



Northeast Asia Sub-Regional Process: Integrated Ecosystem Management of Trans-boundary River in the Northeast Asia

June 10, 2015

Korea Water Forum



Background and Objectives

➤ Background

- Those nations in **Northeast Asia (Republic of Korea, China and Mongolia)** consist of many trans-boundary rivers due to the geographical proximity of the region, which requires a close cooperation concerning management and preservation.
- As a regional initiative of Northeast Asia, **“Integrated Ecosystem Management of Trans-boundary River”** would be a proper session topic for the Asia Pacific regional process.

➤ Objectives

- To identify the **current situation of trans-boundary ecosystem management**
- To explore the opportunity **to develop joint project among those North East Asian countries**

Session Coordinators and Partners

| | Organization | Focal Point (Contact info) | Country | Role |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Session Coordinators | Korea Water Forum | Mr. Sangyoung Park | Korea | Coordinator |
| Session Group | UNDP- GEF | Mr. Sergey Kudelya | Mongolia | Speaker |
| | Shangri-la Institute for Sustainable | Mr. Mr. Peihong Philip Xie | China | Speaker |
| | Ajou University, School of Law | Prof. Byung-Chun So | Korea | Speaker |
| | Chungnam National Univ. | Prof. Dongil Seo | Korea | Moderator |
| | Shangri-la Institute for Sustainable | Ms. Elizabeth Olson | China | Panel |
| | Tufts Univ. | Prof. Setven C. Chapra | USA | Panel |
| | UNDP-GEF | Dr. Vladimir Mamaev | Mongolia | Panel |
| | UNDP- GEF | Dr. Sodnom Tumurchudur | Mongolia | Panel |

Presentations and Panel Discussions Topics

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Republic of Korea | Discussions on ways to co-develop the database of the ecosystem on the trans-boundary rivers; Han river & Imgin river |
| Mongolia & Russia | Cooperative projects on composing a governance framework, to protect the UNESCO world cultural heritage, Baikal Lake |
| China | Embarking operations on trans-boundary river for cooperative effort regarding preservation |
| International Organizations | Initiating cooperative projects on issues of global governance and trans-boundary rivers |



[Northeast Asia Session Panel Speakers]



[Northeast Asia Session]

Outcomes & Achievements

- The **development of cooperative projects and interactive platforms** will be discussed further through the participation of the those nations **in the Northeast Asia region.**
- **Strengthened partnership** on trans-boundary ecosystem management in the region and **identified the need** to establish the **common information sharing platform**
- The key stakeholders were identified such as of the **governmental bodies, organizations with practical technology** of the necessary skills and the **international organizations** that can provide the adequate mandate and suggest the proper balance of economic development of the region and ecosystem management.

Conclusion

- **3 elements for effective management of transboundary ecosystem**
 - **Legal and institutional framework** for the transboundary ecosystem management
 - **Information sharing among stakeholders**, such as GIS and data sources for the development of joint project
 - **Application of best practices** with international corporation
- **The development of cooperative projects and interactive platforms** will be achieved through the participation of those **countries in the Northeast Asia** region.
- **A framework on the governance system and further collaborative methods** will be derived from **the regional process**.

Linkages to other Process

➤ Political Process

- In the welcoming remarks, **the President of the Republic of Korea, Park Geun-hye**, mentioned **the importance of peaceful public use of the shared rivers of North and South Korea** (Bukhan River, Imjin River)

➤ Ministerial Declaration, National Assembly Declaration

- It was emphasized that to **wisely cope with the increasing threat of water related disasters and uncertainties, integrated water resources management at the basin level** is essential.



Thank You

