



# Joint Research: *Environment Management in NEA*

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# 1. Cooperation mechanisms in the NEA related



## Cooperation mechanisms: Chronological table

Year	1991	1992
Mechanisms	1. ECO ASIA	2. NEAC
	Environmental Congress for Asia and Pacific	Northeast Asian Conference on Environmental Cooperation
Partners	Asia and the Pacific Countries	China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Russia
Institutional arrangement	Ministerial-level meeting, Asia Pacific Environmental Innovation strategy project (APEIS), ECO ASIA NET( information), Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED)	Senior official meeting
Targeted issues	Policy dialogue	Policy dialogue



## Cooperation mechanisms: Chronological table

<b>Year</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>
<b>Mechanisms</b>	<b>3.NEASPEC</b>	<b>4. NOWPAP</b>
	<b>Northeast Asian Sub-regional Program of Environmental Cooperation</b>	<b>Action Plan for the protection, Management and Development of Marine and Coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific Region</b>
<b>Partners</b>	<b>China, Japan, D.P.R of Korea, R. of Korea, Mongolia, Russia</b>	<b>China, Japan, Korea, Russia</b>
<b>Institutional arrangement</b>	<b>Senior official meeting, the NEA Center for Environmental Data and Training (NEACEDT)</b>	<b>Intergovernmental meeting, regional activity center, regional coordination unit</b>
<b>Targeted Issues</b>	<b>Comprehensive: Coal-Fired Power Plant, Natural Conservation</b>	<b>Marine Pollution</b>



## Cooperation mechanisms: Chronological table

<b>Year</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>Mechanisms</b>	<b>5. LTP Project</b>	<b>6.EANET</b>
	<b>Joint Research Project on Long-Range Trans-Boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia</b>	<b>Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia</b>
<b>Partners</b>	<b>China, Japan, Korea</b>	<b>12 countries</b>
<b>Institutional arrangement</b>	<b>Expert meeting, WG, Sub-WG, Secretariat (NIER)</b>	<b>Intergovernmental meeting, Secretariat, Scientific Advisory committee, network center</b>
	<b>Air Pollution</b>	<b>Acid deposition</b>



## Cooperation mechanisms: Chronological table

<b>Year</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Mechanisms</b>	<b>7. TEMM</b>	<b>8. <i>TAM of POPs</i></b>
	<b>Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting</b>	<b>Trial Air Monitoring of POPs</b>
<b>Partners</b>	<b>China, Japan, Korea</b>	<b>Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Vietnam--2005</b>
<b>Institutional arrangement</b>	<b>Ministerial meeting, WG</b>	<b>Workshop, new initiative</b>
<b>Targeted issues</b>	<b>Policy dialogue &amp; comprehensive: consciousness, fresh water, marine pollution, environmental industry, eco-conservation, circular economy</b>	<b>POPs</b>





## Cooperation mechanisms: Chronological table

Year	2002	2003	2004
Mechanisms	<b>9. APMWCS</b>	<b>10. DSS</b>	<b>11. TPM</b>
	Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird conservation strategy	ADB-GEF Project for prevention and control of DSS in Northeast Asia	Tripartite Presidents Meeting
Partners	China, Korea, Japan	China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, ADB, ESCAP, UNCCD, UNEP, GEF	China: CRAES ,Japan: NIES, Korea: NIER
Institutional arrangement	RAMSAR Convention of Wetlands, networks	ADB-GEF Project	Meeting
Targeted issues	Wetlands, waterbirds	DSS: regional monitoring and early warning network, investment strategy to address the root cause	General cooperation dialogue



## 2. Observations





## observations: Facts

- **Almost a mechanism born each year since 1991---Well-developed in the No., 11 mechanisms up to now;**
- **among them,**
  - **1 (ECO ASIA), covering the whole Asian Pacific region;**
  - **1 (EANET), including the East Asian 12 countries;**
  - **4 refer to 6 Northeast Asian countries, yet D.P.R of Korea has its presence only in NEASPEC;**
  - **4 specially target at three countries: China, Japan and Korea**



## Observations: Facts

- among them,
  - 5 with standing bodies such as regular secretariat and other technical supporting unit: ECO Asia, NEASPEC, NOWPAP, LTP, EANET;
  - 2 just with a mechanism of regular meeting: NEAC and TPM;
  - 1—TEMM—the highest level, with a regular meeting mechanism supported by working groups.



