



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

UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP-PSC.7/6a rev.1
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**Seventh Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel
And Project Steering Committee
For the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project
*Beijing, China, 23-25 February 2011***

Project Information Form (PIF) for SAP Implementation



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: FULL SIZE PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Implementation of the Yellow Sea LME Strategic Action Programme for Adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management		
Country(ies):	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, (Republic of Korea)	GEF Project ID: ¹	TBD
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4552
Other Executing Partner(s):	UNOPS	Submission Date:	Sept 9, 2010
GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters	Project Duration:	4 years
Name of parent program (if applicable): ➤ For SFM <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable	Agency Fee:	866,310

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative Financing from Relevant TF	Indicative Co-Financing ^a
			(\$) ^a	(\$) ^b
IW-2: Catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystem while considering climatic variability and change	Outcome 2.1: Implementation of agreed Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) incorporates ecosystem-based approaches to management of LMEs, ICM principles, and policy/legal/ institutional reforms into national/local plans	Output 2.1: Agreed commitments to sustainable ICM and LME cooperation frameworks	2,224,969	34,741,095
	Outcome 2.2: Institutions for joint ecosystem-based and adaptive management for LMEs and local ICM frameworks demonstrate sustainability	Output 2.2: National and local policy/legal/institutional reforms adopted/ implemented	1,331,266	1,411,444
	Outcome 2.3: Innovative solutions implemented for reduced pollution, rebuilding or protecting fish stocks with rights-based management, ICM, habitat (blue forest) restoration/conservation,	Output 2.3: Types of technologies and measures implemented in local demonstrations and investments	2,375,473	2,397,247,218

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

² Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

	and port management and produce measureable results			
	Outcome 2.4: Climatic variability and change at coasts and in LMEs incorporated into updated SAP to reflect adaptive management and ICM principles (including protection of “blue forests”)	Output 2.4: Enhanced capacity for issues of climatic variability and change	2,172,662	14,883,516
Project management cost ³			558,732	2,500,000 ⁴
Total project costs			8,663,102	2,450,783,273

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To achieve adaptive ecosystem-based management of the Yellow Sea (YS) by fostering long-term sustainable institutional, policy and financial arrangements in accordance with the YSLME Strategic Action Programme (SAP)					
Project Component ⁵	Grant Type (TA/ INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from Relevant TF (GEF, LDCF, SCCF)	Indicative Co-Financing ^{a6}
				(\$) a	(\$) b
1. Sustainable Regional and National Cooperation for Ecosystem-Based Management	TA	<p>1.1 Regional governance structure, the YSLME Commission established, operational and sustained</p> <p>1.2. Improved inter-sectoral coordination and collaboration at national level</p> <p>1.3 Wider participation in SAP implementation fostered through capacity building and public awareness</p> <p>1.4 Improved compliance with regional and international treaties, agreements and guidelines</p> <p>1.5 Sustainable financing for regional collaboration on ecosystem-based management secured based on cost-efficient and</p>	<p>a) Regional agreement to establish the YSLME Commission, Management Science and Technical Panel (MSTP) and Regional Working Groups (RWGs); meetings convened and reports published; national and regional policies drafted and implemented</p> <p>b) National level agreements regarding ecosystem-based management actions, policies, regulations and standards promulgated, as appropriate</p> <p>c) At least 15 agreements with partners on overall environment co-operation and management, relevant fishery management, marine habitat conservation and pollution reduction, at both national and regional levels; cross sector partnerships established and operational.</p> <p>d) Enhanced national and regional legal instruments to comply with regional &</p>	2,807,169	2,112,508

³ GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

⁴ This represents the costs of coordinating parallel cofinancing activities with the implementation of the SAP during the project period. The project management costs for each parallel activity are not included here.

⁵ A component of a project is a distinct subdivision or element that may contain similar actions, or result in an output that may be used as an input to another component. Components may be utilized to help organize the logical work of projects, may represent similar work, be executed by a certain organization, or include different types of work- for example TA component versus an investment component.

