

North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation

NEASPEC

东北亚环境合作机制

동북아환경협력계획

北東アジア準地域環境協力プログラム

Зүүн Хойд Азийн Дэд Бүсийн Байгаль Орчны
Хамтын ажиллагааны хөтөлбөр

Субрегиональная программа природоохранного
сотрудничества в Северо-Восточной Азии



About NEASPEC

North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) is a comprehensive intergovernmental cooperation framework addressing environmental challenges in North-East Asia.

NEASPEC was established in 1993 by six member States, namely, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, to promote environmental cooperation in the subregion as a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in 1992.

Senior Officials Meeting

Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) is the governing body of NEASPEC. It provides policy guidance and project coordination and management to NEASPEC by making policy decisions concerning all substantive and financial matters. SOM meets once a year in a member State on a rotation basis.

Secretariat

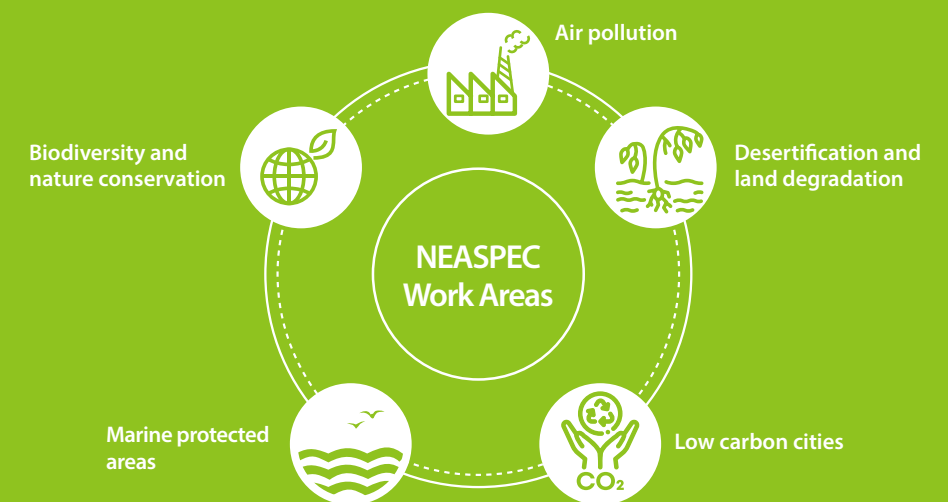
The Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP-ENEA) serves as the secretariat to NEASPEC.

Overview

NEASPEC member States play critical roles in all dimensions of global sustainable development. With 23% of the world's population to support, they contribute 28% of the global GDP, 30% of Foreign Direct Investment and 33% of the world's primary energy supply. While driving global economic growth, the six member States also account for a large share of global environmental challenges including around 40% global CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and 20% of global tree cover loss.