## Observations: Facts

- **And among them,**
  - **5 act as a platform alike for policy dialogue and comprehensive discussion; ECO ASIA, NEAC, TEMM, TPM;**
  - **5 are specific areas and project or program-oriented/based**
    - *NEASPEC: coal-fired power plant and natural conservation;*
    - *NOWPAP: marine pollution;*
    - *LTP: air pollution;*
    - *EANET: acid deposition monitoring;*
    - *DSS: Desertification, sand*

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## Observations: insights and prospects

- **The NEA--a not big region—is sharing a big number of environmental cooperation mechanisms, good or not good? The careful and in-depth evaluation is needed.**
- **Up to now no studies target at such evaluation and reflect the effectiveness and efficiency of those mechanisms. In fact it is hard to make evaluation from the both technical and political perspectives.**
- **Although targeting at a same region, 4 mechanisms for the NEA seem to be isolated each other and so do 4 for three countries—China, Japan and Korea.**



## Observations: insights and prospects

- According to the nature of each mechanism, many of them could be integrated into an unified institutional framework: eg.,
  - Top level--decision-making mechanism, such as ministerial meeting;
  - Second level—supporting mechanism, such as senior official meeting and working group;
  - Third level—implementation mechanism, designed for specific project and program
- The framework above would be reasonable in terms of efficiency and effectiveness of cooperative resources and managerial costs



## Observations: insights and prospects

- **Three countries—China, Japan and Korea—have been very much active and have accumulated rich experiences in developing tripartite cooperation mechanisms.**
- **reform and improvement of the existing mechanisms would be significant and feasible either in three countries or in the whole NEA. Should Tripartite mechanisms reform be necessarily pilot?**
- **In any way, regular and sufficient financial basis is always crucial for substantial and sustainable operation of any mechanisms, in addition to political will.**
- **In this regards, international partners such as UN organizations, in particular international financial organizations are important to the regional cooperation mechanisms.**



### **3. Joint initiatives in the study of Environmental management: PRCEE, IGES and KEI**





# Direct motivation, in addition to the previous observations

## 1. Ministers' call for collaborative research in the NEA

- **The Ministers...confirmed their will to discuss the state of environmental management of the region on a continuing basis and agreed to establish a working group which would work on this matter. ( Joint Communique of TEMM 6)**
- **The Ministers recognized the need for the promotion of collaborative research in Northeast Asia to help address regional environmental problems. ( Joint Communique of TEMM 7)**
- **The Ministers acknowledged that the first working group was held on July 14-15, 2005 in Jeju Island in order to review the state of environmental management of the Northeast Asian region and to seek ways to improve the role of TEMM in the region. The Ministers expressed their expectation for further activities of the working group on this issue. ( Joint Communique of TEMM 7)**



**2. It is more significant to begin with the discussion on regional cooperation mechanisms in the NEA**

**3. Workshop on Environmental Management in Northeast Asia, December 22, 2005, Beijing**

**In response to the Ministers' call, the workshop was organized with the aim to exchange information and opinions on environmental cooperation in NEA and initiate the Tripartite Joint Research on Environmental Management, with participation of Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy (PRCEE) of SEPA, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan and Korea Environment Institute (KEI).**



## Objectives

**discuss possible and efficient ways to improve the overall efficiency of environmental cooperation efforts in NEA**

## Expected Outputs

- **Roadmap suggestions for three countries consideration on the future development of environmental cooperation in NEA;**
- **Implications for other NEA countries;**
- **A joint research report on environmental management in NEA.**



**Table 1 Schedule of the Joint Research**

January 2006	Finalize signature of TOR
February 2006	Start Joint Research
February 2006	NEAC Meeting in Tokyo
May 2006	First Draft of Chapter 1, 2, 3, and preliminary suggestions
June 2006	First Workshop
July/August 2006	Progress Report to TEMM 8
September/December 2006	Consultation with other mechanisms (joint mission to international organizations concerned)
March 2007	Draft Chapter 4
April 2007	Second Workshop
July 2007	Final Report
August/September 2007	Final Report submitted to TEMM 9



# Discussion on the role of the NEAC in the future

## From the nature to the role

### – (informal) Senior official meeting and policy dialog

- Bridging the lower—practical needs to the upper—political will, bigger actions beyond the current situation could be possible;
- a platform for not only general discussion but specific activity design as well.



# Discussion on the role of the NEAC in the future

--successful?-- depends on your expectation and criteria;

--The future depends on:

- Your expectation and governmental will of relevant parts;
- The flexibility it has.

--detailed and in-depth study—joint research--hopefully could be helpful.



***Thank you!***

