Development of a National Program of Action for Panama under the UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities

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18.03.06
1. Background on CATHALAC
2. Rationale for GPA Implementation
3. National Framework for Implementation
4. Coordination w/ NOAA/GPA Office
Regional & International Centers under the UNESCO-IHP

CATHALAC is a regional center of excellence dedicated to the promotion of sustainable human development through integrated management of water & environmental resources.
Land Cover

- Agriculture
- Aquaculture
- Broadleaf forest
- Grasslands
- Mangrove
- Scarcely vegetated
- Settlements
- Wetlands

Erosion Potential

- Highly erodible
- Low erosion potential
Implemented by Panama’s National Committee for the International Hydrologic Programme (CONAPHI), which is advised by CATHALAC and composed of:

- National Environmental Authority (ANAM)
- Panama Maritime Authority (AMP)
- University of Panama
- University of Technology of Panama
- Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA)
Framework for Implementation

Two phase approach:

1. National Reviews and National Consultative Meetings

   - Assessment of the adequacy of relevant policies and action plans (both existing and planned) by the government, regional organizations, IFIs and other stakeholders to address land-based sources of marine pollution
   - Two national conferences (Panama City / Colon) with representatives of the environment, agriculture, tourism and other relevant ministries, provincial and municipal authorities, NGOs and private sector
2. National Programme of Action Development

- Identification / assessment of problems and areas of concern affected or vulnerable to effects of anthropogenic activities
- Priority-setting
- Defining management objectives for priority problems
- Identification, evaluation and selection of strategies and measures, including long-term management approaches
Coordination w/ NOAA/GPA Office

- National mandate
- Technical expertise
- Implementation expertise / other support
THANK YOU

MUCHAS GRACIAS