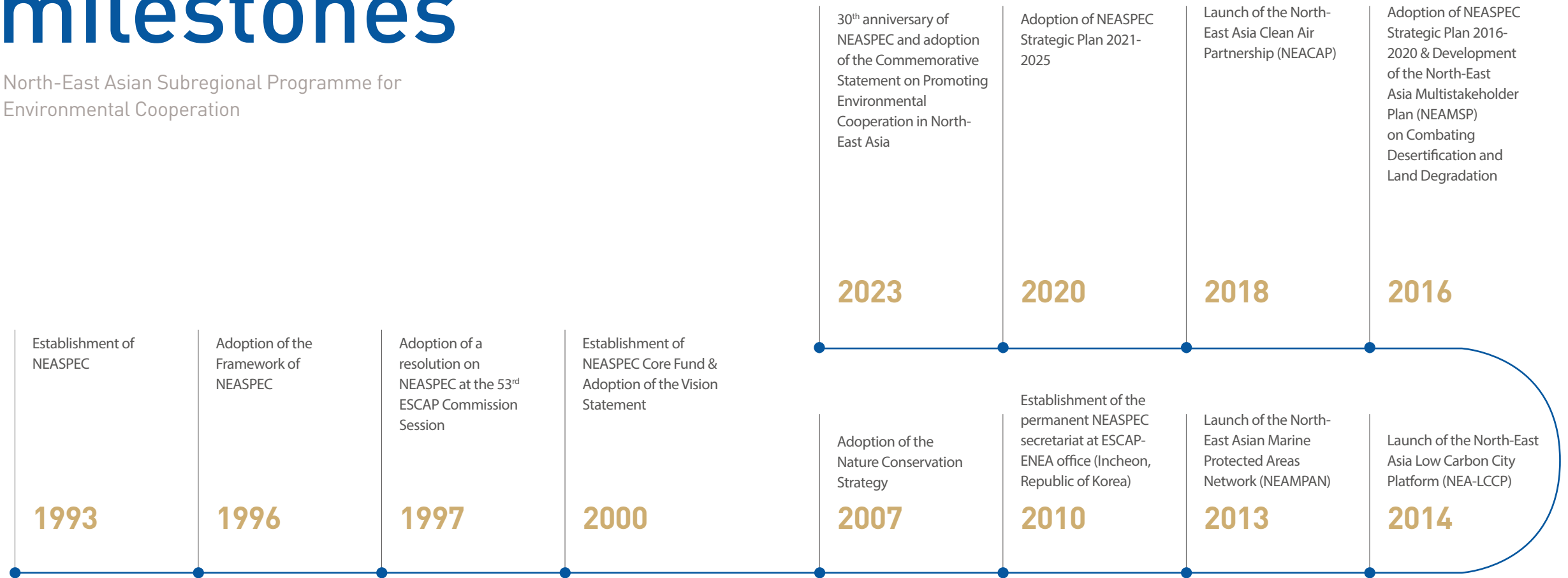
As the first intergovernmental mechanism in North-East Asia, NEASPEC has been promoting environmental collaboration between developed and developing countries with a permanent secretariat established in ESCAP-ENEA.

Serving as the most comprehensive multilateral mechanism connecting global goals, subregional priorities and national needs on the environment and sustainable development in North-East Asia, NEASPEC takes a step-by-step and practical approach to progress subregional cooperation and currently works on five programmatic areas jointly identified by member States as subregional priorities.



NEASPEC milestones

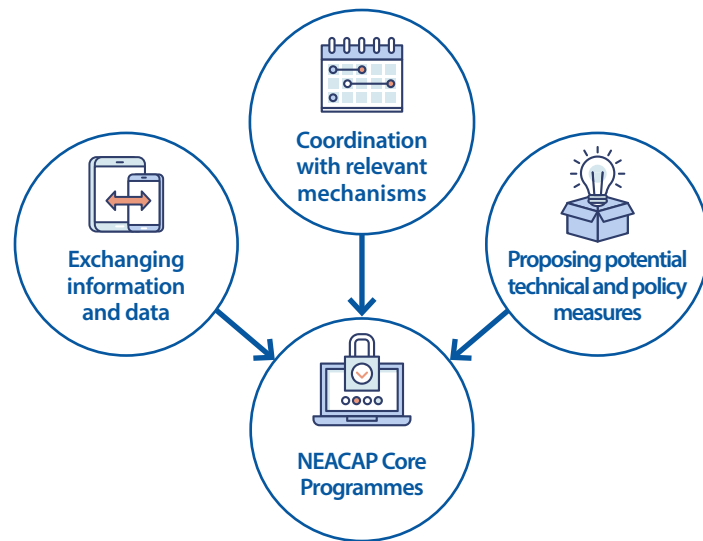
North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation



Air pollution



Air pollution has been one of the primary work areas of NEASPEC, starting with technical cooperation on mitigating air pollution from coal-fired power plants in North-East Asia since the mid-1990s. Recognizing the importance of the science-to-policy linkages and the need for a holistic approach to address challenges of air pollutant management, the **North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP)** was launched in 2018 as a voluntary platform to promote science-based, policy-oriented cooperation on air pollution.



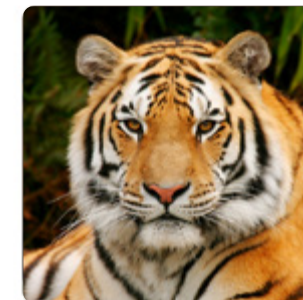
The organizational structure of NEACAP includes the Science and Policy Committee (SPC), Technical Centers (TCs) and the Secretariat. SPC as the steering body plans, monitors and reviews NEACAP activities and promotes science-policy linkages through guiding technical assessments and dialogues, while TCs as designated research institutions support the technical work of NEACAP.

