

UNDP/GEF/YS/MSTP/ICC.1/6

# Terms of Reference of RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chairs of UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project

*Secretariat*

*11 July 2017*

# TOR of RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chairs

- **To effectively manage and execute the various activities** approved by the ICC
- Focus on **6 areas**

<b>Membership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair and Vice Chair elected by WG</li><li>• <b>2-4 Leading regional experts</b></li><li>• 1 Representative from Private Sectors and 1 representative from NGOs</li></ul>
<b>Meetings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One regular meeting per year</li><li>• <b>The chairpersons attend the MSTP meetings to present recommendations and activity reports</b> prepared by the RWG</li></ul>
<b>Secretariat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PMO shall serve as Secretariat to the Regional Working Groups, and shall prepare the meeting reports</li></ul>

## TOR

- **Directly communicate with** the Commission Secretariat, Chair/Vice Chair of the MSTP, National Coordinators and Chair of the corresponding NWG
- **Prepare the RWG workplan and budget** in consultation with RWG members with support from the Secretariat
- Coordinate the work of members to ensure achievement of the RWG objectives and deliverables
- Organize annual RWG meetings, including preparation of meeting program, with assistance from the Commission Secretariat and in consultation with Vice Chair of the RWG
- **Report the progress of the RWG to the MSTP and challenges**

# TOR of RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chairs

---

- **Draft recommendations or proposal on technical issues for endorsement by the MSTP and adoption by the Interim Commission Council**
- Advise the Secretariat on partners to be engaged for the RWG to better achieve or in furtherance of the purposes of the RWG
- Propose and develop programs of international and regional symposium and conferences
- As deemed necessary or at the request of the CTA/Manager, represent YSLME Phase II Project at international conferences and meetings

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-A. Monitoring and Assessment

<b>Goal</b>	To improve the ECC with respect to <b>supporting services by mainstreaming adaptive management</b>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To <b>harmonize monitoring and assessment methodologies</b> and to <b>improve understanding the N/P/Si ratios and impact</b></li><li>2. To improve <b>understanding of the impact of climate change</b> on ecosystem structure</li><li>3. To improve the monitoring capacity and awareness of jellyfish and HAB</li></ol>
<b>Deliverables</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Technical report on trend in N/P/Si ratio and its impacts</b> on the marine and coastal ecosystem structure</li><li>2. Technical report on climate-induced ecosystem changes in the Yellow Sea and <b>adaptive management strategies</b></li><li>3. Regional jellyfish and HAB monitoring programs established and implemented in collaboration with partners</li></ol>

## RWG-A. Monitoring and Assessment

### Tasks

- Lead the **development of regional strategy and systems for monitoring and assessing the long-term trend in N/P/Si ratios** and its impacts on the marine and coastal ecosystem structure
- Coordinate the development of regional strategies for long-term ecosystem forecast
- Facilitate the **assessment and monitoring of the impact of climate change**
- Coordinate the preparation of **regional adaptive management strategy**
- Lead the development of regional jellyfish and HAB monitoring programs and establishment of committees

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-F. Fish Stocks

<b>Goal</b>	To improve Ecosystem Carrying Capacity (ECC) with respect to <b>provisioning services by recovering and enhancing depleted fisheries stocks</b>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To assess the progress of SAP Target 1 implementation and make recommendations on targets and actions in the updated SAP</li><li>2. <b>To enhance capacity of national and local governments in monitoring and assessment of fish stocks</b>, and effectiveness of licensing, closure and restocking management</li></ol>
<b>Deliverables</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Methodologies of joint stock assessment &amp; data management</b> protocols</li><li>2. Technical report on <b>status of stocks of selected species</b> in YS using harmonized assessment methodologies and recommendations on new targets and <b>actions to improve management effectiveness</b> of licensing, closure and restocking measures</li><li>3. Training module on stock assessment and fish restocking</li></ol>

## RWG-F. Fish Stocks

### Tasks

- **Sharing of collated data on catches in the Yellow Sea (YS)** and analyse patterns of species
- **Develop methodologies for improved estimates** on fish stock, construct models covering patterns of fish stocks, analyse relations of fishing efforts, closure, licensing and restocking effectiveness
- **Assist to rebuild over-exploited marine living resources** by improving quality of habitats and fisheries management
- **Identify the effect of climate change** on fish populations
- **Prepare training modules** on fish stock assessment and restocking



# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-G. Sustainability (Socioeconomics and Governance)

### Goal

**To improve regional environmental governance** by strengthening institutional, legislative, and financial capacities of the region and the countries

### Objectives

1. To enhance the capacity of governments at different levels
2. To guide relevant RWGs and coordinate efforts in the **development of institutional, policy and financial framework of the YS Commission**
3. To advise on the means and approaches for **full participation of DPRK**
4. To enhance coordination of bilateral fisheries agreement

### Deliverables

1. **Roadmap towards a sustainable framework** and MOU or political statement
2. Training modules on cost-benefit analysis (CBA)
3. Training modules for better implementation of multilateral environmental agreements including EBM
4. Regional guideline to incorporate FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

## RWG-G. Sustainability (Socioeconomics and Governance)

### Tasks

- Coordinate the conduct of **Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)** to examine the economy and efficiency of management actions
- Provide **advice and recommendation on establishment of YSLME Commission including its legal personality**. Identify ways and means to engage **DPRK's full participation**
- Lead the review of regional and national measures and actions to improve the implementation of international and regional treaties and guidelines
- **Enhance coordination between the bilateral Fisheries Agreement** between two countries in the YSLME Commission
- Strengthen partnerships with existing regional co-operative institutions including PEMSEA, NOWPAP, the Joint Fisheries Commission, etc.

