



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

UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP-PSC.8/5 a-b

Date: 12 September 2012

English only

**Eighth Meeting of the Project Steering Committee
For the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project
Beijing, China, 20 September 2012**

National Project Co-ordinators’ Reports

A. China National Project Coordinator’s Report

1. Background

Since the 7th PSC Meeting of YALME in Beijing, China, 23-25 February 2011, it is the transition period for YSLME Project, during which the PMO still organized a few activities. Considering the limited budget of YSLME, Chinese government, through the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), made financial support to most activities carried out in China. China did great efforts for the project’s implementation and transition. Besides, many coordinating works were done for preparing the PIF of 2nd Phase.

2. Activities

2.1 Submitting official endorsement letter of the PIF

SOA has made a lot of efforts in coordinating with relevant governmental agencies. Through active inter-sessional communication between Ministries, the official endorsement letter of the PIF, as issued by the Ministry of Finance of China, was submitted to PMO on March 4th, 2011.

2.2 Assisting PMO in organizing workshop on mainstreaming economic consideration in ecosystem conservation

The workshop on mainstreaming economic consideration in ecosystem conservation was organized on 22nd-23rd March 2011 in Qingdao, China. SOA organized Chinese experts to attend the meeting and helped the foreign participants in visa application.

2.3 Finalizing regional cooperative cruise report

A meeting was held in Huangshan, China, July 22nd-23rd, 2011 to finalize the regional cooperative cruise report as well as the Chinese version of the report.

2.4 Organizing the MPA experts to participate in the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Yellow Sea MPA Network in Suncheon, R. Korea, 27th -28th October, 2011

SOA organized the local managers and experts from Liaoning and Shandong provinces to attend the meeting. Participants from the China and ROK exchanged experiences of MPA management in the past years.

2.5 Assisting PMO in organizing the 2nd special PSC meeting in Beijing, China Dec. 19th, 2011.

2.6 Organizing Chinese experts to attend the regional expert consultation to preparing the final exhibition design of the YSLME Project in the world EXPO 2012, Yeosu, Korea.

3. Some relevant work for the 2nd phase YALME

3.1 Establishment of new marine protected area

There are 11 new National Marine Special Protected Areas (NMSPAs) approved by SOA in 2011. 7 of them are located along the Yellow Sea. The names of the 7 MPA are listed as below: Rizhao National Marine Park, Liugong Island National Marine Park, Xiaoshi Island National Marine Special Protected Area in Weihai City, Muping Sand Beach National Marine Special Protected Area in Yantai City, Wetland in Wulong River Estuary National Marine Special Protected Area in Laiyang, Yantai City, 10 kilometer's Sand Beach National Marine Special Protected Area in Haiyan, Yantai City, Tadao Bay National Marine Special Protected Area in Rushan, Weihai City.

3.2 Capacity Building of existing National Marine Special Protected Areas

There are 5 National Marine Special Protected Areas were financially supported by the central government for capacity building in 2011. The total budget is 30 million RMB. The capacity building includes activities like infrastructure construction, drafting management plan, public awareness and monitoring capacity.

3.3 Ecological restoration

From 2011 to 2012, there are more than 10 sites selected to implement the ecological restoration around Yellow Sea. Total budget is more than 100 million RMB. Some restoration work has been carried out, including pollutant source control, environment risk assessment, and algae planting.

Prepared by ZHANG ZhanHai, NPC/China

B. RO Korea National Project Coordinator's Report

1. Introduction

The Korean National Project Coordinator (NPC), Dr. Yoo Sinjae of KIOST has been conducting the YSLME program activities during 2011 and 2012 bridging phase. Due to his sabbatical leave to US, Dr. Yoo resigned the NPC position in August 2012. Subsequently, MLTM, the Korean operational focal point of YSLME Project, has appointed Dr. Je Jong Geel of City and Nature Institute as the new NPC of RO Korea. Dr. Je will perform the role of RO Korea NPC from September 2012.

2. Major Actions

YSLME Summary Book

Dr. Yoo Sinjae has been involved in drafting the YSLME Summary Book which will highlight the major findings and lessons learned from the 6 years of YSLME Project operation since 2005. As one of the main authors of the YSLME Summary Book, Dr. Yoo is currently finalizing his manuscripts on some chapters of the Summary Book including the concept of Ecosystem-based Approach, Ecosystem Carrying Capacity and so on.

Dr. Yoo will continue to collaborate with authors of the Summary Book to finalize and publish within the 2nd half of 2012.

Coordination with MLTM on YSLME activities

The Dr. Je Jong Geel attended the meeting of Korean stakeholders on YSLME with Mr. Yihang Jiang at MLTM on June 2012. The meeting discussed various issues relating to YSLME including: information on current status of the next phase of YSLME, Program Framework Document (PFD) and YSLME SAP, YSLME Commission and project implementation Mechanism, and possible extension of the Project, among others.

During the meeting, MLTM expressed their willingness to provide cash contribution (around 200M KRW) for YSLME project implementation for 2012, if the PFD will be approved by the GEF Council in November 2012. In this, Mr. Jiang prepared a draft Cost Sharing Agreement (CSA) with UNDP and provided to MLTM for prompt transfer of the fund.

YS MPA Network

Dr. Je Jong Geel has assisted the preparation of the YS MPA Network Meeting in Shenyang, China in October 2012. He coordinated with relevant stakeholders within RO Korea of the YS MPA Network including KMI, KOEM and KIOST, in recommending participants and developing the Meeting programme, etc.

The meeting will be held on 9-11 October 2012 in Shenyang, China. The participants list and meeting programme have been completed. Dr. Je will also attend the October meeting of YS MPA Network.

3. Way Forward

As the new NPC of RO Korea, Dr. Je Jong Geel will assist Korean Focal Points of the Project and PMO in implementing the following activities, but not limited to, during the bridging phase of 2012-2013:

YSLME PIF and Project Document finalization

It is anticipated that the YSLME PIF and Project Document will need to be submitted to GEF Secretariat and CEO for endorsement which will make the 2nd phase of the YSLME project officially initiate. Dr. Je will assist FPs and PMO in the process of finalizing the PIF and Project Document in consultation of the relevant experts of RO Korea after the PFD is approved by GEF Council in November 2012.

YS MPA Network Meeting

Dr. Je is currently involved in the organization of the 4th YS MPA Network Meeting in Shenyang, China through participating in the preparation meetings and communicating with key stakeholders in RO Korea. He will continue to coordinate the Network activities in 2013 and assist the key stakeholders in organizing the 2013 YS MPA Network Meeting in RO Korea.

Other Activities

Dr. Je will conduct any other activities when required and requested in due course.

Prepared by Dr. JE Jong Geel, NPC/RO Korea
