



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

UNDP/GEF/YS/RWG-E. 1/inf.4
Date: 23 March 2005
English only

**First Meeting of the Regional Working Group
for the Ecosystem Component**

Goeje Island, Korea, 10-13 May 2005

**Terms of Reference
Yellow Sea LME**

REGIONAL THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

Background: Each of the five Regional Thematic Working Groups (Ecosystem, Biodiversity, Fisheries, Contaminant Control, and Investment) will include two scientists (social and natural) and two additional experts drawn from the legal, regulatory, investment, and/or environmental management fields, from both countries. The Chairman of the Working Group will be nominated by the respective NFP, in collaboration with CTA, and will be reviewed and endorsed at the first Steering Committee meeting. The Working Group Chairs will be members of the SMA Group. Each Working Group will operate on the basis of working parties involving participation of experts from all coastal countries together with external experts where this is considered necessary. The Working Groups report to the PCU, though they may also have national reporting requirements from NPCs.

Working modalities: The Working Group is not an institution in itself. In essence, the WG is headquartered where the Chair is located. The Working Group will represent the regional perspective and not just national perspective. Working “without walls,” the Working Group will communicate primarily through email, with one or two working meetings annually. Working group members, except the Chair, are part-time, and are compensated based on specific scientific tasks undertaken in support of the working group. The Chair is also part-time, but will be provided partial support for his/her coordination activities.

Tasks:

- Provide technical inputs/comments for the project workplans in their respective areas of competency
- Develop annual and quarterly work plans and implement activities in respective thematic area, based on and fully integrated in the project workplan, and make annual and quarterly progress reports
- Be responsible for regional coordination within area of competency
- Facilitate creation of effective national thematic network
- Organize and conduct working parties and training within area of competency
- Develop relevant regional recommendations, guidance and strategy within area of competency
- Contribute scientific knowledge in the area of expertise to the development of the TDA

- Assist in development and implementation of the National Yellow Sea Action Plans (NYSAPs) and Regional Strategic Action Programme (RSAP)
- Contribute to the development of the Priority Investment Portfolio (PIP)
- Assist, through the Chair, in effective Project Management by assisting with scheduling, scoping, and budgeting for various interlinked activities
- Contribute scientific and technical advice to the formulation of proposals for national and regional actions and donor funding
- Network with national and international institutions and specialists in respective focal area
- Prepare and implement regional pilot projects
- Liaise closely with PCU, through WG Chairs
- Contribute scientific and technical expertise to YSLME information system development, public awareness activities and stakeholder participation
- Cooperate with other Thematic Working Groups
- Develop and maintain a Database within area of competence

WORKING GROUPS
develop work plans
carry out work plans
representation from each country
chairs are members of SMAG
work in close cooperation with the PCU

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

4. Ecosystem Management Working Group

Location of WG Chair: Republic of Korea

Tasks:

- Identify and coordinate implementation of corrective measures to minimize the human-induced stress. Facilitate development and implementation of regional policies and legal measures. Establish regional scientific and technical framework for monitoring the changing status of YSLME and its transboundary impacts.
- Establish a well-functioning monitoring network for HAB's and emerging diseases. Regional management and mitigation strategies developed and implemented.
- Facilitate review of existing national and international laws and conventions. Coordinate drafting of proposals for improved water quality legislation and regulation.
- Facilitate performance of fate and transport analyses for management and policy development, including EIA process and ICZM. Prepare and implement regional training activities for environmental risk assessment.