⁶ Refer to the Annex for the breakdown of cofinancing by country.

		ecologically-effective actions	<p>global treaties, agreements and guidelines</p> <p>e) National public awareness in support of YSLME SAP achieved; data and information collected; jointly managed databases; publicly accessible information for implementing management plans at the regional, national and local levels</p> <p>f) Transfer of lessons, experiences and best practices between local sites</p> <p>g) Training of at least 10 stakeholder groups on public participation on relevant management actions, in particular on fishery management, marine habitat conservation and economic assessment</p> <p>h) Periodic economic assessments of costs and ecological effectiveness</p> <p>i) Sustainable financing agreed; at least 150% increase in government financing for regional collaboration</p>		
2. Improved Ecosystem Carrying Capacity with Respect to Provisioning Services	TA/IN V	<p>2.1 Recovery of depleted fish stocks as shown by increasing mean trophic level</p> <p>2.2 Enhanced stocks through restocking and habitat improvement</p> <p>2.3 Enhanced and sustainable mariculture production by increasing productivity per unit area by around 10% as a means to ease pressure on capture fisheries</p>	<p>a) Reduction of fishing by around 10% in demonstration sites through e.g. vessel buy-back schemes over the project duration</p> <p>b) Provision of alternative livelihoods to fisher folks taking into account the contribution of women</p> <p>c) Science-based management of fisheries and mariculture</p> <p>d) Widespread practice of sustainable mariculture where appropriate</p> <p>e) Adoption of integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) where appropriate</p>	1,531,666	167,723,873
3. Improved Ecosystem Carrying Capacity with respect to Regulating and Cultural Services	INV, TA	<p>3.1 Ecosystem health improved through reductions in pollutant (e.g., N) discharge from land-based sources of around 10% over the project duration</p> <p>3.2 Wider application of pollution-reduction techniques piloted at the demonstration sites</p> <p>3.3. Strengthened legal and regulatory process to control pollution</p> <p>3.4 Marine litter controlled at selected locations</p>	<p>a) Reduced pollutant levels, e.g. reduce 10% N discharge every 5 yrs, by enforcement and control in demonstration sites</p> <p>b) New and innovative techniques for pollution reduction (e.g. artificial wetlands) applied at demonstration sites</p> <p>c) Strengthened legal instruments and better regulatory processes to control pollution</p> <p>d) Procedures in place to control and remove marine litter at demonstration sites</p> <p>e) Enhanced data and information regarding sources and sinks of contaminants</p>	1,298,373	2,246,969,420
4. Improved Ecosystem Carrying Capacity with respect to Supporting	TA, Investment	<p>4.1 Maintenance of current areas of habitats (no new permissions granted for reclamation)</p> <p>4.2 Stronger regional MPA network established and functioning</p> <p>4.3 Adaptive management</p>	<p>a) Agreement at all levels to avoid new reclamation projects</p> <p>b) MPA networks (covering approx. 544,800 ha) strengthened in the YSLME</p> <p>c) Regional strategies adopted and goals agreed; site-based ICM plans enhancing</p>	2,467,162	31,477,472

Services		mainstreamed to enhance the resilience of the YSLME and reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities to climate change impacts on ecosystem processes and other threats identified in the TDA and SAP 4.4. Application of Ecosystem-based Community Management (EBCM) in preparing risk management plans to address climate variability and coastal disasters	climate resilience in place for selected sites in YSLME; conservation areas and habitats for migratory species identified d) Public awareness of Yellow Sea environmental problems enhanced; strong local support for and awareness of demonstration activities e) Established monitoring network; regular basin-wide assessments; enhanced information exchange; periodic scenarios of ecosystem change		
Project management cost ⁷				558,732	2,500,000
Total project costs				8,663,102	2,450,783,273

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Co-financing for baseline project	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
National governments	China*	Cash	9,812,480
		In-kind	9,043,000
	DPRK	Cash	187,000
		In-kind	1,937,000
	ROK	Cash	73,848,333
		In-kind	2,352,463,460
GEF Agency	UNDP	Cash	1,692,000
NGO	WWF	Cash	1,800,000
Total Co-financing			2,450,783,273

*This is the amount programmed by China during the project period based on the current five-year national plan, which is the cycle for committing funds. It is expected that China will significantly increase its support for the implementation of the SAP beyond the life of this proposed project. The implementation of the SAP through this proposed project will also provide 'incentive' and impetus for China to allocate more resources to address transboundary concerns in the YSLME.

