

1st Korea NGOs Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop

KYSP/YSPW.1/3
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1st Korea NGOs Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop *Ansan, Korea, 15th to 16th June 2006*

MEETING REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As one of public awareness activities under the Yellow Sea Partnership, the first Korea NGOs Workshop was held in Ansan, Korea, 15th – 16th June 2006 to promote co-operation with local NGOs. Approximately 30 participants from over 12 NGOs, 1 government-affiliated institution, and 3 international organisations and projects attended the workshop. The workshop was co-organised by the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project Management Office (PMO) and the Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute (KORDI). This report was prepared by the KORDI.

In the workshop, the representatives of the Korean local NGOs as well as the international organisations made presentations on their activities with respect to environmental conservation in the Yellow Sea. The PMO also presented the Yellow Sea Partnership and introduced the results of its first workshop in Beijing, China, in March 2006. The meeting then discussed how to strengthen the co-operation between Korean NGOs and the Yellow Sea Partnership.

As a result of the Workshop, the meeting reaffirmed the importance of co-operation and agreed to further consider the areas and activities in which to collaborate. The participating NGOs confirmed that they would have another meeting to discuss specific joint activities.

1. SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

1.1 Opening of the Meeting

1.1.1 The Meeting started with the opening remarks of Mr. Yihang Jiang, Project Manager of the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project Management Office (PMO), and Mr. Sik Huh, Head of the International Cooperation Division of the Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute (KORDI).

1.1.2 In the opening remarks, Mr. Yihang Jiang emphasised that the Yellow Sea Partnership is a mechanism to co-ordinate all the relevant efforts from different stakeholders including NGOs for more effective implementation of collectively agreed actions. Mr. Sik Huh from KORDI, as partner of the Yellow Sea Partnership and the co-organiser of the workshop, congratulated the meeting and welcomed the participants. Both expressed appreciation to Korean NGOs in their effort for protecting marine environment of the Yellow Sea and willingness to work together by joining the meeting.

1.1.3 Each participant gave a short introduction of themselves and the organisations they belong. A list of participants is attached in Annex I.

1.1.4 Ms. Young Rae Choi, moderator of the meeting, introduced the organisation and the expected outcome and outputs of the meeting. She described the objectives of the meeting as:

- Initiate communication between the PMO and Korean NGOs as well as among the NGOs, by introducing the participants of the Yellow Sea Project and the Yellow Sea Partnership and the PMO of the Yellow Sea-related activities of the NGOs
- Korean NGOs' comments and inputs to the Implementation Matrix and the Public Awareness and Communication Strategy of the Yellow Sea Partnership
- Discuss on joint actions/activities among the Korean NGOs to improve the Yellow Sea Environment

1.2 Presentation #1: UNDP, GEF, Wetland Project, YSLME and the Yellow Sea Partnership

1.2.1 Aiming at raising awareness to Korean NGOs on the system and contents of the Yellow Sea Project and the UNDP environmental programmes in general, the morning session was comprised of three presentations on:

- Introduction of UNDP activities and GEF projects for environmental conservation, Ms. Hyun-Shin Lee from UNDP Korea
- Introduction of the Yellow Sea Project and the Yellow Sea Partnership (YSP), Mr. Seonghwan Pae and Mr. Isao Endo from PMO
- Involvement of NGOs in the UNDP/GEF Korea Wetland Project, Mr. Young Cheol Park, Project Manager

1.2.2 Ms. Hyun-Shin Lee's presentation gave a general overview on how the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) operate. She also briefly explained about the background of how the Yellow Sea Project had been planned and about the level of NGO participation in the Project including the possibility of NGO's policy suggestion in the PSC meeting.

1.2.3 Mr. Pae and Mr. Endo explained in detail about the Yellow Sea Project and the Yellow Sea Partnership. According to the presentation, the role of NGOs is defined as collaborator to achieve same goals with the Project. The participants were very much concerned of NGO's participation in the Project. In responding to participants' inquiries, Mr. Jiang described the background and ultimate goals of the Project and the possible membership of NGOs in the Project.

