

MECOS2

Recommendations

No	Track	Recommendations
1.	Inaugural	Make the best use of India's advantageous position in remotely sensed data for understanding the oceanic processes and developing indicators for the management of ecosystems in the region.
2.	Track#1	Considering EAFM as a long term management measure to ameliorate threats like pollution, climate change etc., scientists, policy makers and other stake holders can join together and formulate strategies for successful implementation of EAFM through participatory approach.
3.	Track#1	Taking note of the increasing fishing conflicts between the coastal states of South Asian region, the need for regional co-operation by formation of LME based RFMOs was felt urgent. The professional bodies such as MBI can play a significant role where nations are in conflicting political situations.
4.	Track#1	In the context extension of fishing operations by mechanised vessels beyond territorial waters, rendering MFRA's ineffective, the need for a central FRA to regulate the fishery in the EEZ is mooted. The creation of a separate central Ministry for fisheries is mooted in order to make fisheries regulations and enforcement more effective.
5.	Track#1	In order to implement outputs from fisheries research institutions there should be coordination between such institutions and state governments departments and fishermen groups for which creation of Zonal/Regional fisheries management bodies is imperative.
6.	Track#2	Recognizing the potential of Integrated Multi Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) for increased biomass production by integrating commercially important species of different trophic levels, frontline demonstrations to stakeholders are to be carried out.
7.	Track#2	Keeping view of the projected demand of one million t from mariculture in the coming 10-15 years, greater attention needs to be paid to develop technologies of seed production of new candidate species, establish brood banks and hatcheries for seed production, formulate suitable feed for grow out, select suitable sites for culture, develop economically viable farming protocols, adopt the right health management protocols, create necessary market infrastructure, and formulate appropriate policy for mariculture.
8.	Track#2	Keeping a futuristic view of the requirement of the mariculture development in the region, establishment of International Centre of Excellence in Mariculture in the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) is felt appropriate.
9.	Track#2	In order to take the outputs of biotechnological research to the field, especially on probiotics for aquaculture and use of microalgae for biodiesel, scaled up trials are to be carried out for ascertaining the economic viability and further steps taken for field application.

10.	Track#3	In the context of increasing evidence of impact of climate change, necessary steps should be taken to identify the vulnerable sectors and address the issues by evolving strategies for mitigation and adaptation and implement, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these measures.
11.	Track#3	Recognizing the important role of coastal communities in conservation of endangered species of sea turtles, cetaceans and seabirds, initiate awareness campaign among the fishermen along with efforts to understand the ecology of the habitats of these organisms.
12.	Track#3	Recognizing the neglect of basic taxonomy and marine biology, promote basic research on taxonomy and biology of microalgae and other lower invertebrates.
13.	Track#4	Recognizing the market constraints, appropriate measures are to be taken to remove the barriers to take full advantage of the potential for value added products, especially from non-conventional species, and thrust should be given on development of domestic market as well.
14.	Track#4	Keeping pace with the global trends in quality standards and appropriate quality standards and certification protocols and branding have to be developed for all fishery products and fishermen should be trained to keep the quality from capture to processing.
15.	Track#4	Emphasising the need for reduction of by-catch and juveniles as a measure of sustainable resource exploitation, measures should be taken to popularize by-catch reduction devices in both marine and inland sectors.
16.	Track#4	Considering that the total ban of the sea cucumber exploitation has not helped to increase recovery of population due to illegal exploitation, it is better to move towards a controlled exploitation regime. Participatory approaches should be evolved for management of sea-cucumber in GOM, Palk Bay and Andaman and Nicobar islands with appropriate spatial, temporal and size controls along with seed production, culture and sea ranching.
17.	IIOE	Recognizing the need for taking stock of the current status of the Indian Ocean, support steps to operationalize the second IIOE drawing the resources from all the marine research organizations in the country and abroad.
18.	Track#5	Taking note of underutilized status of most of the diagnostic kits as well as frequent unforeseen crisis situations faced by the farmers, the research institutions should create a dynamic interface with farmer community to address emerging challenges as well as educate them on best practices.
19.	Track#5	For ensuring competitiveness in the global context the country must have a long term strategy with specific timelines for various targets. At the ground level the institutions and individuals need to change their approach from publish and forget to innovate and develop products and processes to the benefit of people.
20.	Track#5	Recognizing the policy gap in the area of aquaculture the need for suitable policy on aquatic animal health management is strongly felt. Domestication of pathogen –free <i>Penaeus monodon</i> is also mooted.

21.	Track#6	Recognizing the difficulty in adopting a quota based system in data poor developing country with large number of vessels, species and habitats, concerted efforts have to be made to evolve a suitable model, which embraces the principles of quota system where the economic benefits are immense.
22.	Track#6	Understanding the need for promoting sustainable livelihood of coastal communities, open-sea cage farming and seaweed farming must be encouraged by providing necessary institutional finance and technical support. While promoting these culture systems, proper assessment of the carrying capacity of the water bodies have to be made and changes in the environment monitored at every increment.
23.	Track#6	Recognizing the issues of gender and the need for promoting domestic fish marketing, encouragement should be given to Women Self Help Groups to take active part in fish value chain in domestic fish marketing.