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES)¹

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Funds	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				Project amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	IW	China, DPRK (Global)	8,663,102	866,310	9,529,412
Total GEF Resources				8,663,102	866,310	9,529,412

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

² Please indicate fees related to this project as well as PPGs for which no Agency fee has been requested already.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1. THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:

This project is consistent with GEF's International Waters strategy as described in the Final GEF-5 Programming Document (GEF/R.5/25/CRP.1). Objective 2 aims to catalyze multi-state cooperation to

⁷ Same as footnote #3.

rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and LMEs while considering climatic variability and change. The proposed project is well-aligned with the outcomes and targets of Objective 2, in particular Outcome 2.1 as well as Outcomes 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4. The project focuses on the implementation of the YSLME SAP that has been endorsed by the YS countries. The SAP is anchored on ecosystem-based approaches to the management of the YSLME. The proposed creation of the YSLME Commission will address the need for multi-lateral institutions and programmes of action to enhance fish stocks, encourage the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, engage the fishing and mariculture industries in sustainable management solutions that provide profit to these stakeholders, while avoiding negative impacts on the Yellow Sea marine ecosystem. Innovative measures to reduce nutrient loads will be undertaken, in fulfilment of the articles in pollution-related conventions; through translating monitoring results into policies and providing mechanisms to exchange data among agencies and across borders. IW-Objective 2 is closely linked to protection of critical habitats through improving and/or establishing management plans and marine protected areas. Regular monitoring of the impacts of pollutants on habitats, surrounding areas, and assessment of affected stakeholders will be covered and the project will utilize ecosystem-based approaches and adaptive management schemes to manage these transboundary water problems. The potential impacts of, and adaptation to climate change will be embedded in the management actions directed towards ecosystem carrying capacity as the central theme of the project. The project will also deliver additional outcomes such as enhanced public awareness, strengthened stakeholder capacity to carry out actions, and institutional sustainability that ensures the SAP and the Commission will be self-sufficient in the long-term. Involvement of all coastal countries in the YS, will contribute to regional environment management, as well as regional peace and stability.

A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES: Not Applicable

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS, IF APPLICABLE, I.E. NAPAS, NBSAPS, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TNAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, ETC.:

The countries' approval of the SAP and development of National SAPs demonstrates their willingness and commitment to better manage the YS ecosystem, using the regional SAP as a guide. Many targets listed in the SAP are and will be included in the nationally-approved plans that apply to the entire country (e.g. a 30% reduction in fishing boats over the next 20 years). In order to ensure consistency with national plans, the Chinese National SAP is expected to be included in the next 5 year national development plan and the ROK National SAP will be implemented within the national framework. The establishment of the YSLME Commission also illustrates the willingness of the region to examine how to improve governance issues to support the technical management actions required to enhance the health of the Yellow Sea. The countries are already signatories to many global environmental international and bilateral treaties and agreements, and will continue to operate the Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committees in order to better harmonise policies and communication between the various government agencies for effective SAP implementation. This proposed project and the YSLME SAP Implementation Facility will co-ordinate the interactions and linkages among scientific research, ecosystem-based management, legislation and policy-making to ensure that the YS continues to provide ecosystem services to the countries and the region.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

The Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA, 2008) for the YSLME and the associated causal chain analysis provide an analysis of the root causes of the environmental issues and problems of the Yellow Sea and identify the priorities for management action. Nine transboundary environmental concerns have been identified that fall into five major problem groupings. The effects of these problems are synergistic and compounded since for example fish catch is not only impacted by overfishing, but by loss of important habitats, land-based pollution impacts on water quality, and by the environmental impacts of improper mariculture activities in the coastal zone. Addressing these issues and problems therefore

requires an ecosystem-based approach to their management as detailed in the Strategic Action Programme (2009).

