



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

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**Second Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel
For the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project**
Kunming, China, 15-17 December 2005

National Project Co-ordinators' Reports

Korea National Project Co-ordinator's Report

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1. Foreword

This Interim Report covers progress made during the period between the 1st Regional Scientific and Technical Panel (RSTP) Meeting held in Dalian, China, 4~6 July 2005 and 2nd RSTP Meeting to be held in Kunming, China, 15~17 December 2005.

Since the 1st RSTP meeting, coordinating activities have been mainly focused on the materializing the Cooperative Study Cruises planned for January (winter) and May-June (spring) of 2006, compiling the contract documents for the Data and Information Collection activities for four components of Fisheries, Ecosystem, Pollution and Biodiversity and the 2nd Regional Working Group meetings held in Korea and China during November-December 2005.

2. Activities and Results

i) Coordination for the Cooperative Study Cruises:

Several formal and informal meetings have been arranged to discuss and coordinate details of the oceanographic and environmental surveys; scheduling, survey stations, study items and methods, equipment, handling of data during and after the surveys, selection of scientists to be on board by components, etc.

-Agreed on the cruise schedule- Winter Cruise, 4~25 January 2006,

Spring Cruise, May-June 2006;

survey stations; 50 station for the Winter Cruise (46 for bottom trawl, 4 for environmental survey), 71 stations for the Spring Cruise (69 for bottom trawling, 2 environmental sampling).

scientists to be on board; 15 scientists (5 fisheries, 6 ecosystem, 3 pollution, 1 biodiversity).

-Participated the 'Technical Meeting for the Cooperative Study Cruises in the Yellow Sea Marine Basin' held in Qingdao, China, 17-18 October 2005.

-Submitted the Cooperative Study Cruises Survey Plan to the Korean Government; finalized the Korean survey plan and applied for the governmental permission for the cruise in the Korean EEZ water on the 28th November 2005.

ii) Coordination in compiling contract documents:

Coordination has been made in preparing the proposals for 'Data and Information Collection Activities for four components – Fisheries, Ecosystem, Pollution & Biodiversity;

-Submitted the finalized four proposals for the 'Data and Information Collection' to UNOPS via Project Management Office in early October 2005 and concluded 3 contracts for Fisheries, Ecosystem, Pollution in mid October; Biodiversity Contract is expected to be approved by UNOPS in early December.

iii) Institutional Arrangements for the 2nd RWG Meetings:

For the 2nd RWG Meetings held in Korea and China, coordination has been made to review activities done since the 1st RWG Meeting and evaluate agenda items to be discussed at the 2nd meeting; to nominate proper delegates for the each 4 components.

-Nominated delegates;

Fisheries Dr. Inja Yeon (NFRDI), Dr. In Kwon Jang (NFRDI), Dr. Gab Yong Chung (KMI), Dr. Myeong Ho Sohn (NFRDI, Observer), Mr. Yang Jae Yim (NFRDI, Observer), Dr. Jung Hwa Choi (NFRDI, Observer), Dr. Suk Kwan Choi (NFRDI, Observer)

Pollution Dr. Jae-Ryong Oh (KORDI), Dr. Hee-Gu Choi (NFRDI), Dr. Sang Soo Kim (NFRDI), Prof. Hyun Jin Park (Yonsei University, Observer)

Biodiversity Dr. Yoon Lee (NFRDI, Chair), Prof. Tae Won Lee (CNU), Dr. Hyung-Ku Kang (KORDI), Dr. Jong Deog Kim (KMI), Dr. Sik Huh (KORDI, Observer), Ms. Young Rai Choi (KORDI, Observer), Dr. Kyung Suk Suh (NFRDI, Observer), Ms. Jung Hee Oh (NGO, Observer)

Investment Dr. Hak Bong Chang (KMI), Hyun Jin Park (Yonsei Univ.), Dr. Won-Keun Chang (KMI)

Ecosystem Dr. Sinjae Yoo (KORDI, Chair), Dr. Young Sil Kang (NFRDI), Dr. Dae Suk Kang (Pukyung National Univ.), Prof. Jae Sang Hong (Inha Univ.), Dr. Seung Heo (NFRDI, Observer)

iv) National Meeting Arrangements:

Several national meetings (National Working Group Chairs meetings, Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee meeting, experts meetings for each components have been arranged;

-National Working Groups meetings (6 times) to evaluate activities of each components, to review the outputs of the 1st RSTP meeting, to prepare and nominate delegates for the 2nd RWGs Meetings, to coordinate the Cooperative Study Cruises, to prepare the 2nd RSTP meeting, etc.

