



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

UNDP/GEF/YS/RWG-F.3/9
Date: 26 September 2006
English only

**Third Meeting of the Regional Working Group
for the Fisheries Component**
Weihai, China, 25-28 October 2006

**Report on the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project representatives on their participation in
the 29th APFIC Regional Consultative Forum meeting**
- August 16-19 2006, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia -

Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC) is a FAO Regional Fishery Body that acts as consultative forum working in partnership with other regional organisations and arrangements and members.¹

During the meeting, 14 Asian countries agreed to cut trawling and push net fishing as a first step for reversing the production of low value trash fish and ‘fishing down the food chain’. Concluding the APFIC meeting, the members also agreed to reduce capacity for harvesting trash fish by trimming down on trawling boats and push nets. “The bold agreement reached by the APFIC members is the outcome of two years of intense consultations between countries, our partners from international and regional organizations, and civil society”, as it was noted by FAO representatives.²

In addition, it was agreed to promote the transformation of low value trash fish – species with little or no commercial value – into food for human consumption through better processing and post harvest handling, and to reduce fish meal content in aquaculture feed. A first set of recommendations to reshape fisheries policies was also adopted. Likewise, there was an agreement to the principle of ‘co-management’ or including stakeholders in the planning and implementation of fisheries management, through more equal sharing of authority and responsibility for the management of fisheries, and involving a partnership between government and local communities. The APFIC meeting also agreed to intensify cooperation for two emerging issues – managing fishing capacity and improving the region’s access to trade markets through improved fish quality and safety standards.³

UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project was represented at the APFIC meeting through the participation of RWG-F members, Dr. In Kwon JANG and Dr. Xianshi JIN. The abstracts of the reports they presented are attached.

¹ APFIC provides advice, coordinates activities and acts as an information broker to increase knowledge of fisheries and aquaculture in the Asia Pacific region, to underpin decision making. The APFIC secretariat is based in the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand. <http://www.apfic.org/>

² The 29th session of the APFIC was attended by Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, among other observers.

³ <http://www.apfic.org/modules/news/article.php?storyid=76>

Abstract for Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) Regional Consultative Forum Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16-19 August 2006

Review of the Yellow Sea Fisheries Resources and Management

Xianshi JIN

Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, CAFS, Qingdao 266071, China

E-mail : jin@ysfri.ac.cn

Abstract

In the 1950's, the economically important species in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem were small yellow croaker (*Pseudosciaena polyactis*), largehead hairtail (*Trichiurus haumela*) and fleshy prawn (*Fenneropenaeus chinensis*) etc. With the increase of fishing effort, the abundance of these species declined one after the other. In the early 1970's, the stock of Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) outbursts and became a major fishing target in 1972, and then declining to depletion in a few years. In the 1980's, the stocks of some other pelagic fish like half fin anchovy (*Setipinna taty*), Japanese anchovy (*Engraulis japonicus*), chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) and Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus niphonius*) seemed increasing to some extent. Since the mid-1980's, the abundance of Japanese anchovy became the largest one among those pelagic species. According to a ten-year surveys carried out by R/V "Bei Dou" from Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, the biomass of Japanese anchovy in Yellow Sea annually varied from 2.5 to 4.3 million tons, while cod, hairtail and fleshy prawn were seldom found in the catches. The recent surveys showed that the abundance of Japanese anchovy is declining to about 0.2-0.3 million tons, while the biomass of sandlance (*Ammodytes personatus*) is increasing and the stock of small yellow croaker showed a recovery indication. Multi-species and multi-fisheries bring about difficulties in management although many management measures, including the traditional methods such close areas and season, minimum meshsize, licence, etc, and summer ban fishing, scrapping of fishing boats, control total fishing power and landings in recently in order to reduce fishing capacity, have been put into effect. An interim measure waters was established (IMW) shared and managed by both countries on June 30, 2001.

Keywords: Yellow Sea LME, biomass, change, management

Abstract for Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) Regional Consultative Forum Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16-19 August 2006

Status of mariculture activities in the Yellow Sea coast of the South Korea

West Sea Fisheries Research Institute
National Fisheries Research & Development Institute
Incheon 400-420, Republic of Korea
jangik@nfrdi.re.kr

In Kwon Jang, Je Cheon Jun, Hee Woong Kang, Duk-Young Kang, Kwang Jae Park

The Yellow Sea is a semi-enclosed continental shelf is surrounded by the Korean peninsular and the eastern coast of China. This sea is ecologically and economically important to 10% of the world population or 600 million people residing the area bordering on the Yellow Sea. Recently, the environments of the Yellow Sea have been threatened because of increased pollutants of various land and marine origins. The aquaculture activities in the coastal area have been acting as one of the pollutant sources to the Yellow Sea. In particular, wide area of intertidal region has been exploited for marine farms and wastewater from cage-culture farms and fish ponds has been greatly increased for last decade. In the west coast of the South Korea, aquaculture production did not show big change for last 10 years from 1995 to 2004. However, total production of farmed animal including finfish, shellfish and crustaceans was increased by 62.4% and that of seaweeds which remove nutrients was decreased by 17.8% during the same period. The changes of aquaculture area and methods (=habitats) are discussed and total production of the marine and freshwater aquaculture in the country is compared with that of the Yellow Sea coast in this study.

Keywords: Yellow Sea, South Korea, aquaculture, pollution