The semi-enclosed nature of the Yellow Sea (YS) and the rapid economic development of the surrounding area have resulted in an increasingly polluted and over-exploited sea. This large marine ecosystem (LME) faces major transboundary problems, including: fisheries depletion resulting from the dramatic increase in fish landings that has grown from 400,000 tonnes to 2.3 million tonnes in the past 20 years; continuing increases in the discharge of pollutants; changes to ecosystem structure and functions leading to an increase in jellyfish and harmful algal blooms; and a 40% loss of coastal wetlands from reclamation and conversion projects representing a major loss of habitat for many species resulting in a significant degradation of biological diversity. On top of these immediate threats lie the potential impacts of climate change such as sea level rise and the changes in basin circulation and the extent of the Yellow Sea Cold Water Mass.

Through their endorsement and support for the TDA and SAP that were formulated in the first phase of the project, the participating countries have recognised that scientific knowledge needs to be translated into policy, legal and management actions for the entire region and not restricted to each nation, as environmental problems are not limited by geographic boundaries. The SAP identifies 11 tangible regional targets aimed at maintaining the YSLME's capacity to provide the four ecosystem services (provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting) to the region and beyond. It provides adaptive ecosystem-based management actions to reach these targets.

The project will establish a YSLME SAP Implementation Facility that will be charged with establishing a permanent YSLME Commission. The major function of the Commission will be to oversee joint actions to address the transboundary issues as well as ensure coordination of complementary national actions. It will ensure achievement of regional targets through the implementation of the "on-the-ground" management actions, including capacity building activities, stakeholder participation and public awareness activities, all of which are documented in the SAP. The Commission will, at a later phase of the project, become self-sufficient and sustainable through establishment of appropriate financial mechanisms that will be mutually agreed by the countries.

B. 2. INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

Incremental Reasoning. The GEF funding will: enable regionally co-ordinated implementation of the SAP through the YSLME SAP Implementation Facility (IF), and in the longer term through establishment of the YSLME Commission; facilitate participation of the DPRK; and foster the removal of sectoral barriers to integrated management of ecosystem carrying capacity.

The Yellow Sea represents a marine environmental resource shared across at least 3 national boundaries. GEF involvement is critical in overcoming the geopolitical complexities and potential conflict among resource users in the Yellow Sea, through the YSLME SAP IF, that is the only body capable of coordinating the implementation of the SAP.

The full participation of DPRK in this project ensures the engagement of all the Yellow Sea coastal states in the management of their shared transboundary issues and problems. The costs of introducing effective skill levels with regard to ecosystem-based management in the DPRK in order to ensure its full participation in regional conservation efforts are therefore considered to be almost entirely incremental. Benefits will result from the inclusion of a new partner will accrue in terms of expanded regional and international marine conservation and management efforts in the Yellow Sea.

The current sectoral management of the marine environment in the countries bordering the Yellow Sea prevents implementation of co-ordinated, integrated and ecosystem-based management as defined in the SAP. GEF assistance in the institutional, policy and management reforms will move the process from the business-as-usual approach to integrated management across sectors. Managing to improve ecosystem carrying capacity will be a novel process for the region to engage in, and there is an urgent need to move

the region's perception of marine environmental management in this direction. As a result of the SAP implementation, the capacity of individual agencies to play a pivotal role in facilitating more holistic management will be improved. Use of GEF resources together with national financial commitments will also support the sharing of experiences and lessons-learned on national and regional scales, ultimately aimed at increasing the replication potential for the project's impacts.

The above justification for GEF support is supported by the significant progress in the first phase of the project, whereby an effective intergovernmental mechanism has shown strong political support through dialogues, negotiations and decision making by the countries at the inter-ministry level. The adoption of internally-accepted procedures and practice in inter-governmental negotiations is a major contribution of the GEF in building regional cooperation particularly among the three countries. The GEF support is will ensure monitoring and evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the management actions particularly at the regional (LME) level. The GEF support will establish a regional network to which the participating countries has attached high priority as shown by the approximate US\$ 387 million they have allocated in support of related activities. Along the line of critical regional activities, the GEF support will ensure the establishment of a YSLME Commission, which will ensure the long-term cooperation among the riparian countries. The Commission will be the formal regional coordination mechanism that is envisioned to build mutual trust and help in securing regional stability.

GEF funding will be catalytic in generating the substantial cofinancing from the riparian countries as in the case of the vessel-buy-back actions in China and ROK which require regional cooperation and would not proceed from unilateral action. The GEF's involvement will ensue not only effective co-operation between the participating countries but also act as necessary condition for the governments to provide co-financing resources for the implementation of the scheme and the entire SAP.

