, India
2. Mark Sutton	Centre for Ecology & Hydrology
3. Patrick Heffer	International Fertilizer Industry Association
4. Terry Roberts	International Plant Nutrition Institute
5. Sasha Koo-Oshima	US EPA
6. N. Raghuram	GGS Indraprastha University
7. Yuelai Lu	UK-China Sustainable Agricultural Innovation Network
8. Debra Turner	Food and Agriculture Organization
9. Angle Scott	International Fertilizer Development Center
10. Sarah Walker	World Resources Institute
11. Chuck Chaitovitz	Global Environment & Technology Foundation
12. Christopher Cox	GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment
13. Milcah Ndegwa	GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment

## DAY 1:

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### Welcome remarks and agenda review

Welcome Remarks: Ramesh Ramachandran, Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, India and GPNM Chair

Steering Committee members were welcomed with thanks for the support shown as GPNM Chair. The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee were reviewed.

### Review of action items arising from the 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting

	Action Items	Lead responsibility	Timeframe
	<b>GEF-GNC Project</b>		
1	Terminal Evaluation report will need to be developed – need to commence planning	GEF task manager & Secretariat	April 2019
	<b>Nutrient Management Toolbox use and uptake</b>		
2	Develop a simple way of communicating the concept to enhance understanding among stakeholders	Secretariat – through WRI engagement	31 August 2018
3	Develop a paper on function and use for dissemination via journal(s).	Secretariat – through WRI engagement	31 August 2018
4	Encourage the first cadre of trainers (from Manila) to train others	Secretariat	ASAP
5	Prepare paper on the experience for dissemination via the GEF-IWLEARN platform	Secretariat – through WRI engagement	31 October 2018
6	Draft letter to countries/governments announcing availability of the tool and the need for national contribution and engagement in its continued development and validation	Secretariat	ASAP
	<b>Policy</b>		
7	PTT to determine science-policy areas that it may best contribute to, and what approaches and strategies it can employ to achieve this	A Passenier	ASAP
8	Develop consensus document on losses and phosphorus use efficiency and definitions – via a special experts' workshop and/or roundtable	A Passenier	ASAP
9	Consider development of a demonstration initiative looking at nutrient efficiencies across a supply chain	Secretariat (planned initiative in Brazil)	April 2018
	<b>GPNM Operational Framework development</b>		
10	Consider GPNM mandate statements and make them sharper and relevant to target stakeholders; prepare a summary paragraph to be inserted at the start of the GPNM	A Passenier	February 2018

	Charter document		
11	Produce a vision statement for the GPNM and review of approach of the partnership to contribute effectively to the IGR-4	A Passenier, D Tuner, S Koo-Oshima, M Sutton, P Heffer	February 2018
<b>Partnerships</b>			
12	Involve potential partners such as World Farmers Organization (WFO) among others	D Turner	On-going
13	Identify 'champions' and practitioners in the regions who can help create awareness among the public and stakeholders	Secretariat	On-going
<b>Communications</b>			
14	Convert statistics (updated) that appear in the GPNM publication 'Our Nutrient World' to simple easily understood formats - infographics	Secretariat	On-going
15	Appoint at least 3 web administrators for the website	Secretariat	ASAP

Questions and comments:

**C:** Members were encouraged to disseminate information on Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) to their wider networks especially students and experts.

**C:** The International Water Association (IWA) is looking at constructing wetlands and they will be looking at involving GPNM. Further discussions will follow at the World Water Forum in Brasilia.

**C:** Members agreed to extend the GEF-GNC project to April 2019 to finalize some knowledge products; prepare guidance notes on the use of the Global Nutrient Management Toolbox; Prepare three Experience Notes (based on the GEF International Waters [IWLEARN] template) to describe the project, specific key interventions, the challenges and lessons learned; and thereafter terminal reports.

## **GEF-Global Nutrient Cycling Project**

**Christopher Cox - GPA/GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment**

Presentation on the workplan and budget and progress status under each project component, highlighting pending work.

Component A: Global Partnership on Nutrient Management

Component B: Quantitative analysis of relationship between nutrient sources and impacts

Component C: Scientific, technological and policy options – Nutrient Management Toolbox

Component D: Application of quantitative source-impact modelling and best practices; ecosystem health card

Questions and comments:

**C:** Several outreach activities have been on-going both in Sri-Lanka and Philippines. At the GEF 8th International Waters Conference, 9-13 May 2016, Negombo, Sri Lanka there was a roundtable training and policy discussion sessions on use and application of nutrient management tools and contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. Further, a training-of-trainers was conducted at the University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City, the Philippines over 20-24 March 2017. The training workshop, attended by 11 participants from research institutes from the major global regions, aimed to build capacity in the application and validation of modelling methodologies offered in the toolbox on estimating nutrient pollution discharges to the marine environment, based on watershed management scenarios. There is a suggestion to follow-up with the trainers on the applicability of the Toolbox in their work. Partners are encouraged to continually promote the use of Toolbox among their networks.

