

The future of Marine Spatial Planning in Thailand: A case study in Koh Lan, Pattaya, Thailand

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The health of both China and Thailand marine ecosystems is in serious decline, and multiple stressors, including overfishing, pollution, invasive species, coastal development, and climate change, compromise the ability of ocean and coastal ecosystems to support and sustain the goods and services people need and want. Uncoordinated expansions of sea uses is one of the most important reasons results to already existing conflicts are likely to further exacerbate the decline of marine ecosystem health.

China has about 30 years of experience ever since the China government put forward the goal of marine spatial planning (MSP). The marine functional zoning divides the ocean into many functional areas with different types and different environmental quality requirements. Its intention is to control and guide the use of directions for the ocean, to protect and improve the marine ecological environment, and to promote marine reasonable development and marine economy sustainable development. Since MSP plays a more and more important role in China and Thailand coastal management, provides a basis for the reasonable use of national marine space resources and promotes the development of the marine economy, the technical cooperation of MSP



ABSTRACT

between China and Thailand was helpful for both sites to promote the level of coastal management and protect the marine environment.

MSP was implemented at Koh Lan, Koh Khok and Koh Sak, islands located in Pattaya, Chonburi. It is a famous destination for beach recreation, snorkeling, scuba diving and other tourism activities. These islands are major Chinese tourist destinations. There has been an increase in number of Chinese tourists during the last five years. Marine Spatial Planning was prepared for conservation and sustainable uses of these islands.