Implementation of YSLME SAP will assist implementation of the "Sustainable Development Strategies for the Seas of the East Asia (SDS-SEA)" at the sub-regional level. This will provide valuable benefits to strengthen regional infrastructure established under GEF's efforts.

Global Environmental Benefits. Under the guidance of the proposed project, it is expected that the global environmental benefits would include: restoration of globally important fisheries by reducing within four years up to around 10 % of the current fishing effort; increased uptake of sustainable mariculture techniques in an industry responsible for 1/3 of global production; improved management of globally significant habitats for migratory birds and mammals; decreased eutrophication through reduction in nutrient discharges of about 10% after the 4-year project duration; and thus, an overall restoration of ecosystem carrying capacity. The project will report annually using the IW Tracking Tool to monitor the delivery of global environmental benefits.

The project's unique approach to formulating a SAP based on ecosystem services (in the first phase) can serve as a model for other LMEs that are developing SAPs, and in this proposed second phase, the approach could similarly be a model for effective regional LME management that encompasses science and governance.

B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF). AS A BACKGROUND INFORMATION, READ [MAINSTREAMING GENDER AT THE GEF.](#)":

Socioeconomic benefits for the target communities in the three riparian countries will be realized from a number of interventions proposed in the project. It is expected that the incomes of fishermen will improve in the medium to the long-term as overfishing is effectively addressed through the vessel buy-back schemes. At the same time, alternative livelihoods will be provided primarily to displaced fishermen to soften the impacts of the buy-back scheme. The adoption of integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) will improve production and incomes. Improved production from both aquaculture and capture fisheries will also come from the protection of habitats through the MPA network and the improvement of water

quality through pollution reduction. Based on the experiences obtained from the demonstration projects, substantive economic valuation activities have been planned to assess the economic benefits of the management actions identified in the YSLME SAP.

Gender will be mainstreamed in this project through the active engagement of women to optimize the impacts of the interventions. For instance under component 2 the contribution of women in household income will guide the provision of alternative livelihoods and the development and implementation of IMTA. In component 3, the role of women will be harnessed in formulating procedures to control and remove marine litter at demonstration sites, in recognition of the role of women in managing household waste that could find its way in coastal waters. The collection of information will also be gender sensitive to the extent possible to ascertain the role of women in the environmental management. The project will seek and engage women experts in constituting the local, national and regional scientific committees and in the project management team.

The socioeconomic benefits and gender mainstreaming will serve to strengthen the impacts of the interventions on the management of the Yellow Sea LME. There is a mutually reinforcing effect between and among the objectives of improving the environment, optimizing economic benefits and improving the role of women in project formulation and implementation.

B.4. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MITIGATION MEASURES THAT WILL BE FURTHER DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT DESIGN:

Risk	Risk Type	Risk Mitigation Measures
A critical external risk lies in the position of DPRK vis-à-vis resolutions of the UN that may make it difficult for DPRK to actively participate in this project	Political	This risk is beyond the project capability to address. UNDP has now re-established a country office and programme in DPRK which will be key in the implementation of the project in this country.
Potential conflicts between the participating countries could occur over project resources and the use and management of the shared resources of the Yellow Sea LME.	Political	This risk is considered medium-low, as ROK and China have had experience in conflict resolution through negotiations such as the successful implementation of co-operative cruises of the YSLME project. With the countries' signatures agreeing to co-operate in the SAP and a YSLME SAP Implementation Facility overseeing SAP implementation, any conflicts should be resolved at a high policy level through regional co-operation.
Lack of governance reforms might prevent implementation of management actions and impede the objective of sustaining ecosystem carrying capacity.	Operational	This is considered a low risk. Governance analyses have been carried out in Project Phase I and governance-related management actions are recommended in the SAP to ensure effective implementation of governance reforms. Governance reforms will support long-term sustainability of the Commission and the entire ecosystem-based management process.
Environmental variability and climate change could alter ecosystem functions and reduce ecosystem services.	Environment	This is considered low risk. An SAP demonstration activity has already been carried out to evaluate the impacts of climate variability and change on the YS, and its full implementation is scheduled under the proposed project. The Commission will guide adaptive management to meet such global changes.