-IMCC Meeting, 9 December 2005: Reviewed activities of the Korean National Working groups since the 1st RSTP Meeting, 4-6 July 2005, Cooperative Study Cruises plan, outputs of the 2nd RWG meetings, and agenda items of the 2nd RSTP and PSC meetings. Meeting raised some questions about the sampling stations particularly those located in the zone contiguous to Korean territorial water (3 sts. appear to be within the Contiguous Zone of Korea). The meeting also discussed expanding membership of the IMCC to bring into the representative of the Ministry of Unification, and inviting NGO representative(s) to the PSC. The meeting was attended by 8 persons representing five ministries/institutions including Directors and Deputy Directors from MOFAT, MOMAF and Ministry of Science & Technology (MOST).

-Experts meetings for Fisheries and Ecosystem components to evaluate and discuss the Data/Information Collection plans.

v) Reinforcement of the National Working Groups:

National Working Groups have been reevaluated and partly reinforced;

-Several members have been replaced/transferred.

- Dr. Do Hoon Kim (NFRDI)-from Fisheries to Investment,
- Dr. Hyung-Ku Kang (KORDI)-from Ecosystem to Biodiversity,
- Dr. Daeseok Kang (PKNU) replaced Dr. Jungho Nam (KMI, Ecosystem),
- Dr. Seung Heo (NFRDI)-from Biodiversity to Ecosystem,
- Dr. Jae Hak Lee (KORDI) replaced Yoon Ho Lee (KORDI, Bio.)

vi) Coordination of the 2nd RSTP and 2nd Project Steering Committee Meetings:

Preparation for the 2nd RSTP and PSC meetings; Through the National Working Group Chairs and IMCC meetings by reviewing the outputs of the 2nd RWG meetings, analyzing the agenda items.

vii) Submission of Progress Reports & Work-plan:

- Progress Report to 1st RSTP Meeting, 1 July 2005
- Work-plan to UNOPS, 30 October 2005
- Interim Financial Report to UNOPS, 1 December 2005
- Interim Progress Report to UNOPS, 1 December 2005
- Progress Report for the 2nd RSTP meeting to PMO, 8 December 2005

3. New developments, difficulties/problems

-Delay in compiling contract documents, partly due to lack of regional costing criteria: Fifty-fifty mandatory rule in allocating working project budget could be a point at issue in the upcoming contracts.

It appears, therefore, that there is a need to set up a reasonable regional criteria for calculating activity costs for China and Korea where exists a considerable difference in commodity prices (or some flexibilities in budgeting be allowed in costing proposals).

-Difficulties in nominating delegates to the Regional Working Group meetings: Quite a few members of the National Working Groups were not available to be participated in the Regional Working Group meetings.

To ease the problem, some members have been replaced or transferred to other component. It is yet anticipated that the same problem will arise again. It is necessary, therefore, to take a measure suited to the matter at the institutional or/and national level.

4. Remarks/lesson learned

-It is of a primary concern for the Korean scientists to bring parts of collected samples to Korea after the Cruise under the guarantee of the Chinese authority. It appears to be, therefore, a priority issue for PMO/UNOPS to secure such a guarantee from the Chinese government before the start-up of the Cruise.

-It seems that some members of the working groups (participants of the project) have but a poor grip of, or short of sense of duty for the Project, which could be resulted in the delay of project implementation or lowering the quality of work. It might be necessary to have an internal workshop/orientation course for the members of the National Working Groups.

Date: 10 December 2005

China National Project Co-ordinator's Report will be provided during the meeting.