**Q:** Are there resources to plan for another training of trainers? **Resp:** Not really, but maybe if there are any anticipated linkages with INMS work. This can be discussed in the upcoming INMS meeting in Edinburgh, April 2018.

## **Update on GEF-INMS Project**

### **Mark Sutton - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology**

Overview of the project operational implementation of the INMS Project and the activities that are being supported under the four components (Comp 1: Tools for understanding & managing the global N cycle; Comp 2: Quantification of N flows, threats and benefits; Comp 3: Regional demonstration of full Nitrogen approach; Comp 4: Awareness raising & knowledge sharing).

Key scenarios workshops that are have taken place includes the first meeting on Comp 1 in Portugal which focused on preparation of methodology for N-threat benefit valuation and cost benefit; the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) side event during the third session of the UN Environment Assembly (*UNEA-3*) where a draft resolution was presented hopefully to submitted to the next UNEA; Discussion with David Kanter Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Studies at New York University on building linkages to IPCC activities on translating the emerging science on nitrogen pollution into actionable policy recommendations to ensure more efficient use of nitrogen fertilizer. In addition, discussions are underway with India on nutrients reduction by 20% by 2020. However, there is need for more consultation with key stakeholders.

Upcoming INMS Partnership Meeting will be 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in Edinburgh, Scotland. The meeting will include a Project Partners Assembly (PPA), Stakeholder and Policy Advisory Group (SPAG) Meeting, and several Activity-related meetings. All GPNM partners are encouraged to attend.

Questions and comments:

**Q:** How can the INMS Partnership Meeting documents be accessed? **Resp:** Meeting documents will be uploaded on the INMS website at <http://www.inms.international/INMS-3-info>

**Q:** Is INMS involved in SDG 14? **Resp:** SDG 14.1.1 Index of Coastal Eutrophication (ICEP) and Floating Plastic Debris Density; refer to the inputs of nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus and silica, in different forms) from rivers, and corresponding nutrient-ratio sub-indicator. Thus, INMS will be involved.

**C:** UN Environment and IOC-UNESCO held a Joint Workshop in Paris on SDG14.1.1 on ‘Developing the Index of Coastal Eutrophication (ICEP) as an indicator for Sustainable Development Goal 14.1.1’. Outcomes of the meeting revolved around recent research on ICEP and proposed further validation on the use of Chlorophyll which many industries have adopted. Custodian agencies are tasked to develop a proposal and solicit funds to further promote the advantage of using ICEP and its applicability; Compile existing N, P, Si data to calculate ICEP over time to demonstrate inter- and intra-annual scale. Minutes from this meeting will be shared as soon as they are available.

## Update on other initiatives

### Christopher Cox - GPA/GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment

#### 1. Nutrient valuation study – Brazil

Brazil case study on ‘**nutrient management valuation in Rondonopolis municipality in the upper Pantanal Region of South America**’ is ongoing. The lead author Felipe Siqueira Pacheco together with other co-authors have developed an interim report which has been shared. The main goal of this study is to develop a methodological approach, as a study case, to the valuation of good nutrient practice specifically, investigating options for improvement of Nutrients Use Efficiency (NUE); and quantifying the multiple costs and benefits of meeting the nutrient management targets for food security, marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, mitigation of greenhouse gases and other climate threats, and improvement of human health. It is anticipated that the study will be finalized by April 2018 and submit the final report; and policy briefs which may be used for future up-scaling opportunities in other regions.

#### Questions and comments:

**Q:** Is there planned an evaluation exercise? **Resp:** Evaluation report will be prepared and submitted. This project is funded by Sweden, contributing to the GPNM Internal project of work.

#### 2. Land-based pollution and coral reef conservation – Sri Lanka

2018 marks the international year of Corals. GPNM in collaboration with the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) intends to develop a project entitled ‘**Reducing the risk of degradation of the Kayankerni and Paskudah coral reef ecosystems in Sri Lanka by addressing nutrient, wastewater and other land-based sources of marine pollution within the**

**Maduru Oya watershed’.** The project will contribute to strengthening local and regional enabling environments to foster the uptake and adoption of innovative approaches in reducing threats to coral reefs from nutrient and wastewater and other land-based pollution in Sri Lanka. An agreement is being prepared and the project anticipated to start in April to December 2018; and an inception meeting planned for February 2018.

Questions and comments:

**Q:** Is there a possibility to extend the study to cover other neighbouring countries such as Maldives and India? **Resp:** The study in Sri Lanka could translate to long-term initiatives in other regions. Key stakeholders in Maldives, India and Sri Lanka could work together and explore a joint project as an outcome of Sri Lanka study.

