Coastal Regulation in South Asia
South Asian Regulations

- India: Coastal Regulation Zone, 2011
- Sri Lanka: Coast Conservation Act, 1981
- Bangladesh: has some policies and programmes that have to be implemented
- Maldives and Pakistan have no specific laws/regulation for managing their coasts
India

- Under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 a list of activities is given which is prohibited in the coastal zone – industry, land reclamation, discharge of waste, sand mining, etc.

- The notification also gives a list of permissible activities – ports, harbour, breakwaters, groynes, nuclear power plants, laying of pipelines, desalination plants, etc.
Sri Lanka

• Under the Coast Conservation Act (CCA), 1981 certain development activities are regulated; which are to be decided by the Minister.

• Permissible activities not needing permits include – fishing, cultivation of crops, construction of coastal protection measures by Coast Conservation Department, etc.
Bangladesh

• There is no law that looks at development projects along the coast in the country

• Coastal Zone Policy, Coastal Development Strategy and a Priority Investment Programme is in place but these have not even started implementation

• District Development Plans – Special plans being made to manage the coast in a district
Maldives

• There is no specific regulation for coastal development projects in the country

• Clearances given under the present EIA system

• Some projects may need a permit under the Maldives Tourism Act as well
1. The Project Proponent submits the application with an IEE or EIA.

2. The Environment Protection Agency (EPOA), Maldives reviews the project.

3. Two independent reviewers are appointed by the MoEE to review the project. If needed, MOEE may also solicit responses from other relevant authorities.

4. Public Consultation is done by the project proponent.

5. Based on the reviews, MoEE grants clearance or rejects the proposal.
Pakistan

- There is an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan and a National Climate Change Policy, 2010 in place that has components of coastal management

- Clearances given under the present EIA system
Application by project proponent submitted to the Director General, provincial EPA

Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)

IEE approved by provincial EPA

Small Scale Projects

No Objection Certificate by provincial EPA

Project approved/rejected

Large Scale Projects

Environmental Impact assessment and public hearing

EIA reviewed by provincial EPA

4 months
Common Concerns

• Lacks consideration of cumulative impacts

• Poor quality EIA reports defy the very purpose of appraisal of projects

• Non-compliance is rampant and monitoring is poor or non-existent.