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**UNDP/GEF PROJECT ENTITLED “REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS IN THE  
YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM”**

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**Fourth Meeting of the Regional Working Group  
for the Investment Component**  
*Jeju, Republic of Korea, 16-19 October 2007*

**Progress Report on National Co-ordination**

To be presented by

**National Project Co-ordinator for China,  
National Project Co-ordinator for Republic of Korea, and/or  
RWG-I Members**

 GEF	 Yellow Sea	 UN DP
<b>UNDP/GEF Project "Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem"</b>		
Hyung Tack Huh, National Project Coordinator/Korea		

## PROGRESS REPORT

For

1 January ~ 31 October 2007

Hyung Tack Huh

National Project Coordinator/Korea, YSLME

November 1, 2007

# **PROGRESS REPORT**

**- 1 January ~ 31 October 2007 -**

**Hyung Tack Huh**

**National Project Coordinator/Korea, YSLME**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Progress Report covers progress made, by the National Project Coordinating Unit of Korea for YSLME, during the period from 1 January through 31 October 2007.

Following the completion of the TDA(Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis) Report, activities for the 2007, the Third Year of the Project, have mainly been focused on the preparation of the SAP (Strategic Action Programme). A series of meetings have been organized by the PMO (Project Management Office): SAP Consultation Meeting in February, the 1<sup>st</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting in April, 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Science Conference on the Yellow Sea and 2<sup>nd</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group Meetings in August, etc.

Efforts have also been made to fulfill the cooperative study cruise which has been carried over from the last year. With strenuous efforts and coordination by the PMO, an agreement has been reached between two countries to launch a joint winter cruise in next January 2008.

It is believed that the Project has been progressed well so far except for the delay of the joint cruise.

## **2. ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS**

### **A. MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS**

#### **FEBRUARY**

\* National Working Group Chairs Meeting (1<sup>st</sup>/2007): 1 February 2007.

Review and discussion on the concept of SAP and agenda items for the SAP

Consultation Meeting to be held in Xishuangbanna, China,m 6-8 February.

Endorsed the participation of four experts from Korea.

\* **SAP Consultation Meeting**: 6-8 February 2007, Xishuangbanna, China.

NPC and three experts from Korea participated the meeting:

- Dr. Sinjae Yoo (KORDI), Ecosystem
- Dr. Sukjae Kwon (KORDI), Environmental Economics
- Dr. Suh Yong Chung (Myungji University), NGO-Law
- Dr. Hyung Tack Huh, NPC (also delegate for government).

Meeting adopted the concept of ‘carrying capacity of ecosystem’ as the major theme of the SAP, and decided to establish “SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group” for the preparation of SAP.

## MARCH

\* **National Working Group Chairs Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup>/2007)**: 27 March 2007.

Meeting reviewed and discussed the following agenda items:

- 1) Cooperative study cruise
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting
- 3) Regional Science Conference and others.

\* The 10<sup>th</sup> GSSC Meeting and Workshop: 13-16 March 2007, Seoul.

NPC attended as an observer the 10<sup>th</sup> GSSC (GOOS Scientific Steering Committee) Meeting and Workshop held at Olympic Parktel, Seoul. sponsored by IOC and locally organized by KORDI.

## APRIL

\* The 1<sup>st</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting: 10-12 April 2007.

Hongchun, Korea. Seoul.

The NPC/ROK has joined in the process along with 11 experts members of the Ad-Hoc Working Group.

The meeting has tentatively identified and reviewed the regional targets for the environmental management actions for the Yellow Sea, and also reviewed the draft programmes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Science Conference scheduled to be held 14-16 August 2007.

## MAY

\* **WESTPAC Consultation Meeting:** 17-18 May 2007. Hangzhou, China.

NPCs (China and Korea) and Project Manager of YSLME attended the meeting. WESTPAC is the IOC Subcommission for the Western Pacific and a cooperative organization with YSLME Project. The meeting reviewed and discussed the current status, problems and programmes in the western Pacific region and cooperation with other regional programmes including YSLME Project.

\* **Gene Pool Workshop:** 14-15 May 2007. Busan, Korea.

To review current status of gene pool information and research activities, and to identify genetic diversity and roles in the YSLME Project. Ten Korean scientists attended the workshop.

\* **Symposium on Biological Diversity:** 22 May 2007. Ansan, Korea.

The symposium was held in commemoration of International Day for biological diversity sponsored by KORDI. Thirteen papers on the marine biodiversity have been presented.