Biodiversity and nature conservation

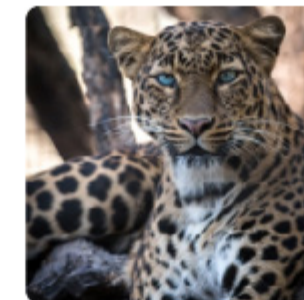


North-East Asian countries are home to many critically endangered species, many of which have an extensive range of habitats across countries and even continents, thus connecting multiple countries into an ecologically connected community beyond national borders.

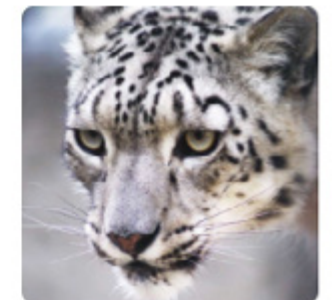
NEASPEC member States adopted the **NEASPEC Nature Conservation Strategy** in 2007, which provides an overarching framework for biodiversity conservation and specific conservation strategies for six flagship species. With aims to institutionalize transboundary cooperation to conserve flagship species and their habitats, NEASPEC is facilitating bi- and multi-lateral cooperation among member States through various technical cooperation and scientific research projects and supported the implementation of global, regional and national goals for sustainable development.



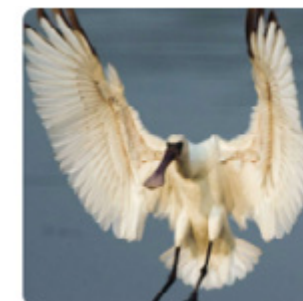
Amur Tiger



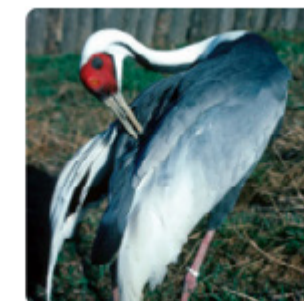
Amur Leopard



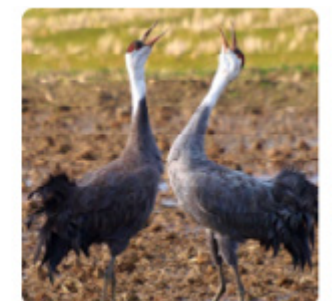
Snow Leopard



Black-faced Spoonbill



White-naped Crane



Hooded Crane

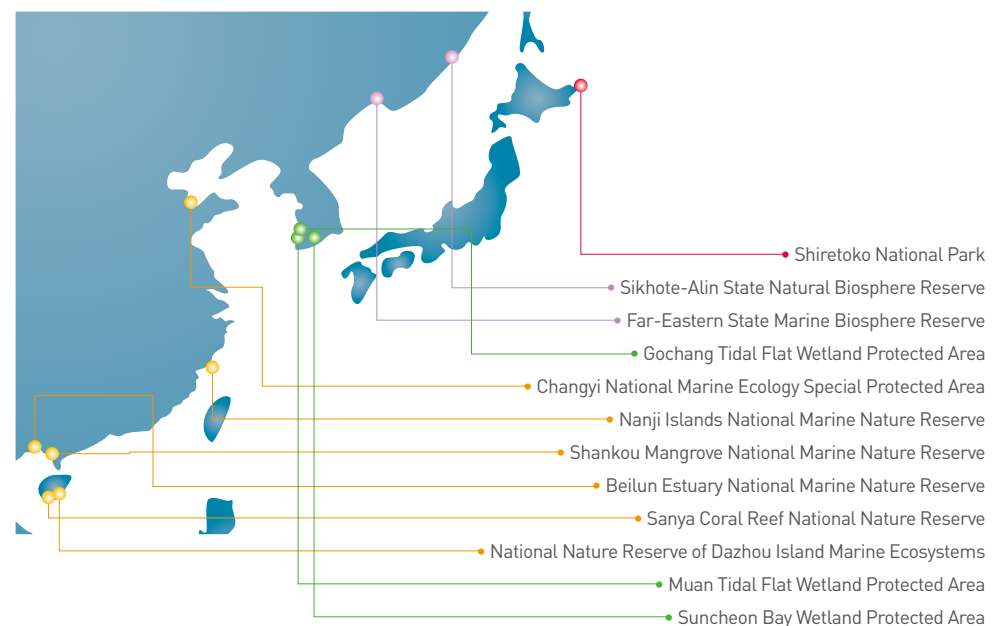
Marine protected areas



Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are important environmental management tools to conserve marine resources and ecosystems. They also absorb large amounts of global carbon emissions and play an important role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