B.5. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, NGOs, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:

The major government stakeholder institutions include:

People's Republic of China

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Finance
State Oceanic Administration
Ministry of Environment Protection
Ministry of Communication
Ministry of Agriculture
Provincial and Municipal Governments
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
National Co-ordinating Committee for the Environment
State Hydrometeorological Administration
Republic of Korea
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs
Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Unification

Other stakeholders including parliamentary organisations, international NGOs such as WWF and local ones together with private sector groups such as mariculture associations have participated in the regional governance less actively than other stakeholder groups to date and their continuing participation will be sought in the next phase. In the ROK, NGOs such as Birds Korea; Citizens Institute for Environmental Studies, the Eco-horizon Institute, Korea Marine Rescue Center, Shihwa Lake Saver, and the PGA Wetlands Ecology Institute, and In China the Global Village of Beijing, have all undertaken activities during the first phase under the small grants programme. Incorporation of stakeholders into the various decision-making systems related to marine resource management, coastal zone management, pollution management and other aspects of SAP implementation will be encouraged. At the national level co-ordination between scientists, managers, fishermen, farmers, and government officers will be pursued.

Several international organisations have participated in the past in aspects of regional governance. UNDP has actively participated in the regional governance mechanisms while UNEP has been involved through the Regional Seas Programme and NOWPAP and the IMO through the operation of the various phases of PEMSEA.

The scientific and academic communities will continue to participate at both the regional and national levels in conducting aspects of the regional analyses and in providing scientific and technical advice to the political decision makers represented in the Project Steering Committee and in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Commission that will be established.

B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

The project will co-ordinate its activities with other on-going endeavours in the region namely: Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) as part of the UNEP regional seas programme; implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) through the Partnership for Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA); and the Yellow Sea Eco-region Support Project (YSESP) by WWF and Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to share resources working towards a common goal of appropriate governance for ecosystem-based adaptive management. Co-ordination with these programmes will ensure synergy with other GEF and non-GEF activities. In addition, as fisheries and pollution management (e.g. monitoring jellyfish blooms) in neighbouring geographic areas will have impacts in the Yellow Sea, wherever possible, the project will collaborate on transboundary and management issues in the wider geographic area extending to nearby seas and countries.

As one of the several projects in the GEF IW portfolio that will progress from TDA/SAP formulation to implementation, the project could provide valuable lessons to similar projects that are about to go through these initial processes, e.g., Sulu-Celebes Seas and Arafura-Timor Seas in the Asia Pacific region and other LMEs in other parts of the world. The project will thus actively engage in knowledge sharing

primarily through IW:LEARN and through other forums. The Project will set aside about 1% of the GEF project budget to support IW LEARN activities, such as: set up and run a project website consistent with the IW LEARN guidance and tool kit; participation of project staff in IW LEARN activities (IWC's and relevant regional conferences); and production of at least 2 project experience notes.

Wider co-ordination between partners, stakeholders, NGOs, and regional and global initiatives is inherent to project implementation. The “Yellow Sea Partnership (YSP)”, with about 20 members, has been a distinctive feature of the 1st phase of the YSLME Project’s achievements. Activities implemented with parliamentary organisations, local government officers and NGOs have increased stakeholder involvement in the project and will continue under the proposed project, by engaging all sectors into the management processes, including allowing stakeholders to take the lead in implementing actions under their geographical jurisdiction.

C. DESCRIBE YOUR AGENCY’S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:

UNDP’s experience with a broad range of international transboundary water interventions is based on high-level adoption of 11 SAPS, seven of which are currently being implemented. In addition to support for the establishment of the world’s first post UN Fish Stocks conservation and management organization for highly migratory fish stocks, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), UNDP has strengthened or established 13 multi-country marine/coastal, river and lake basin management agencies or commissions including the Benguela Current and Guinea Current LME Commission in 2006. Strengthened international coordination through the merging of the GEF IW cluster and the Water Governance Programme will lead to an even stronger comparative advantage of UNDP in servicing the full range of international waters interventions in environmental governance, including ocean governance and mainstreaming of environmental priorities into multiple sectors.