1.2.4 Mr. Young Cheol Park introduced the UNDP/GEF Korea Wetland Project and its public awareness activities. He explained the background of the Project relating it with the importance of wetlands in Korea as flyway of the world's rare migratory bird species. He made distinction between the Yellow Sea and Wetland Projects, remarking the fact that the Wetland project has demonstration sites, work directly with local stakeholders, and is a national project in nature. He acknowledged difficulties in carrying out the Project and asked support from participants, and vice versa.

1.3 Presentation #2: Introduction of Participating Organizations and its Yellow Sea-related Activities

- 1.3.1 In the afternoon session, Mr. Kyung Won Kim, Manager of the Wetlands and Marine Conservation Team of Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM) was invited as Chairperson and led the meeting. Participants from each organisation gave a short introduction on the organisations and their major activities. In Korean alphabetical order, 12 presentations were given including the branches of the Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM) and Green Korea, the two biggest nation-wide environmental NGOs. The order of 12 presentations and speakers are:
- Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center, Mr. Dong Yong Jang
 - Ganghwa People's Network, Ms. Seon Mi Hwang
 - Green Korea Headquarter, Mr. Sang Hoon Yoon
 - Incheon Green Korea, Mr. Dae Soo Koo
 - Citizens' Institute for Environmental Studies (CIES), Ms. Seungmin Lee
 - Shihwa Lake Saver, Ms. Sun Mi Park
 - Muan Green Agenda 21, Mr. Kyung Wan Kim
 - Korea Marine Rescue Center (KMRC), Ms. Sunwook Hong
 - Coastal Conservation Network, Mr. Gap Gon Kim
 - Korean Teachers' Organization for Ecological Education and Activity (KTOFEEA), Mr. In Sik Song
 - Sochon KFEM, Mr. Kil Ook Yeo
 - Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM), Ms. Sunyoung
- 1.3.2 Mr. Dong Yong Jang, Director of the Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center, described the background of the Center's establishment and its performance. It is the nation's first visitor center built in cooperation with NGO and governmental municipalities. It applies a unique approach on education that in order to protect tidal flat from human interventions the visitors can get training only from inside of the building. For this purpose, the Center is designed to provide some indirect experience facilities and the staffs put effort to develop appropriate education materials. He also mentioned that it is necessary to communicate with local residents to raise awareness on the importance of tidal flat and to change current hostile mood against conservation policies.
- 1.3.3 Ms. Seon Mi Hwang, Director of Ganghwa People's Network, focused her presentation on the conservation activities going on at the southern tidal flat of Ganghwa Island, including Crane feeding and monitoring with local residents and youth group training. She talked about several promotional items as output of its activities, which were found a lot more successful than expected for raising public awareness.
- 1.3.4 Mr. Sang Hoon Yoon, Coordinator in the Ecosystem Conservation Department of Green Korea, presented on the status of Baekryung Island spotted seals. Green Korea is the only Korean NGO that addresses the spotted seal conservation issue. The migration route of spotted seals goes up to Dalian where coastal development and illegal hunting is threatening the survival of spotted seals. Green Korea is thus promoting cooperation with China. An international symposium is to be held in July, inviting eminent scientific experts from both China and Korea.
- 1.3.5 Mr. Dae Soo Koo from the Incheon branch of Green Korea presented on the local sand mining. He explained in detail about the politics among stakeholders. He reported that the coastal communities involved were often deceived by developers and ignored by national government and emphasized a democratic manner in procedure. In addition to that, the Chairperson commented that the destructive sand mining practice is currently causing serious ecosystem change in the Kyunggi bay.

