

## **International Seminar on Marine Protected Areas in YSLME and North-East Asia**

*for effective and equitable management of MPAs to achieve SDG 14 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and*

*Field Visit to Coastal Wetlands of Ganghwa Island, Republic of Korea*

**14 July 2017**

### **Goals**

- To share experiences on Marine Protected Area (MPA) governance, in particular its designation and management mechanism in North-East Asian countries;
- To raise awareness of the global, regional and local importance of the tidal flat of Ganghwa;
- To contribute to the expansion of MPA coverage of biologically and ecologically important areas in YSLME and North-East Asia;
- To strengthen the networking of YSLME and North-East Asia Marine Protected Areas for the protection of intertidal wetland of the East Asian and Australasian Flyway (EAAF); and
- To strengthen partnerships among organizations in the protection of coastal wetlands along the EAAF

### **Organizers**

- Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) Project Management Office
- North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN) Secretariat (UN ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office)

### **Hosts**

- Ganghwa County, Incheon, Republic of Korea
- Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM), Republic of Korea

### **Venue for seminar**

- Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center, Ganghwa County, Republic of Korea

### **Accommodation**

- Lodge style at “Seokmodo Natural Forest”, Ganghwa County (rooms and bathrooms will be shared)

## **Background**

Ganghwa Island of Republic of Korea is located in one of tidal flats of the Han River estuary in Yellow Sea. The Island has one of the major wetlands of Republic of Korea, i.e., Ganghwa Maehwamareum habitat, which is designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites). Given the importance of tidal flats, Government of Republic of Korea is considering registering the critical areas of Ganghwa Island as Marine Protected Areas.

The tidal flats in Ganghwa Island, once designated as MPA, can be considered for inclusion in *North-East Asia MPA Network (NEAMPAN)* established as one of the programmes under inter-governmental framework of North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), and *YSLME MPA Network (YSMPAN)* established by UNDP/GEF YSLME Project. NEAMPAN aims at strengthening subregional cooperation on marine environment, in particular through person-to-person network of those involved in MPA management, while YSMPAN is one of the priority initiatives under the YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Plan currently being developed. It is hoped that the seminar will contribute to the designation process and effective and equitable management of the coastal habitats to contribute to the achieving the SDG 14 and Aichi Biodiversity Target of expanding MPA coverage to 10 percent coastal and marine areas under effective and equitable management.

The Seminar will facilitate the sharing of experiences of MPA establishment and management in North-East Asian countries, in particular China, Japan and Republic of Korea. Meanwhile, it also seeks to provide insights on MPA establishment in Ganghwa Island and promotes further collaboration under the two MPA networks. This seminar will benefit from discussions with participants at the inception workshop of the UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project and exchanges with local authorities during the field visit to the Ganghwa Tidal Flats. The organizers also envisage developing long-term partnership with Ganghwa Tidal Flat Center, a technical unit under Ganghwa County in the sustainable management of the MPA to be designated.

## **Participants**

Participants to the seminar consist of participants at the inception workshop of the UNDP/GFE YSLME Phase II Project, marine scientists, as well as local authorities and local stakeholders in Ganghwa Island. They include representatives from UNDP, UNOPS, government officials from State Oceanic Administration of China and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of Republic of Korea, marine scientists from renowned institutes and universities from China and Republic of Korea, East Asian and Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAF), Conservation International (CI), and other NGOs active in coastal and marine biodiversity conservation in the region. It is expected that more than 50 representatives including local authorities and local stakeholders will participate at the meeting.

## Programme

14 July (Friday)	
09:00~09:30	Registration for Participants *** group photo (09:20) at the Gangwha Tidal Flat Center Entrance
09:30~12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Welcome Speech</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Mr. Sang Bog LEE</b>, Governor of Ganghwa County</li> <li>○ <b>Dr. Jing Yong CHOI</b>, Executive Director of Marine Conservation, Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) <i>(on behalf of all the organizers)</i></li> <li>○ <b>Mr. Jae Sang YOON</b>, Chairman, Gangwha County Council</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b><u>Presentations</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ms. Su-Jeong LEE</b>, Manager, KOEM <i>“Designation and Management of MPAs in KOREA”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Mr. Zhaohui ZHANG</b>, Deputy Director, First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration (China) <i>“Efforts of China to strengthen the MPA network and ways to increase awareness and cooperative actions of governments and society”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Dr. Mitsutaku MAKINO</b>, Head, Fisheries Policy Group, National Research Institute of Fisheries Science (Japan) <i>“Experiences of MPA management in Japan”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Mr. Wonduk KIM</b>, Suncheon (Republic of Korea) <i>“Efficient conservation and sustainable use of Ramsar Sites in Suncheon City”</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">*** Q&amp;A ***Break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ms. Minseon KIM</b>, Programme Officer, EAAFP Secretariat <i>“International cooperation for a shared biodiversity resource: Migratory waterbirds and their intertidal habitats in Yellow Sea”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Ms. Jing WANG</b>, Marine program manager, Conservation International (China) <i>“How to conserve MPA sites and strengthen MPA networking to ensure a healthy ocean --- lessons learned from CI’s Seacape achievements”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Dr. Jeong-Ho NAM</b>, Research Fellow, Korea Maritime Institute (Republic of Korea) <i>“Experience in establishment of MPA network in the Yellow Sea and ways forward”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Mr. Young-Rang KWON</b>, ArtDiCom, Ganghwa (Republic of Korea) <i>“Temptation, Between Costal Garden and Marine”</i></li> <li>○ <b>Mr. Yong Hoon JEONG</b>, Gangwha Birdwatching Club (Republic of Korea) <i>“Black-faced Spoonbill, Gangwha”</i></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">*** Q&amp;A for 5 speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q&amp;A (general) and moderated discussions</li> </ul>

12:30~14:00	<b>Lunch</b> (Hosted by Gangwha County)
14:00~16:00	<b>Field Trip</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Southern Ganghwa Tidal Flat areas</b>, including Buno Port (to be developed as “Eco-rock park”, including bird observatory), Gaksi rock and Bunori Reservoir (famous habitat spot for “Black-faced Spoonbill”), etc.</li><li>• <b>Donggeom-do</b>, ecosystem restoration site</li></ul>