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

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**Third Meeting of the Regional Working Group  
for the Investment Component**  
*Dalian, China, 9-12 September 2006*

**Investment Component Other Activities for 2007 and Onwards**

As discussed under the previous agenda items, the Yellow Sea Project has implemented a number of activities, including public awareness activities, data and information management, governance analyses, and environmental valuations. Some of these major activities will continue in 2007 and onwards. This document describes such planned activities in the next two years, focusing on the Yellow Sea Partnership (YSP) and the data and information management.

Participants will be invited to review the planned activities and suggest recommendations to improve them. Then, the participants will be invited to propose additional activities, if any, for the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel (RSTP) to review and for the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to approve.

**1. Yellow Sea Partnership**

The six activities will be organised in 2007 and onwards under the framework of the Yellow Sea Partnership (YSP) as follows.

*1.1 YSP regular meetings*

The First YSP Meeting (Beijing, China in March 2006) proposed to have the next meeting in Korea. It is expected that both the current YSP members and other entities that are interested in the Partnership will participate in the Second YSP Meeting.

Note that the Second YSP Meeting is different in terms of the scope of participants from two meetings that were organised in Korea already. The Second YSP Meeting will target a wide range of organisations which deal with environmental issues in the Yellow Sea, while the two meetings mainly targeted Korean local NGOs.

The agenda items of the next meeting might include the following:

- Summary reports of the two meetings that were organised in Korea in June and July 2007 with the participation of local environmental NGOs;
- Introduction of new YSP members;

- Review of completed and on-going public awareness activities under the YSP;
- Improvement of the Yellow Sea Public Awareness and Communication Strategy; and
- Workplan for on-going and future joint activities.

### *1.2 Yellow Sea Partnership Session at the EAS Congress 2006*

The Yellow Sea Project will organise a workshop with other YSP partner organisations at the East Asian Seas Congress 2006 (Haikou, Hainan, China, 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2006). The workshop will demonstrate how a partnership composed of different types of organizations can enhance public awareness and participation, as part of marine environmental management.

The representatives from the YSP members will collectively show how a joint effort, such as the Yellow Sea Partnership, can reach out to a wider audience of stakeholders throughout the region, as compared to single efforts by individual institutions. Through the workshop, the presentations and discussions will provide an example of a public awareness partnership for other international projects and organisations to follow for their activities.

Following the presentations and partner's oral statements, a discussion session will be held, where the Partnership will examine ways to improve its work, and see which methods worked well and which didn't. The workshop aims to share experiences with other participants, and also to learn from other public awareness activities of other projects.

During the EAS Congress period, the Yellow Sea Project will also hold an exhibition to show the environmental problems in the Yellow Sea and the current and future management efforts to mitigate the problems. The exhibition will consist of a series of data and information including:

- Scientific findings to describe the status and trends of environmental degradation in the Yellow Sea;
- Current marine and coastal conservation efforts in the region;
- Management approaches to address the problems; and
- Implementing management actions.

It is expected that the exhibition will help in gathering attentions from those who attend the EAS Congress to the environmental problems and mitigation efforts in the region. The exhibition is also expected to explain the TDA/SAP process simply.

### *1.3 Parliamentary Conference*

The First Parliamentary Conference (Qingdao, China, March 2006) agreed to organise the next conference in Korea. The Conference suggested the following activities for the next meeting to implement:

- *Agree and announce the official establishment of the Regular Meetings of the Parliament Members between China and Republic of Korea;*
- *Share the latest findings and information from scientific research and investigations on the status and trend of the marine and coastal environment in the Yellow Sea;*
- *Discuss and agree on possible co-operative actions to address the environmental problems in the Yellow Sea; and*
- *Explore the possibility of expanding the membership of the Regular Meetings to other countries and/or stakeholders.*

*(Report of the Meeting, UNDP/GEF/YS/PC.1/4)*

The specific topics that the next conference address might include:

- *Review of current legislation and status of enforcement in the participating countries;*
- *On-going and planned activities in harmonisation of current legislation which dealing with marine environment and resources, its consideration, justification and practical arrangement;*
- *Economic valuation in supporting preparation and enforcement of relevant legislative arrangements; and*
- *Public awareness and participation of all communities in protection of marine environment and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources.*

*(Draft Proposal for consideration of the Informal Meeting)*

#### *1.4 Small Grants Programme*

The Small Grants Programme in 2007 will focus on building the capacities of local coastal communities, while the Programme in 2006 focused more on encouraging and educating them. With hands-on and concrete activities provided, the coastal communities will be actively involved in monitoring and managing the biodiversity and ecosystems in the Yellow Sea.

To invite high-quality proposals, the Programme will employ existing networks effectively, including those of the YSP members, the Project's regional and national working groups, the relevant national and local government agencies, and the relevant international organisations and projects.

To grant awards on a fair and equitable basis, the independent panel with external regional experts should examine the proposals as they did for granting awards in 2006.

#### *1.5 Youth Programme*

Public awareness activities will be organised in 2007 for school students in China. Specific programmes as well as formats will be determined after consultations with YSP members and other relevant organisations, including national and local government agencies.

Experiences and lessons learned through the implementation of the Youth Programme in 2006 in Korea should be examined carefully and reflected into the design of the Programme in China. Additionally, the teaching materials that were developed in not only the Youth Programme 2006 but also the Small Grants Programme should be utilised, if appropriate.

#### *1.6 Local Government Training*

A training workshop will be organised in 2007 in China with local government officials in the Yellow Sea's coastal region as target audiences. A possible overall theme might be "**marine environment legislation and enforcement.**" Detailed programme under this theme will be determined in consultation with National Project Co-ordinators and other relevant national and local government agencies. For discussion, the following list provides issues that the workshop might address.

- Legal and institutional framework for local environmental regulation
- Command-and-control approach with respect to:
  - Land-based marine pollution management

- Sustainable fisheries and mariculture production
- Management of marine pollution from ships
- Use of economic instruments (as alternate for command-and-control approach)
- Public awareness activities
- Creation of social safety net/alternative livelihood for social equity
- Accountability and transparency

## **2. Data and Information Management**

With the regional GIS and meta databases developed in 2006, the focus of data and information management will shift to the operation, utilisation, and sustainability of the databases. Three activities are proposed and summarised below for data and information management in 2007 and onwards.

### *2.1 Operation and maintenance of the regional GIS and meta databases*

The Yellow Sea Project will provide the China-Korea Joint Ocean Research Center (CKJORC) with financial support to operate and maintain the established GIS and meta databases. The Project will also provide CKJORC with technical assistance, if necessary.

### *2.2 Mirror sites of the GIS and meta databases in Korea*

The two mirror sites of the regional GIS and meta databases will be located in Korea: one in the Project Management Office (PMO) and one in a relevant national organisation. The National Project Co-ordinator for Korea will propose a candidate organisation(s) for hosting the mirror site. The Project Steering Committee will then examine the proposal and approve the host organisation.

### *2.3 Training workshop for data and information management*

To enhance the accessibility, utilisation, and sustainability of the databases, a training workshop for data and information management will be organised. Specific topics for the workshop will be determined in consultation with CKJORC, regional and national working groups, and other regional experts in the relevant field.

A special attention has to be paid to the fact that the strong and organic linkage with other regional data centres and databases is crucial in order for the Project databases to be more useful and sustainable. The workshop should contribute to establishing and strengthening such co-operative structure between the Project databases and the regional centres.

Possible topics might include the following:

- Methodology and techniques for data-processing control and data interpretation;
- Use of GIS data for better policy design; and
- Co-ordination and co-operation with existing databases.