



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

UNDP/GEF/YS/AWG.3/2
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Third Meeting of the Strategic Action Programme Ad-hoc Working Group For the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project *Hangzhou, China, 6-7 May 2008*

Progress of SAP Development

This Document describes the progress made during 2007 and 2008 in developing the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and the National Strategic Action Plans (NSAPs) for the Yellow Sea. The Document summarises activities that were conducted to prepare the SAP/NSAPs, highlighting major outputs from those activities. Relevant meeting reports as well as other key references are attached to this Document.

To prepare the SAP/NSAPs, the Project organised the following five meetings:

Year 2007

1. Following the decision of the PSC, a Consultation Meeting on preparation of SAP was organised in Jinghong, Yunnan, China, 6-8 February 2007). The “Conceptual Procedure” which describes the objective and central theme of the Project’s SAP, the procedure and mechanism of preparing the SAP, and the timelines and responsible parties to prepare the SAP were prepared. The meeting discussed and agreed on the “ecosystem-based approach” for preparing the SAP and agreed to use the 4 ecosystem services: provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural services as main streamlines for the preparation of SAP. The meeting agreed to establish an Ad-hoc Working Group in charge of the preparation of SAP.
2. First *Ad-hoc* Working Group Meeting - (Hongchun, ROK, 10-12 April 2007) identified “Regional Targets” also known as Ecosystem Quality Objectives, which is “the ecological state that is aimed for by the year 2020” (Document UNDP/GEF/YS/AWG.2/2, Annex 2).
3. Second *Ad-hoc* Working Group Meeting - (Hangzhou, China, 18-20 August 2007) identified “Management Actions” which aim to achieve the regional targets.

Year 2008

4. First SAP Drafting Group Meeting - (Yantai, China, 5-9 January 2008) prepared the first draft SAP.
5. Second SAP Drafting Group Meeting - (Yuseong, ROK, 13-15 March 2008) prepared the second draft SAP.

A draft structure of the SAP which included some preliminary ideas on the Regional Targets and Management Actions was presented to the First *Ad-hoc* Meeting. The Second *Ad-hoc* Meeting prepared guidelines for demonstration activities and for two components of feasibility studies (i.e. cost-benefit analysis [CBA], political and social acceptance analysis [PSAA]). The second Meeting also established an SAP drafting group consisting of five members: three natural scientists, one social scientist, and the Project Manager.

The RWG meetings organised after the above three preparatory meetings, reviewed and finalised the Regional Targets and Management Actions. The RWG meetings of natural science components assessed the technical feasibility of the proposed actions, while the RWG-I Component prepared implementation plans for the CBA and PSAA. The RWG-I also prepared guidelines for preparing NSAPs and for conducting CBA of Management Actions.

The two SAP Drafting Group Meetings produced the draft SAP. For the latest (second) version of the draft SAP, see Document, "UNDP/GEF/YS/AWG.3/2".

As part of the SAP preparation, the Project advertised the call for proposals for demonstration activities of management actions. Interested parties were requested to submit an expression of interest and a proposal, following the rules and regulations of the UNOPS. An external review panel, nominated by National Project Co-ordinators and RWG Chairpersons, will evaluate the proposals.

The call for proposals for PSAA was advertised to make the SAP better known by relevant stakeholders, clarify the public opinions towards potential management actions, and improve the draft SAP. The results of the PSAA will be used as a reference to secure the government approval of the SAP.

The consulting services for preparing the NSAP were also advertised. The management actions of the NSAP should be prepared and implemented to meet not only national targets or priorities, but also regional targets defined by the SAP in order to address transboundary issues in the Yellow Sea. Two NSAPs will be prepared under the Yellow Sea Project: one for China and one for ROK.

In summary, the Project produced the following outputs in 2007 and 2008 to develop SAP and NSAPs:

- Conceptual Procedure finalised;
- Regional Targets identified;
- Management Actions identified;
- SAP Structure drafted;
- Guidelines for demonstration activities prepared;
- SAP Drafting Group established;
- Call for Proposals for Demonstration Activities prepared;
- Technical Feasibility Study of Proposed Management Actions conducted;
- Implementation Plans of the CBA and PSAA prepared;
- Guidelines for NSAP development prepared;
- Guidelines for CBA prepared;
- Draft SAP prepared; and
- Call for proposals for demonstration activities, PSAA, and NSAP preparation advertised.

For reference, the two *Ad-hoc* Meeting reports are attached as Annexes to this Document.

It is suggested that: (i) a Special PSC Meeting will be convened in May 2008, back-to-back the 3rd *Ad-hoc* Meeting, to review the final draft of the SAP and (ii) the expected time for obtaining endorsement of the SAP from the governments of China and ROK would be middle of 2008.