



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

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**Second Regional Technical Meeting on
Preparation of the Implementation Plan
for the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project**
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PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERN PROGRAMME

1. BACKGROUND

In the approved Project Document of the UNDP/GEF Project entitled, “*Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem*,” it stated that:

The GEF International Waters Operational Programme emphasises “institutional building ... and specific capacity-strengthening measures so that policy, legal and institutional reforms can be enacted in sectors contributing to transboundary environmental degradation.” This project supports institutional capacity building for long-term regional co-operation as well as helping to strengthen regional capacities in environmental management, monitoring of priority pollutants, public awareness and preservation of transboundary living resources.

Amongst all the needs for capacity building in the participating countries, there is a very strong need to enhance the capacity of the participating countries for management and implementation of international and regional projects, in particular those project operated under United Nation’s rules and regulations. Better understanding of project operational mechanisms within the framework of the United Nations, and experiences in day-to-day management of such projects are critical elements for the participating country to maximise benefits from those projects not only currently in operation currently, but also future ones. This requirement has been recognised by many governments in the region.

In order to assist the countries to strengthen their capacity in this aspect and to allow more personnel to obtain appropriate training, numerous efforts have been carried out in various regions, in particular for the developing countries. One of the effective ways is to provide training opportunity, while working within the said system. An intern programme has been shown to be an effective means. For instance, most GEF IW projects currently in operation, such as UNDP/GEF/IMO PEMSEA project and UNEP/GEF South China Sea project, have implemented their Intern Programme for several years. Some of the interns obtained training from the intern programme, and started to play very important roles in international and regional co-operation.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the intern programme proposed to be implemented within the framework of this project are:

- (i) To upgrade capacities of the participating countries in management and operation of regional and international projects;
- (ii) To enhance the communication between the Project Management Office (PMO) and the relevant ministries in the participating countries for effective implementation of project activities;
- (iii) To facilitate better understanding of the procedures for project design, approval, implementation and management, and facilitate improved regional co-operation; and

- (iv) To assist in developing necessary human resource for current and future regional and international projects and activities on protection of marine environment and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources.

3. TARGET GROUPS

The target groups of the intern programme are:

- (i) Young governmental officers who are assigned the responsibilities of international and regional co-operation in protection of marine environment, and who are interested to obtain a better understanding of the UN system; and
- (ii) Young scientists from participating countries who are interested in understanding management and implementation of international and regional projects, to more effectively carry out relevant research activities to address management requirements.

4. SELECTION PROCESS

The Project Management Office will prepare annual workplans for the intern programme, based on the available budget and office facilities. The workplan will be circulated to the participating countries for nomination of candidates.

Based on the circulated workplan for the intern programme, the National Project Co-ordinator will submit to the Project Manager, CVs of 3 nominated candidates for each intern post.

The Project Manager will confirm the selection to the National Project Co-ordinator based on the status of project implementation and expertise of the nominated candidate.

In the case where interns from the region and do not need financial support, the Project Manager has the sole authority to select these interns based on the logistic conditions and work load of the PMO.

5. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

Upon the final selection of interns, the PMO will make necessary logistic arrangements for the interns.

For selected interns, the respective governments will be responsible to maintain the intern's salaries, entitlements and benefits according to national regulations. The project will provide a subsistence allowance of US\$ 1,500 per month to each intern during their service in the PMO. The project will also cover the intern's return air-ticket at the most direct and economical route.