- 1.3.6 Ms. Seungmin Lee, Researcher at the Citizens' Institute for Environmental Studies (CIES), introduced the non-governmental nature of the institute and its activities. As a unique NGO-based expert group, CIES performs specialised research and campaigns. For A Sustainable Saemangeum (FASS), sub-action group of CIES, supports Saemangeum lawsuits and operates a databank on its website. The recently published Saemangeum Tidal Flat Eco-Map tried to combine local fishermen's traditional knowledge. CIES also works with Green Peace in No Whaling Campaign.
- 1.3.7 Ms. Sun Mi Park, Director of Shihwa Lake Saver, gave a presentation focusing on the educational activities. She described two kinds of training, one targeting the youth groups and the other targeting school teachers and parents, called Shihwa Ecoguide. The Shihwa Ecoguide program has been developed with assistance of scientific experts for the last few years, now having reputation as a well-organised education course.
- 1.3.8 Mr. Kyung Wan Kim, Director of Muan Green Agenda 21, began his presentation stating that the tidal flat in Muan, a national wetland preservation zone, is one of the nation's most well preserved coasts. He described raising public awareness and persuasion of local communities as the most successful outcome of previous activities: the organisation has tried to persuade people that conservation would not destroy local economy but bring benefits to local community in the long term. Budget for running the organisation is from both the local government and members. He said that the organisation is in a sense healthy in that it has quite large number of active members who regularly pay for the membership fees. The Chairperson agreed on that statement and commented that his presentation was a good example of how to maintain good relationship with local people.
- 1.3.9 Ms. Sunwook Hong, Manager of the Environment Department of Korea Marine Rescue Center, presented on the organisation and particularly about the cleanup activities. Started from the gathering of 700 lifesavers, the organisation is now extending the scope of action to marine environment policy suggestion. She expressed the organisation's interest in collaboration with the Yellow Sea Project and asked PMO to help finding Chinese partners for International Coastal Cleanup activity 2006/2007. Mr. Yihang Jiang welcomed the suggestion and later encouraged other participants to freely contact PMO as partner and secretariat of YSP with any issues for possible cooperation.
- 1.3.10 Mr. Gap Gon Kim, Director of Coastal Conservation Network, instead of introducing the organisation, suggested his opinion on the Yellow Sea Project as early observer and participant of the Project since its development stage. He advised PMO to show consistent interest to NGOs and to clarify NGO's roles in the Project and the YSP. He suggested to conduct joint surveys together with NGOs and asked if the Project is planning to promote a NGOs' joint survey.
- 1.3.11 Mr. In Sik Song, Member of Korean Teachers' Organization for Ecological Education and Activity (KTOFEEA) and high-school teacher, gave a presentation on the organisation and some environmental activities he is participating in the region. It was noted that there were diverse educational activities in and out of schools the organisation has developed and that the organisation is comprised of volunteer teachers who devote their time and effort to improve environmental education and the environmental issues in society.

- 1.3.12 Mr. Kil Ook Yeo, Director of Sochon KFEM, concentrated his presentation on Janghang Industrial Complex Construction Plan that is causing high tensions among the local stakeholders as well as in the domain of national socio-political dispute. He explained the background of current contention and the organisation's activity with local fishermen and residents to protect the area from development.
- 1.3.13 Ms. Sunyoung from Wetlands and Marine Conservation Team of KFEM was the last presenter. She began her presentation with the statement 'Think Globally, Act Locally', an old-fashioned phrase but still in effect in explaining the migratory bird conservation activity of KFEM. The team works with partners in the East Asian region forming an international migratory bird network, while they conduct frequent surveys domestically in collaboration with national partners. The team, getting support from the government, prepares for the NGO participation in the Ramsar COP 10 that is planned to be held in 2008 in Korea. She suggested her organisation's contribution to YSP in relation with Ramsar COP 10 preparation activities. Participants and PMO welcomed the suggestion.
- 1.3.14 In summary, a variety of actions/activities taking place in the Yellow Sea region were listed, including education, monitoring, research and international activities during the session. The participants agreed that having harmonious communication and solidarity with local communities and developing good education are the common challenges they have.
- 1.3.15 At the end of the presentations, the Chairperson mentioned that the meeting provided a good opportunity to share how each NGO responds to the local issues, particularly in relation with local government and residents. He stressed that it is essential for NGOs to share problems and try to find out solutions together.