## JUNE

### \* YSLME Workshop “Regional Ocean Color Algorithm for the Yellow Sea

(YOC)- 1”: 3-4 June 2007. Ansan (KORDI). Korea.

Present status of the existing regional OC algorithm and design of the YOC activities have been reviewed and discussed. Nine experts from China, Japan and Korea been participated in the workshop.

### \* Korea-China Joint Symposium and Workshop on Sustainable

Mariculture: 18-20 June 2007. Taean, Korea.

12 Korean and 8 Chinese scientists participated

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### \* The 24<sup>th</sup> Session of Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

(IOC/GA): 19-28 June, UNESCO, Paris.

NPC of Korea attended and presented on the progress and reform of programme structure of the WESTPAC, and cooperative activities with other regional programmes including YSLME, PEMSEA, NOWPAP, etc

NPC of China also attended the meeting as a member of Chinese delegation.

## JULY

\* International Symposium on the Yellow Sea: 10-11 July 2007. Seoul, Korea.

NPC attended the Korea-China Joint Symposium on the Yellow Sea held at the Seoul Olympic Parktel. The Symposium, co-sponsored by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF) of Korea and State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) of China, was held in commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cooperative environmental research in the Yellow Sea by Korea and China.

Ms. Connie Chiang of PMO presented the results and next steps of the YSLME project.

## AUGUST

\* National Working Group Chairs Meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> /2007): 1 August 2007. Seoul.

Discussed on the preparation for the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Science Conference and

2<sup>nd</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting. Also discussed joint cruise station map proposed by PMO.

\* **The 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Science Conference:** 14-16 August 2007. Hangzhou, China.

NPC/ROK attended the conference and chaired the keynote speech session.

NPC/China also attended the meeting.

\* **The 2<sup>nd</sup> SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting:** 18-20 August 2007.

Hangzhou, China.

Meeting noted and agreed on the followings:

- Requirements for the preparation of management actions,
- Guidelines for determining demonstration projects and site selection,
- Guidelines for feasibility studies,
- Establishment of SAP drafting group; number of members and workplan
- Guidelines for NSAPs be prepared by PMO by the end of 2007.

NPC/ROK attended the meeting as an observer.

## SEPTEMBER

\* **Mariculture Carrying Capacity Symposium for the YSLME:**

4-6 September 2007. Rongcheng, Shandong, China.

Seven Korean scientists attended the symposium.

\* **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Conference on LMEs:** 11-13 September 2007.

Qingdao, China.

NPC/ROK served as a member of Steering Committee, and attended and presented a paper concerning the activities of China and Korea in the YSLME Project. Mr. Yihang Jiang, Project Manager, attended and presented on the scientific findings and management targets of the YSLME Project.

\* **APEC Workshop on Marine Ecosystem Identification and Mapping in the Asia-**

**Pacific Region:** 14 September 2007. Qingdao, China.

NPC/ROK participated the Workshop, and delivered opening remarks as the representative of Korea. The workshop was held concurrently with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Conference on LMEs.

**\* The 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group-Biodiversity Meeting:**

17-19 September 2007. Ansan, Korea.

Four Korean scientists attended the meeting; Dr. Young Shil Kang (RWG-E Chair, NFRDI), Prof. Lee Tae Won (Chungnam Univ.), Prof. Gyung Soo Park (Anyang Univ.) and Dr. Seok Hyun Youn (NFRDI).

**OCTOBER**

**\* The 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group-Ecosystem Meeting:**

3-5 October 2007. Ningbo, China.

Four scientists attended the meeting; Dr. Sinjae Yoo (RWG-E Chair, KORDI), Prof. Daeseok Kang (Pukyung Univ.), Dr. Seong Heo (NFRDI), Mr. Sung Joon Song (Industrial Technol. R&D Center).

**\* Inter-Calibration Summary Workshop: 8-10 October 2007. Jeju, Korea.**

Inter-calibration for nutrients, metals and organics.

\* **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Conference on Marine Environment and Sustainable Use of**

**Marine Resources in the Yellow Sea:** 11-14 October 2007. Incheon, Korea.

Ten Congressmen, five each from China and Korea, regional experts on the Yellow Sea, policy and legal experts and government officials from both countries participated, and discussed the legislation and enforcement of marine laws and regulations as well as economy of marine resource use and environmental issues in the Yellow Sea.

NPC made a presentation on the YSLME project at the conference.

\* **The 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group-Pollution Meeting:**

11-13 October 2007. Jeju, Korea.