NEASPEC has been operating the **North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN)** since 2013, with a goal to establish an effective, functional and representative network of MPAs in the subregion for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and more efficient MPA management. NEAMPAN acts as a key subregional platform for information sharing, joint assessment and monitoring, as well as a partnership with other regional and global MPA networks.

Target NEAMPAN sites have been nominated by each member State in line with the Network's objectives.



Low carbon cities



North-East Asia accounts for over one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions and its urban population are expected to exceed 70% of the total population in the coming decade. NEASPEC launched the **North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform (NEA-LCCP)** in 2014 to bring together existing and new information and knowledge on approaches and policies of Low Carbon Cities (LCC); synergize the work of relevant research institutes, NGOs and international organizations; and collectively support municipal authorities towards effective implementation of low carbon city strategies.

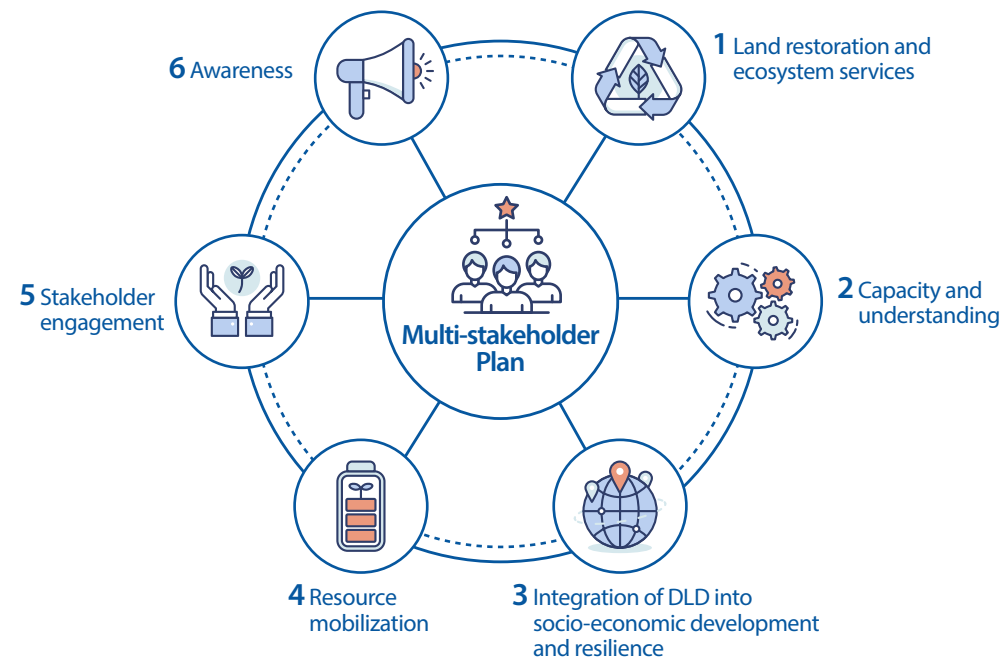
NEASPEC annually organizes the International Forum on Low Carbon Cities jointly with Incheon Metropolitan City and multiple partners to promote knowledge sharing and peer-learning on LCC activities among cities, academia and research institutes. NEASPEC also highlights the key role of science, technologies and innovation by sharing good practices to facilitate and accelerate the efforts for building low emission and resilient cities.



Desertification and land degradation



NEASPEC has been implementing various capacity building activities to address desertification and land degradation (DLD) since the early 2000s. In 2015, NEASPEC developed the **North-East Asia Multi-Stakeholder Plan (NEAMSP)** as a practical tool to support and bring together stakeholders, including public/private sectors and civil societies, through sharing their activity plans for better coordination and cooperation on DLD. The Plan maps out the geographical locations of projects and consolidates project information to present DLD activities carried out by various agencies.



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