Dive into S’pore’s marine environment to protect it

Greater awareness, dialogue between Govt and community can realise Blue Plan’s goals

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Singapore is an island nation, and the lives of many Singaporeans are intertwined with the sea. Every day we see waves crashing along shorelines, fish used by thousands of people, for work and leisure.

The importance of these activities on marine ecosystems is significant. Yet, it is hard to quantify in economic terms.

Incorporating basic environmental science concepts into the formal curriculum is one way to sensitise students to the value of marine organisms, to engage, for instance, may not know that our mangroves are home to one of the smallest fish species in the world. Including environmental science education at all levels is important for students to understand the interconnections between the various components of our environment, and the implications of a changing climate.

In the Blue Plan 2018, in addition to new conservation parks, the introduction of new animal species, such as seahorse meadows and mangrove areas are also proposed for preservation. The protection of the islands in the archipelago, including the islands in the archipelago, is important for the future economic success of the communities that use the marine environment.

Protecting larger, interconnected islands also allows zoning for different uses within the area, an important principle that the Blue Plan 2018 advocates. Take Pulau Ubin, for example. It is not only important for the island to be used for fishing and boating, it is also important for the area to be an important principle that the Blue Plan 2018 advocates.

As Singaporeans, we recognise the immense pressure on our limited land and sea areas. When deciding between reclamation and preservation as a coastal reef site, for example, difficult decisions have to be made.

These decisions must be made carefully, and with active engagement sessions between the community and the Government. Coming to a collective decision may be challenging, but when executed, it will provide a framework for the future.

Today, many community-led projects have been created, such as the Coral and Reef Care Centre, a mangrove and coral nursery run by the National University of Singapore. Many more projects are important because awareness is gradually spreading.

Several recommendations proposed in the previous Blue Plan 2009 have been implemented by the Government. Key amongst them was the Comprehensive Marine Environment Survey engaged by the Blue Plan 2018, published by the National University of Singapore which complements the 2009 report.

More than 500 surveys were conducted in the Johor and Singapore straits, uncovering a rich biodiversity of over 1200 species, including 125 new species of invertebrates, fish, and marine mammals.

It is hoped that the recommendations made in the Blue Plan 2018 will be implemented to the fullest extent possible, to ensure the benefits of the conservation efforts are realised.

The Blue Plan 2018 advocates for the preservation of the islands in the archipelago, including the islands in the archipelago, for future generations.

The Blue Plan 2018 aims to ensure that the islands in the archipelago, including the islands in the archipelago, are protected, and that the benefits of conservation efforts are realised.

This is the third Blue Plan. Earlier recommendations were submitted to the Government in 2003 and 2009, and the latest effort is the most comprehensive to date. By 2020, 130 recommendations, including 100 contributions, the document is saturated, clear, concise and logical. The data support the proposed recommendations.

The recommendations are made in the spirit of ensuring long-term sustainability. For example, in the Blue Plan, the Government is calling for the establishment of marine protected areas, and the creation of marine parks, including the 800-hectare Pulau Ubin park.

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