Three scientists attended; Dr. Dong Beom Yang (NWG-E Chair, KORDI), Prof. Kyung Hoon Shin (Hanyang Univ.), Dr. Hee-Gu Choi (NFRDI).

\* **The 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group-Investment Meeting:**

16-19 October 2007. Jeju, Korea.

Three experts attended; Dr. Hak Bong Chang (NWG-I Chair, KMI),

Dr. Sung Dae Kim (KORDI), Prof. Suh Yong Chung (Korea Univ.)

NPC/ROK participated the meeting as an observer.

\* **Proposal and Report Writing Workshop:** 22-23 October 2007.

Ansan (KORDI), Korea. Approximately 15 people from the research institutes are expected to participate the workshop.

## **B. ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS**

### **i) The Cooperative Study Cruise:**

The Cooperative Study Cruise has been a major pending issue in the implementation of YSLME Project in 2007. Several formal and informal meetings between PMO and NPCs of both countries have been held. Coordinations for the cruise map have been made with the national experts and government officials. Through a series of meetings and discussions, a tentative agreement on the revised cruise map and the winter cruise schedule has been reached:

- Winter Cruise:

- Survey period: 5-25 January 2008.
- Number of survey stations: 37 stations.
- Sharing of samples: all samples will be equally shared by  
both countries.
- Fisheries survey: pending issue for inclusion in the cruise.

## ii) Coordination Activities:

### a) **Data/Information Collection**

Among the data/information collection activities for four components (fisheries, ecosystem, pollution, biodiversity), final report for the biodiversity has been considerably delayed as it was submitted to PMO in March 2007. Revision for the report of pollution data/information has also been made through April 2007.

### b) **Nomination for SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group**

NPC, through consultation with NWGs, selected and nominated two experts to PMO as the members of the SAP Working Group:

- Fisheries expert: Dr. Jang-Uk Lee, Korean Fisheries Society

- Pollution expert: Dr. Dong Beom Yang, KORDI

**c) Evaluation/Nomination of Internship Candidates :**

NPC evaluated seven Korean applicants for the 2007 Project's Internship, and submitted an evaluation sheet to PMO. As there was no suitable candidate, PMO re-advertised for the Internship. Accordingly, NPC re-evaluated five additional applicants, and nominated Mr. Yunil Kim of Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A., based on the relevance to the project after the internship.

**d) Nominations for Workshops/Meetings**

-Nominated eight applicants for the Proposal and Report Writing Workshop (22-23 October, Ansan, Korea).

-Nominations were made for the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Science Conference, 2<sup>nd</sup>

SAP Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting, 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group meetings, etc.

**e) Others**

Activities related to liaison, publicity, dissemination of data and

Information, etc. have been made for the followings:

-Biodiversity advisor

-2<sup>nd</sup> Global Conference on LMEs

- Reports of Biodiversity and Pollution Data/Information Collection
- Updating of NWGs members
- Small grants programmes
- Meta and GIS database maintenance
- PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting
- NEAR-GOOS Joint Training Course in Remote Sensing Data

#### Analysis

- Regional Science Conference
- SAP Ad-Hc Working Group meetings
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Parliamentary Conference
- SAP preparation

### iii) National Meeting Arrangements:

a) **National Working Group (NWG) Chairs Meetings** have been held to review and discuss the progress of the project, the cooperative study cruises, and other project-related meetings. Three meetings of the NWG-Chairs have been held, respectively, in February 1, March 27, and August 1, 2007.

**b) Regional Conference on Protection of the Marine Environment and Sustainable Use of Marine Resources in the Yellow Sea, 11-14 October**

2007. Incheon, Korea. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> China-Korea Parliamentary Conference for the Yellow Sea. Arranged to find some presenters and panel discussants. NPC participated as the facilitator for the opening session.

c) Several informal meetings were also arranged to discuss pending issues, i.e. the joint cruise.

**iv) Reinforcement of the National Working Groups:**

Members of the National Working Group-Biodiversity have been re-organized with eight (out of ten) new appointees. They are four from NFRDI, two from universities, and two each from the research institutes:

- Dr. Byoung Seol Koh (NFRDI – benthic ecology)
- Dr. Seok Hyun Youn (NFRDI – marine biology)
- Dr. Hye-Sook An (NFRDI - biotechnology)
- Prof. Gyung Soo Park (Anyang University – marine ecology)
- Prof. Tae Jun Han (Incheon University - seaweed)

- Dr. Zang Geun Kim (NFRDI – whale)
- Dr. Min-Ho Son (Marine Environment Institute – marine biology)
- Dr. Si Wan Lee (Korea Inst. Of Environmental Ecology – fish ecol.)