1.4 Overview of the 1st YSP Workshop and the Public Awareness and Communication Strategy

- 1.4.1 Mr. Endo introduced the 1st Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop held in Beijing, China from 15th to 16th March 2006 and the documents produced with effort of partners who attended at the Workshop, namely the Implementation Matrix and the Public Awareness and Communication Strategy. He mentioned that it would be beneficial if the Korean NGOs and other relevant organisations in the region to share experience and information and that the Partnership may help and be effective pursuing common goals of NGOs and all partners by, e.g., developing education and training programmes and other forms of materials for raising public awareness.
- 1.4.2 Following Mr. Endo's presentation, the Chairperson suggested to talk freely about the possibility of joint activities and of joining the Yellow Sea Partnership rather than to limit the talk on inputs to the Implementation Matrix and the Strategy, as the participants themselves are less informed of those documents provided by PMO and the Yellow Sea Project yet. The participants all agreed.

1.5 Discussion on joint activities

- 1.5.1 Prior to discussion on joint activities, the participants made comments on the effective ways of discussion for the meeting and asked PMO to clarify the idea of partnership with NGOs and specific goals that PMO has regarding the involvement of NGOs. Ms. Connie Chiang answered that the NGOs can play a role as mediator to reach different and wide targets such as local communities. Partnership. Mr. Jiang added that the partnership does not mean participation in the Project but in the Yellow Sea Partnership. He asked NGOs to work together with the Partnership,

referring that cooperation would be able to overcome the limitation and weakness of human and financial resources of NGOs and partner organisations.

- 1.5.2 According to the Chairperson's recommendation, the discussion focused on sharing each organisation's Yellow Sea activities and considering the ways to initiate cooperation among the NGOs and with the Yellow Sea Partnership. The participants discussed on the ways to tackle the common challenges identified at the presentations of NGOs in the earlier session. They also collected some of their 2006/2007 activities looking for possible joint-activity items that may match working plans of the Yellow Sea Partnership. A summary of discussion and suggested actions/recommendations are included in the report.
- 1.5.3 KFEM suggested to organise the second Korean NGO meeting for further discussion and to develop the partnership made at this Meeting.

1.6 Closure of the Meeting

- 1.6.1 Before the closing of the Meeting, every participant gave a final statement. The Chairperson, Mr. Kyung Won Kim, closed the session stating that good partnership starts from affectionate preparation and encouraged the participants to prepare for the second meeting.
- 1.7 Mr. Yihang Jiang thanked all participants of the Meeting. Ms. Hyun-Shin Lee thanked for the active discussion that she believed reflects the passion of Korean NGOs towards the protection of Yellow Sea.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE MEETING

- 2.1 Since the Yellow Sea Project launched in 2005, it has tried to make opportunities to bring wider range of stakeholders together, noting that there is urgent need for cooperation in order to address and reduce the environmental stresses the Yellow Sea.
- 2.2 In this regard, the Yellow Sea Partnership was initiated by members participated in the First Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop at Beijing, China, 15-16 March 2006. Its purpose is to create strong awareness of the problems of the Yellow Sea and to emphasise the need for increased public support from all sectors. The Partnership runs on voluntary basis and is open to any governmental, non-governmental, international organizations or any individuals interested. By now, the Partnership has 13 members including 7 NGOs.
- 2.3 The idea of Korea NGOs Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop was first suggested by Sunyoung from KFEM then by KORDI at the First Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop where the Korean NGOs did not participate. Later, the idea developed as KORDI agreed to collaborate on accommodating and organising the workshop.

3. SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTIVITIES OF PARTICIPATING NGOS

3.1 Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center (presented by Mr. Dong Yong Jang)

3.1.1 Organisation

A. Establishment of the Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center

- Construction period: 2001 ~ 2005
- Location: Yeacha-ri, Hwado-myun (South-Western coast of Ganghwa Island)
- Supporting body: Incheon City, Ganghwa County, Korean Federation for Environmental Movement

B. Objective

- “Guided and self-guided” education centre
- Conservation of nearby migrating shorebird habitat and tidal flat
- Develop tidal flat ecology training and education programme

C. Desired Outcome

- Strengthen local community and improving communication between local community and government
- Assist local economy through tourism and eco-friendly product merchandising
- Specialised tidal flat education

3.1.2 Activities

A. Tourism and Education Programme

- Promote ecological tourism
- Indirect visit to tidal flat: Visitors walking on tidal flat affects the marine environment. Instead, the Center equips various facilities such as observatory and promotes indirect, environmental friendly experience of tidal flats.
- Guided and self-guided education: Visitors can either get guidance from staffs or learn by themselves, with self-teaching materials in the Center.

B. Development of Education Materials

- Creative education material development, including mobile display panel and educational game board
- Cheaper and more effective materials in raising public awareness, particularly targeting children

C. Relationship with Local Community

- Try to initiate an ecological community project that local community and the Center work together and help develop local economy and the quality of life.
- Challenge: time and effort required to build good relationship due to the negative perception of environmental conservation that the local communities have

3.2 Ganghwa People's Network (presented by Ms. Seon Mi Hwang)

3.2.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1996, beginning with public hearing against thermal power plant construction in Seokmo Island
- Officially registered in 2000

B. Objective

- Conservation of history and culture of the Ganghwa Island and raising autonomy of local residents
- Conservation and restoration of Ganghwa ecosystem
- Promoting a mature civil society in the region

3.2.2 Yellow Sea Activities (conservative activities of the south tidal mud flat in Ganghwa island)

A. Monitoring and feeding of migratory shorebirds

- Monitoring migratory shorebirds with local people; accumulated results of monitoring can be used to help preserve the site in the future; participation of local volunteers is crucial in raising public awareness.
- Feeding winter visitors, particularly cranes: providing rice 340-400kg a day
- Conservation of crane habitats by taking appropriate actions, e.g., request to stop nearby construction work during the wintering season (November to March)

B. Youth Eco-forum

- Environmental education program targeting local youth groups
- Field experience and outreach activities to advertise black-faced spoonbill conservation

C. Eco-guide Training Program

- Background: growth of ecotourism industry in the region
- Aim at raising eco-tour guides with well-oriented philosophy and affection of the nature and the region

3.3 Green Korea Headquarter (presented by Mr. Sang Hoon Yoon)

3.3.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1991
- Headquarter located in Seoul and 7 branches
- About 15,000 members

B. Objective

- Environmental movement with 7 focus areas: nature and ecology, energy, non-violence and peace, ecological circulation, life and security, civil participation and conflict resolution

3.3.2 Yellow Sea Activities

A. Spotted Seal Survey

- Survey on spotted seals inhabiting in Baek-ryung Island: 1,000 individuals are living in the Yellow Sea including 350 in the Island and migrate along the Korean coasts from the Baek-ryung Island to Sandong Peninsula.
- Cooperation with partners in China

3.4 Incheon Green Korea (presented by Mr. Dae Soo Koo)

3.4.1 Organization

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1993
- Coastal Conservation Committee comprising experts, activists, and local citizens

3.4.2 Yellow Sea Activities

A. Coastal Sand Mining related activities

- Background: Since the Ganghwa local government launched the sand mining plan in 2005, local fisheries adjacent to the mining sites are being gradually affected. Sand mining industries are deeply involved in unsustainable mining practice and undemocratic decision-making process.
- Monitoring environmental impacts of sand mining
- Help local fishery communities deal with industries and local governments, in legal and institutional aspects

B. Education

- Incheon Island & Tidal Flat Eco-guide Training Program
- Surveys
- Publication

3.5 Citizens' Institute for Environmental Studies (presented by Ms. Seungmin Lee)

3.5.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Seoul CIES established in 1993, now with 6 local offices
- 100 staffs and researchers

3.5.2 Activities

A. Executive office and forum

- For A Sustainable Saemangeum (FASS)
- Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC)
- Citizens' Network for Drinking Water
- Citizen Environmental Forum
- Environment and Health Forum
- Gloval Environmental Issue Forum

3.5.3 Yellow Sea Activities

A. Social Impact Assessment on the Shihwa Reclamation Project

- Publication: What happened to fishermen in Lake Shihwa?