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-H. Habitat Conservation

### Goal

To provide guidance and co-ordination for regional activities to improve the ECC with respect to **supporting services by conserving biodiversity**

### Objectives

1. Develop **regional conservation plan for biodiversity** (BD)
2. Develop regional guidelines for assessment of effectiveness of coastal and marine ecosystem restoration projects
3. Maintain and improve the **effectiveness of YSLME MPA Network**
4. Develop the capacity and public awareness of benefits of BD conservation

### Deliverables

1. Regional biodiversity conservation plan
2. Regional guideline for assessment of coastal and marine ecosystem restoration projects
3. **Network of MPA in YSLME** that integrate the principles of connectivity
4. A training module on habitat-based and food-chain based approaches
5. Conduct of three YSLME MPA forums

## RWG-H. Habitat Conservation - Tasks

- Coordinate the development and implementation of a **regional biodiversity conservation plan**. Coordinate the conduct of study on the **YS cold water mass**
- Assist in **identifying policies for management of estuarine and marine nurseries** in both countries
- Coordinate the preparation of training modules of habitat-based and food-chain based approaches for habitat conservation. Facilitate the development of **regional guidelines for assessment of coastal and marine ecosystem restoration projects**, and provide advice on maintaining and **strengthening a network of MPAs**
- Organize annual regional MPA forum

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-M. Sustainable Mariculture

<b>Goal</b>	To improve the ECC with respect to <b>provisioning services by enhancing mariculture production and quality and by reducing and controlling pollutant discharge from mariculture</b>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>To establish and optimize the integrated aquaculture</b> of bivalve, fish, etc. and bioremediation technology for increased productivity and reduced marine environmental pollution per unit area</li><li><b>To prepare training module</b> and disseminate IMTA experience and knowledge YSLME-wide and other LMEs</li><li>To standardize IMTA for commercialization at industrial scale</li></ol>
<b>Deliverables</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>High proficiency IMTA successfully demonstrated in three sites</b> in China</li><li><b>Regional guidelines</b> for sustainable and GAP of IMTA</li><li><b>Training module of IMTA</b> published</li><li>Conduct of three international conferences and training programs on sustainable mariculture</li></ol>

## RWG-M. Sustainable Mariculture

### Tasks

- Coordinate the **development of regional guidelines for sustainable mariculture**
- **Prepare training module for IMTA**
- **Conduct regional and international training workshops on IMTA** and other sustainable mariculture techniques
- Conduct field visit to identify demonstration sites, assess the replication potential across YSLME
- Disseminate current knowledge on the environmental effects of mariculture and opportunities of environmentally friendly technologies
- **Identify ways to replicate the sustainable mariculture technologies** for blue economy development in other regions for support

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

## RWG-P. Pollution Reduction

<b>Goal</b>	To improve the ECC with respect to <b>regulating and cultural services by reducing pollutant levels</b> and strengthening legal and regulatory processes
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To facilitate the <b>establishment and operation of an YSLME marine environment pollution monitoring network</b></li><li>2. <b>To enhance capacity of national and local government</b> on monitoring, assessment and mitigation of land and sea-based contaminants</li><li>3. To harmonize <b>regional marine litter</b> (including microplastics) monitoring and assessment methodologies and advise on approaches to reduce marine litter</li></ol>
<b>Deliverables</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Regional marine environment monitoring mechanism</li><li>2. <b>Technical report on marine environment status and trend</b> in YS</li><li>3. Regional marine litter (including microplastics) baseline survey report</li><li>4. <b>Training module on contaminants</b> from river-sea interaction and atmospheric disposition, and the carrying capacity of LME</li><li>5. <b>Regional strategy</b> for using wetland as nutrient sink</li></ol>

# Major responsibilities of RWGs

---

## RWG-P. Pollution Reduction

### Tasks

- Provide advice on **enhancing exchange and sharing of pollution data and information at a regional level** and on ‘Hot Spot’ control actions. Assist to update facilities/equipment to control or reduce discharge from industrial and municipal sources
- Facilitate **to establish a guideline for regional routine monitoring and assessment, quality standards and network on marine environmental pollution**
- Facilitate the development of diagnostic strategy for identifying sources and sinks of pollutants.
- Coordinate the development of a regional strategy for using wetland as nutrient sink. Prepare technical report on environmental status and trend in the YS
- Prepare a training module on contaminants from river-sea interaction and atmospheric disposition and the carrying capacity of LME



**The Secretariat recommends that:**

**The Meeting of the Management, Science and Technical Panel (MSTP):**

- **Endorse the establishment of 6 Regional Working Groups (RWGs)** as proposed in the Annex III of the Project Document;
- **Endorse the attached draft TORs of the 6 RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chairs**, taking into account the comments from participating countries and stakeholders;
- **Determine that the annexed TORs of RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chair supersede the “TOR for the 2<sup>nd</sup> YSLME Project Regional Working Groups”** as contained in section “3d” of Annex III of the Project Document.

**Thank You!**