**C:** A draft concept paper is available for review and dissemination to donors for financial support. This will promote source-to-sea cooperation.

3. Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on nutrients and wastewater management.

In mid-January 2018, the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) in association with the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and the Global Wastewater Initiative launched the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on nutrients and wastewater management. The MOOC entitled ‘Source-to-Sea Sustainability - Integrated Cycles in Wastewater and Nutrient Management’ was developed in joint collaboration with Concordia University, Knowledge One and the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES). The courses target general audiences and professionals alike, seeking to learn more about how marine pollution from land-based sources impact human health and the health of our coastal and marine ecosystems. The MOOC will be open to Mid-April 2018. All members are encouraged to circulate the MOOC details to their wider networks.

Questions and comments:

**C:** The secretariat will re-send the MOOC details to all partners. Emphasis was made to all GPNM members to promote the MOOC on their websites such as on INMS, INI, NEWS websites.

**Q:** Can MOOC be linked to INMS work and Toolbox? **Resp:** Indeed, it is possible to make linkages especially because the MOOC serves as a knowledge Hub for experts.

## Upcoming meeting/events

### Christopher Cox - GPA/GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment

1. Africa region Platform launch (location TBD; likely Ghana)

To date the GPNM has launched two Regional Platforms; for Asia and the Caribbean. Alignment between the platforms and the Regional Seas Programmes is being sought. There has been organization for a launch of a platform for the Africa region later in 2018; venue probably in Ghana or in the Nairobi Convention territories in conjunction with Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities (WIO SAP) project enrolment. A draft agenda has been prepared and will be finalized closer to the proposed meeting dates.

2. Global Symposium on Soil Pollution; GPNM Steering Committee meeting (Rome, May 2018)

During the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) in December 2017, countries adopted among them a resolution on 'Managing soil pollution to achieve sustainable development'. UN Environment, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) among other stakeholders were tasked to implement the resolution. As a follow-up, FAO has organised the 'Global Symposium on Soil Pollution' 2 – 4 May 2018 as the first step in implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management in terms of preventing and reducing harmful substances in soil to maintain healthy soils and food safety in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, the symposium outcomes should provide scientific evidence to support actions and decisions to prevent and reduce soil pollution for increased food safety, security and nutrition, and ecosystem services, and promote the restoration of polluted sites. The GPNM secretariat will be attending; Suggested to have a GPNM Steering Committee if majority of members are attending.

#### Questions and comments:

**Q:** Is it possible to have a GPNM side event during the symposium? **Resp:** We will look on the agenda and slots available where GPNM participate. A Doodle poll will be circulated to identify those attending the symposium; if possible have the GPNM Steering Committee during/after.

**Q:** Do you know whether industries will be in attendance and if the issue on 'Antibiotic *resistant* bacteria' will be discussed? There is a possibility of their attendance but will depend on the funding available. 'Antibiotic *resistant* bacteria' is an upcoming issue which needs attention.

**C:** FAO is currently accepting abstracts that will compete for oral and poster presentations during this symposium and deadline is 15 February 2018.

3. Phosphorus Summit (Brasilia, August 2018)

The sixth series of Sustainable Phosphorus Summits (SPS) will be for the first time held in Latin America from 20th—22nd August 2018, Brasilia, Brazil. The SPS 2018 will bring together experts



and representatives from various countries to discuss how to better improve Phosphorus Use Efficiency. Sustainable Phosphorus Use Efficiency in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific will promote increased food production towards achieving vision 2050 of feeding more than nine billion. More information on: <http://phosphorusfutures.net/announced-6th-sustainable-phosphorus-summit-brasil-brazil-august-2018/>. The GPNM Phosphorus Task Team can participate and presented the paper on 'GPNM strategic direction for Phosphorus'.

Questions and comments:

**Q:** Are there members of the GPNM Steering Committee attending? **Resp:** Mark Sutton and Will Brownie will be attending.

**C:** The Phosphorus Task Team leader is actively encouraged to mobilize the team members and finalize the paper on 'GPNM strategic direction for Phosphorus' and hopefully present during the sixth Sustainable Phosphorus Summits (SPS).

## Update on UNEA-3 December 2017

### Christopher Cox - GPA/GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment

During the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) in 4-6 December 2017, several Resolutions relevant to Nutrients Management were adopted. Among them include: [UNEP/EA.3/Res.6: Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development](#); [UNEP/EA.3/Res.8: Preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally](#); and [UNEP/EA.3/Res.10: Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems](#).