B. For A Sustainable Saemangeum (FASS)

- Local communication forum
- Saemangeum Eco-school (Gre)
- Data collection and data bank
- Saemangeum lawsuit support and coordination of local grassroots NGOs

C. No Whaling Movement

- Collaboration with Green Peace

3.6 Shihwa Lake Saver (presented by Ms. Sun Mi Park)

3.6.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 2003, separated from Ansan YMCA
- About 100 members

B. Objective

- Conservation of life and culture of Ansan and Shihwa region
- Environmental conservation of Ansan and Shihwa watersheds

3.6.2 Activities

A. Education

- Eco-guide Training Program, mainly targeting parents
- Children Environment Dream Team: environmental education for elementary school kids
- Environmental Leader Training Program, mainly targeting eco-guides and school teachers
- Environmental education at elementary and middle schools
- Youth camp

B. Monitoring

- Ecosystem monitoring of Ansan area
- Shorebird watching
- Tidal flat fieldtrip

C. Others

- Shihwa photograph exhibition

D. Planned activities

- Environmental training for school teachers
- Workshop: 'Future of Shihwa'
- Publication: education materials and workbooks

3.7 Muan Green Agenda 21 (presented by Mr. Kyung Wan Kim)

3.7.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1998
- Voluntarily organised by Muan municipality, local civil organisations, and residents
- About 300 members
- Source of budget: membership fees (different from the other Local Agenda 21s), subsidy from local governments, project budgets from Ministry of Environment, etc

3.7.2 Yellow Sea Activities

A. Muan Tidal Flat Conservation

- Background: Muan tidal flat was designated as the nation's first wetland protection site in December 2001. Local community had strong distrust against the government's policy that it may affect local economy in a negative way.
- Raising public awareness of tidal flat conservation through continuous communication and gatherings
- Awarded for good coordination from the Ministry of Environment in September 2005

B. Education

- Dalmeori Tidal flat Camp: fieldtrip program supported by Muan municipality and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, since 2004
- Making a tidal flat fieldtrip guideline

C. Citizens' Ecosystem Monitoring

- Local citizens' participation in tidal flat monitoring
- Regular (every second Tuesday) and irregular monitoring and data collection
- Planning to make a Muan coastal ecosystem map
- Dalmeori Tidal flat Camp: fieldtrip program supported by Muan municipality and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, since 2004

D. Coastal Cleanup and Waste Monitoring

- Participation of youth groups

3.8 Korea Marine Rescue Center (presented by Ms. Sunwook Hong)

3.8.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 2000
- 35 local branches with 700 professional divers (volunteers)
- Environmental policy department for research, project development and public awareness

3.8.2 Activities

A. Main Activities

- Rescue
- Marine Environment Conservation
- Education

B. Yellow Sea Activities

- International Coastal Cleanup
- Regional sea cooperation, also with Chinese NGO partners
- Public awareness and education
- Field survey and policy suggestion
- Model community development

3.9 Coastal Conservation Network (presented by Mr. Gap Gon Kim)

3.9.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 2000 as a council of 20 local environmental NGOs
- 250 members

B. Objective

- Solidarity building among the NGOs
- Sharing data and information
- Marine environmental education and resources development
- National marine ecosystem and pollution monitoring
- Policy suggestion on sustainable coastal and marine development

3.9.2 Activities

A. Education

- Integrated Coastal Management NGO Leader Training Program
- Eco-guide Training Program

B. Coastal survey and coastline conservation

- Survey on coastline and ecosystem change
- Setting up natural conservation area and marine environment index

C. Monitoring and Coastal Cleanup

- Shorebird monitoring and conservation activities in coastal wetlands
- Marine waste monitoring and coastal cleanup

D. Strengthening coastal information network and solidarity

- Workshops on coastal forum, marine environmental policy
- Participation in International Coastal Cleanup
- Sustainable Coastal Environment Information Network