C.1 INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT YOUR AGENCY IS BRINGING TO THE PROJECT:

The UNDP cofinancing is through the ongoing Improved Water Resources Management and Drinking Water Safety in Rural Regions of China (WRM). The total funding for this project is \$5,892,000. The project seeks to improve human development outcomes among targeted groups through strengthening institutional support mechanism and linkages to facilitate and encourage needs-based response at the community level. A series of sound water resources management, drinking water safety and environmental protection technologies are being offered, including efforts to build up policy mechanisms to support improved water resources management and drinking water safety. The project includes four demonstrations in: a) water resources management and waterborne disease control in Chongzhou city of Sichuan province; b) non-point source pollution control and safe water supply in Shuangcheng county of Heilongjiang province; c) water resources management and demonstrative eco-rehabilitation construction in the mainstream areas of Tarim river basin; and d) improving access to safe drinking water in a target community in Shenyang city of Liaoning province. These areas constitute part of the Yellow Sea basin.

C.2 HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO YOUR OWN AGENCY’S PROGRAM (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND YOUR STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

This project supports the UNDAF for China (2011-2015) through its contribution to the following UNDAF outcomes:

- a) Outcome 1: Government institutions and other stakeholders ensure environmental sustainability, address climate change, and promote a green, low carbon economy. Of relevance are outcome 1.2: Policy and implementation mechanisms to manage natural resources are strengthened, with special attention to poor and vulnerable groups, and outcome 1.3: China’s vulnerability to climate change is better understood and adaptation responses are integrated into Government policy.

- b) Outcome 3: China's enhanced participation in the global community brings wider mutual benefits. The relevant specific outcomes are Outcome 3.1: International conventions, treaties and compacts are implemented; Outcome 3.2: China's response to regional issues is enhanced.

For DPRK, this project is in line with the Country Programme⁸ priorities, specifically those related to Improved Environment for Sustainable Development. Along this line, the Programme indicated an initiative on integrated mountain and watershed management with emphases on linkages between resource management, sustainable livelihoods and vulnerability reduction strategies. The Programme also prioritized the strengthening of the policy, institutional and legal infrastructure for national implementation of multilateral environmental conventions and agreements. These are all in line with the outcomes of this project.


The project will be supported through the UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand through the Regional Technical Advisor for Marine, Coastal and Marine Ecosystems. UNDP has a strong country office in China and a country office in DPRK has recently been established. The project will draw from the country offices in the coordination of project activities in these countries. The regional project office hosted by the Republic of Korea (ROK) will be maintained in this phase of the project and will serve as the primary link with ROK. A communication office is envisioned to be established in China to provide the communication needs of the project as well as serve as the frontline for project activities in China and DPRK.

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

- A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):** (Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
Ms. Jiandi YE	Deputy Director, IFI Division III, International Department	Ministry of Finance	
Mr. RI, Hung Sik	Secretary General,	National Coordinating Committee for the Environment	August 6, 2010

- B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION**

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
John Hough, UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator		9 September 2010	Jose Erez Padilla	+66 (2) 288 2730	jose.padilla@undp.org

⁸ The available document is for the period 2007-2009; the timing for the preparation of the Country Programme for 2010 and beyond will commence soon.

Annex

DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL CO-FINANCING RESOURCES

This annex table provides a breakdown of the total project budget by major activity with an allocation of over US\$ 5 million dollars, except for biodiversity conservation where the threshold is US\$ 2 million). From the table, the following may be observed.

- (i) For fishery management, the main target of the SAP is to reduce 25-30% fishing efforts in the coastal countries of the Yellow Sea. In order to achieve this management target, the governments of the participating countries allocated almost US\$ 168 million as co-financing, in which over US\$ 137 million allocated to the major activities that received over US\$ 5 million.
- (ii) For pollution reduction, the main target of the SAP is to reduce 10% nutrient discharge every 5 years from the coastal countries of the Yellow Sea. In order to achieve the management target, the governments of the participating countries allocated US\$ 2.25 billion as co-financing, in which over US\$ 2.24 million is allocated to the major activities over US\$ 5 million each. The total for this component accounts for about 91% of total co-financing resources.
- (iii) For biodiversity conservation, the main target of the SAP is to protect coastal habitats and establish regional MPA network in the coastal countries of the Yellow Sea. In order to achieve the management target, the governments of the participating countries allocated over US\$ 31 million in co-financing, of which about US\$ 19 million is allocated to the major activities worth over US\$ 2 million each.