**v) Institutional Arrangements for the 4<sup>th</sup> RWG meetings:**

For the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Working Group meetings scheduled to be held during September – November 2007, coordinations were made to review the activities done since the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWGs held in 2006, evaluate the agenda items of the meeting by each component, and to nominate proper delegates to the 4<sup>th</sup> RWG meetings.

**- Delegates Nominated:**

Fisheries: Dr. Inja Yeon (NFRDI), Dr. Do- Hoon Kim (NFRDI),  
Dr. In-Kwon Jang (NFRDI).

Pollution: Dr. Dong Beom Yang (KORDI), Dr. Hee Gu Choi (NFRDI),  
Dr. Kyung Hoon Shin (Hanyang University).

Ecosystem: Dr. Sinjae Yoo (KORDI), Dr. Daeseok Kang (Pukyung  
National Univ.), Dr. Seung Heo (NFRDI),  
Mr. Sung Joon Song (Industrial Technol. R&D Center)

Biodiversity: Dr. Yoon Lee (NFRDI), Prof. Tae-Won Lee (Chungnam National Univ.), Dr. Gyung Soo Park (Anyang Univ.),  
Dr. Seok Hyun Youn (NFRDI).

Investment: Dr. Hak Bong Chang (KMI), Prof. Suh-Yong Chung (Korea Univ.), Dr. Sung Dae Kim (KORDI),  
Dr. Hyung Tack Huh (NPC, Observer)

**vi) Cooperation with Other Organizations/Programs:**

Participated by NPC to the following meetings and programmes of other organizations:

- 1) 10<sup>th</sup> GOOS Scientific Steering Committee Meeting and Workshop, 13-16 March 2007, Seoul, Korea.
- 2) WESTPAC Consultation Meeting, 17-18 May 2007. Hangzhou, China.
- 3) Symposium on Biological Diversity, 22 May 2007, Ansan, Korea.
- 4) 24<sup>th</sup> Session of IOC Assembly, 19-28 June 2007, Paris, France.
- 5) International Symposium on the Yellow Sea, 10-11 July, Seoul, Korea.
- 6) JCOMM International Symposium on Storm Surge, 2-4 October 2007. Seoul, Korea

7) International Experts Discussion on the Integrated Coastal Zone

Management: Trends and Future Challenges of Coastal Management Policy,

9 October 2007. Seoul, Korea.

8) 2<sup>nd</sup> China-Korea Parliamentary Conference, 11-13 October, Incheon,

Korea.

9) 7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on the Marine Sciences of the Yellow Sea and

East China Sea (ISMV-VII), 12-14 October 2007, Incheon, Korea.

**3. Remarks on New Developments, Difficulties and Problems:**

**a) Delay in the Cooperative Study Cruise:**

It is regrettable that two joint cruises, which were planned for 2006 and have been carried over to 2007, could not carry out by the end of this year again. Finally, a tentative agreement between two countries on the survey map (no. of stations and sampling locations) and dates; the winter cruise will be conducted during 5-25 of January 2008 at 37 sampling stations. Yet, it appears that the fisheries stock assessment would not be included in the survey

components.

It remains to be further discussed for the second cruise (spring or summer) later.

**b) Sharing of Data and Samples:**

It is a remarkable achievement that China and Korea have agreed to equally share all samples and data collected from the joint cruises, even though there have been existed a quite different views by two countries on the sharing of samples collected from the joint cruise. The spirit of equal sample sharing could have a very sound impact on the future cooperative studies in the area such as YSLME.

**c) Difficulties in Nominating Delegates to the RWG meetings:**

There still exist difficulties in nominating the delegates to the RWG meetings as many members of the national working groups are not available (or unconcerned) for the RWG meetings. It is necessary to encourage the scientists by providing them more opportunities to work in the project.

Due to the nature of the UNDP/GEF projects, very limited number of experts

and organizations have been involved in the project so far.

**d) More Governments' Involvement Needed:**

As SAP and NYSAP will have to be reviewed and endorsed by the participating governments, it is necessary to have more active and better involvement of the governments not only during the course of preparation but also review and endorsement processes of the SAP. This matter could be expedited through the upcoming RSTP and PSC meetings.

Date: October 31, 2007