3.10 Korean Teachers' Organization for Ecological Education And Activity (presented by Mr. In Sik Song)

3.10.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1995
- Voluntary network of school teachers interested in environmental problems and environmental education
- About 400 members

B. Objective

- Green Education / Ecological Education
- Social Action for solving environmental problems
- Environmental education in schools

3.10.2 Activities

A. Environmental education in schools

- Environmental club activities
- Vegetable gardening
- Ecology class

B. Fieldtrip and Camps

- Environmental lectures or ecology fieldtrips targeting students and teachers
- Assist in organising environmental camps by local NGOs

C. Environmental education program materials

- Program development for environmental clubs and ecology fieldtrips
- Education material distribution through handbooks and internet

D. Study Visit

- Study visit to specific sites and organisations
- Overseas training course and site visit

E. Bulletin

- Publication: 'Green Education'

3.11 Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (presented by Ms. Sunyoung)

3.11.1 Organisation

A. Basic Information

- Established in 1993
- Nation's largest environmental NGO
- 51 local branches with 84,000 members
- Wetlands and Marine Conservation Team

3.11.2 Yellow Sea Activities (Activities of Wetlands and Marine Conservation Team)

A. Conservation of Endangered Birds and their Habitat

- Migratory waterbird site networks in the East Asian-Australian region
- Three focus species: black-faced spoonbill, crested ibis, and cranes
- Collaboration with partners in East Asia (China, Japan, Taiwan, etc)

B. Wetlands Committee

- Conservation efforts through local members of KFEM
- Participation of 16 local KFEM branches and 2 local NGOs
- Focusing on 16 wetland sites

C. Citizens' Survey

- Monthly survey to Saemangeum with citizens
- Irregular surveys to Han River estuary, Gyunggi bay, and Geum River bay
- Migratory bird monitoring

D. Preparation of Ramsar COP 10 (planned in 2008, Korea)

- KFEM designated as a leading member of Korean NGO Organising Committee and International NGO Steering Committee
- Korean Ramsar Site Campaigns
- Vision on East Asia: North Korea Approach, Wetlands and Peace Boat, Rice Paddy Initiative, Wetlands Center Link, etc

3.12 Sochon KFEM (presented by Mr. Kil Ook Yeo)

3.12.1 Yellow Sea Activities

A. Main activities

- Education, research and monitoring
- Participation of local citizens, youth groups, and scientific experts

B. Jang-Hang Tidal Flat Conservation

- Background: Under the Jang-Hang Industrial Complex Plan, the Jang-Hang tidal flat has been reclaimed since 1989. Local residents and environmental NGOs

are against the plan and trying to protect the tidal flat. Third environmental impact assessment is in process.

- Working with fisheries communities for the protection of Jang-Hang tidal flat.

4. SUGGESTED ACTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MEETING

4.1 Suggested actions or recommendations for future co-operation and joint activities derived from the Meeting are as below.

A. Recommendations

- Knowing each other
- Improving communication
- Sharing experiences and knowledge

B. Actions

- Continuation of Workshop: 2nd Korea NGOs Meeting

4.2 Draft Workplan for 2006-2007

Organization	Plan	Date	Workplan	Partners
Korea Rescue Center	International Coastal Cleanup	Sep. 2006	Cleanup/ Publishing	Korea, (China)
KFEM	Ramsar CEPA Workshop Ramsar Site Survey in Korea DMZ Symposium 2 nd Korean NGO YSP Workshop	Jul. 2006 Aug. 2006 Oct. 2006 Soon		
Green Korea	International Symposium for Spotted Seal	Jun. 2006		Korea China
Muan Green Agenda 21	Education for Local People	Jun.-Aug. 2006		Korea
KTOFEEA	Saemangeum Expedition National Wetlands Tour	Aug. 2006 Jan. 2007		
Shihwa Lake Saver	Teachers' Training Program on Shihwa Lake Education Material Development Photo Exhibition	Summer 2006		
CIES	Whale Watching For A Sustainable Saemangeum (FASS) Ocean Dumping			
YSLME PMO	Yellow Sea Forum at East Asian Congress	Dec. 2006	Exhibition/ Conference	

5. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION OF PARTICIPATING NGOS

5.1 The participants actively discussed on the five main themes as below.

- Communication between PMO and NGOs
- Spontaneity of NGOs
- Definition and Concept of Partnership
- Ways to promote Partnership
- 2nd Korea NGOs Meeting

5.2 Communication between PMO and NGOs

5.2.1 Language and document format were pointed out to be major obstacles of communication between PMO and NGOs. Participants mentioned that the interpretation at the meeting is even more important than the presentations or other preparations for delivering correct information and for mutual and instantaneous communication between PMO and NGOs. Some participants also referred to the difficulties dealing with English documents and suggested the PMO to translate items to discuss into Korean before the meeting.

5.2.2 Participants disagreed to use the documents distributed at the meeting for discussion such as the Implementation Matrix or the Public Awareness and Communication Strategy. The reasons were that they were unaware of the concept and contents of the documents and that those documents might limit the range of discussion items regarding the fact that the meeting is to initiate partnership. PMO agreed that the documents are prepared to promote the discussion and not to restrict it.

5.3 Spontaneity of NGOs

5.3.1 Along with the issue of communication with Yellow Sea Project, the participants discussed on the nature of NGOs, in relation with how the NGOs can cooperate with the Project. They agreed that the uniqueness of NGOs comes from the fact that they work voluntarily and on specific issues that certain locality bears and decided to continue discussion without restricting the subjects on specific inputs to the Implementation Matrix and the Yellow Sea Project.

5.4 Definition and Concept of Partnership

5.4.1 The Participants asked the PMO to clarify the definition and concept of the Yellow Sea Partnership and the role of NGOs within the framework of the Project. To respond, Ms. Connie Chiang and Mr. Isao Endo explained about the role of partners and partnership. Mr. Seonghwan Pae added that one benefit of partnership is collectivity, that NGOs can make collective actions and voices through partnership and have more influence in decision-making.

5.4.2 Mr. Yihang Jiang explained the sequence of implementing joint activities as Partners as follows:

A. Participation

- Express willingness to be a partner
- Provide activities information
- Circulate activities information to all partners
- Try to make joint efforts for certain activities

- Implement the joint activities

B. Budget

- When provide activities information, provide also budget info.
- Looking for necessary budget from other partner
- Make agreement for combined budget
- Make combined work plan
- Implement combined activities together

5.5 Ways to promote Partnership

5.5.1 Participants talked about good and bad examples of having partnership. Some expressed concerns of the disadvantage of partnership that it often turned out to be temporary and one-sided, where the NGOs are only mobilised at certain occasions. The Chairperson suggested starting a new, positive way of partnership with the Yellow Sea Project. Participants agreed that partnership should remain mutual.

5.5.2 In order to find out possibility of specific joint activities, some participants brought their work plans and activities for 2006/2007 out. The participants who showed interest were Marine Rescue Centre, Shihwa Lake Saver, Citizens' Institute for Environmental Studies, Korean Teachers' Organization for Ecological Education And Activity, and Korean Federation for Environmental Movement. For reference, Mr. Pae described how Yellow Sea Ecoregion Priority Planning Project (YSEPP) had made good partnership with the Yellow Sea Project.

5.6 2nd Korea NGOs Meeting

5.6.1 Mr. Kyung Won Kim from KFEM suggested organising the 2nd Korea NGOs Meeting for further discussion. Mr. Yihang Jiang welcomed Mr. Kim's suggestion, mentioning that continuous dialogue would facilitate co-operation and partnership. Mr. Jiang also mentioned that the Yellow Sea Partnership will last if NGOs play a leading role because unlike the Yellow Sea Project with a project life, NGOs stay in the region over a long period of time.

5.6.2 The discussion concluded with the closing remarks of the participants. KFEM will contact participants and notify the venue and date of the next Korea NGOs Meeting.

Annex I

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