The level of cofinancing resources is relatively huge compared to similar projects in the GEF portfolio. Despite the considerable cofinancing, GEF support is still critical in making this happen. The discussion of the incremental reasoning for GEF support is found in section B.2.1 and the main points are highlighted here. The GEF funding will enable regionally co-ordinated implementation of the SAP through the YSLME SAP Implementation Facility; facilitate participation of the DPRK; and foster the removal of sectoral barriers to integrated management of ecosystem carrying capacity. GEF assistance in the institutional, policy and management reforms will move the process from the business-as-usual approach to integrated management across sectors. Managing to improve ecosystem carrying capacity will be a novel process for the region to engage in, and there is an urgent need to move the region's perception of marine environmental management in this direction. As a result of the SAP implementation, the capacity of individual agencies to play a pivotal role in facilitating more holistic management will be improved. The use of GEF resources together with national financial commitments will also support the sharing of experiences and lessons-learned on national and regional scales, ultimately aimed at increasing the replication potential of the project impacts.

Annex Table. Breakdown of Major Cofinancing by Country and Activity					
Areas	Activities	China	ROK	DPRK	Sub-Total
Regional Fishery Management	Identification of boats; buy back; and decommissioning	5,025,000	56,875,000	-	61,900,000
	Increase Tourism opportunities	16,720	58,756,660	-	58,773,380
	Technical retraining programmes	150,000	7,820,833	-	7,970,833
	Joint regional stock assessments	556,000	3,487,500	150,000	4,193,500
	Artificial reefs deployment	100,000	4,791,667	-	4,891,667
Sub-total		5,847,720	131,731,660	150,000	137,729,380
Pollution Control and Regional Monitoring & Assessment Network	Establish regional pollution monitoring guideline and network based on any existing ones	350,000	33,065,000	71,000	33,486,000
	Evaluation of facilities and equipment to control/reduce discharge from industrial and municipal sources	90,000	164,115,000	5,000	164,210,000
	Improve control mechanism of pollution from point sources	1,000	183,845,000	5,000	183,851,000
	Improve regional strategy for oil spill	6,720	5,622,500	10,000	5,639,220
	Implement improvement of wastewater & sewage treatment facilities	50,000	1,231,880,833	30,000	1,231,960,833
	Support for monitoring & reducing atm-based sources	120,000	41,402,500	40,000	41,562,500
	Support for monitoring, reducing, & improving fertiliser use	225,000	544,080,000	40,000	544,345,000
	Support for monitoring & reducing sea-based sources	32,800	10,442,500	40,000	10,515,300
	Implementation of reducing nutrient discharge activities	30,000	5,865,000	40,000	5,935,000
	Improve capacity in disease diagnoses	2,940	5,782,500	9,000	5,794,440
	Others	-	15,334,167	-	15,334,167
Sub-Total		908,460	2,241,435,000	290,000	2,242,633,460
Biodiversity Conservation	Regional evaluation of implementation of CBD and RAMSAR convention and country reports within the YSLME	21,400	2,491,667	5,000	2,518,067
	Develop explicit goals in the form of regional habitats and species targets and a biodiversity conservation plan in implementation of CBD, Ramsar and other conventions	11,400	2,514,166	5,000	2,530,566
	Analysis of country coastal management guidelines, identification of conservation areas according to planning zones.	13,400	2,152,500	5,000	2,170,900
	Identification of habitats of selected migratory species at the regional level	26,200	4,791,667	10,000	4,827,867
	Sponsoring of network of NGOs to work together to promote Public Awareness	16,720	3,600,000	20,000	3,636,720
	Make assessment on the trend of the introduced species in the region	47,280	1,000,187	8,000	1,055,467
	Monitoring the impacts	1,000,000	2,130,000	5,000	3,135,000
Sub-Total		1,136,400	18,680,187	58,000	19,874,587