Parallel to the third session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-3), the [Global Partnership on Nutrient Management \(GPNM\)](#) jointly with the [South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme \(SACEP\)](#) and the [International Nitrogen Initiative](#) organized a side event. This event focused on the emerging consensus on the issue of nutrient (reactive nitrogen) pollution and impacts on human and environmental health, based on experiences from countries within the South Asia region. In this experts meeting, a 'draft resolution' on addressing the issue of nutrient (reactive nitrogen) pollution emerged, based on experiences of the SACEP Member States. It is anticipated that this South Asia draft resolution, with buy-in from countries at the global level will eventually form the basis for a UNEA resolution to position the issue of sustainable nutrient management and environmental concerns within a global-level governance space.

The GPNM is focused on adapting the outcomes of the UNEA-3 and engaging countries buy-in and adopting of the resolution at the upcoming UNEA IN 2019.

## **Update on GPA 4th Intergovernmental Review and 3rd Global Land-Ocean Connection Conference**

### **Christopher Cox - GPA/GPNM Secretariat, UN Environment**

Overview of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) and its upcoming meetings to be held in Bali, Indonesia last year; the Fourth Inter-Governmental Review (IGR-4) and Third Global Land-Oceans Connection (GLOC-3) conference.

The scheduled meeting last year was postponed due to Volcanic eruption and intended to be held in October 2018. Discussion with the Government of Indonesia are on-going to identify the suitable dates/venue most likely on/before the Ocean Conference in October 2018.

### **Meeting Summary and Closing Remarks**

#### **Ramesh Ramachandran, Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, India and GPNM Chair**

Discussions are on-going with UN Mission Office in India on flagging nutrients issue and organizing an event on the same on 'World Environment Day'. It is urged that the tasks teams continue finalizing their work prior to the project closure on 30 April 2018. Notably the Phosphorus task team to finalise on the paper, and the Communication task team to finalise the Communication strategy.

It is opportunity for GPA hosting the IGR-4 alongside the Ocean conference which shows relevance of GPA towards protecting our oceans from pollution. Taking advantage of the celebrities and member states attending.

Thanks were extended to the GPNM Secretariat for organizing the meeting and the attending Steering Committee members. Looking forward to meeting most of you in Rome during the 'Global Symposium on Soil Pollution'.

## Action items arising from the 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting

	Action Items	Lead responsibility	Timeframe
	Update on GEF-GNC project		
1	Lessons learned and manual for Toolbox uptake; engagement of World Resources Institute	Secretariat	April 2018
	Update on GEF-INMS Project		
2	Share Paris meeting minutes and link the ICEP working group with GPNM Steering Committee	Secretariat	ASAP
	Update on other initiatives		
3	Circulate the interim report for the Brazil study	Secretariat	ASAP
4	GPNM partners to promote the MOOC in their wider networks	All	ASAP
	Upcoming meeting/events		
5	Doodle poll requesting those attending meeting in Rome	Secretariat	ASAP
6	Phosphorus task team finalize the paper	Will Brownie	April 2018
	Update on UNEA-3 December 2017		
7	Share the SACEP draft resolution	Secretariat	ASAP
8	World Environment Day event on Nutrients Management	Secretariat & UN Mission office in India	June 2018
	Communications		
9	Finalize communication strategy	Mark, Ramesh, Secretariat	ASAP
	Others		
10	Completion of project deliverables	All Partners	April 2018



## **Agenda**

### **Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) 10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting**

Date: 7 February 2018  
Venue: via teleconference

<b>Time (GMT)</b>	<b>Topic/Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
14:00 – 14:05	Welcome remarks and Chair's review	GPNM Chair
14:05 – 14:15	Review of Minutes; April 2017 SC Meeting – Action Items	GPNM Chair
14:25 – 14:35	Update on GEF-GNC project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons learned and manual for Toolbox uptake; engagement of World Resources Institute</li> </ul>	Secretariat
14:35 – 14:50	Update on GEF-INMS Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synopsis of Scenarios Workshop</li> <li>• Upcoming INMS Partnership Meeting</li> </ul>	M. Sutton, CEH
14:50 – 14:10	Update on other initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrient valuation study - Brazil</li> <li>• Land-based pollution and coral reef conservation – Sri Lanka</li> <li>• Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)</li> </ul>	Secretariat
14:10 - 14:20	Upcoming meeting/events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa region Platform launch (location TBD; likely Ghana)</li> <li>• Global Symposium on Soil Pollution; GPNM Steering Committee meeting (Rome, May 2018)</li> <li>• Phosphorus Summit (Brasilia, August 2018)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o GPNM strategic direction for P (task team)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Secretariat
14:20 - 14:40	Update on UNEA-3 December 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolutions relevant to nutrient management; air, water, soil pollution</li> <li>• Synopsis of the meeting with SACEP on emerging nutrient resolution</li> <li>• Discussion on way forward</li> </ul>	Secretariat
14:40 - 14:50	Update on GPA 4 <sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Review and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Global Land-Ocean Connection Conference	Secretariat
14:50 - 15:00	Next GPNM Steering Committee meeting	GPNM Chair