

NEASPEC
NORTH-EAST ASIAN SUBREGIONAL
PROGRAMME FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION



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NORTH-EAST ASIAN SUBREGIONAL PROGRAMME
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION



- + 东北亚次区域环境合作机制
- + 동북아환경협력프로그램
- + 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
- + Субрегиональной программы по природоохранному сотрудничеству 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 (SOM)

SOM serves as the governing body of NEASPEC by providing the overall policy guidance and overseeing the programme and secretariat operation.

SOM meets annually in a member State on a rotational basis.



Objectives

The Framework of NEASPEC adopted in 1996 defines the key objectives as follows:

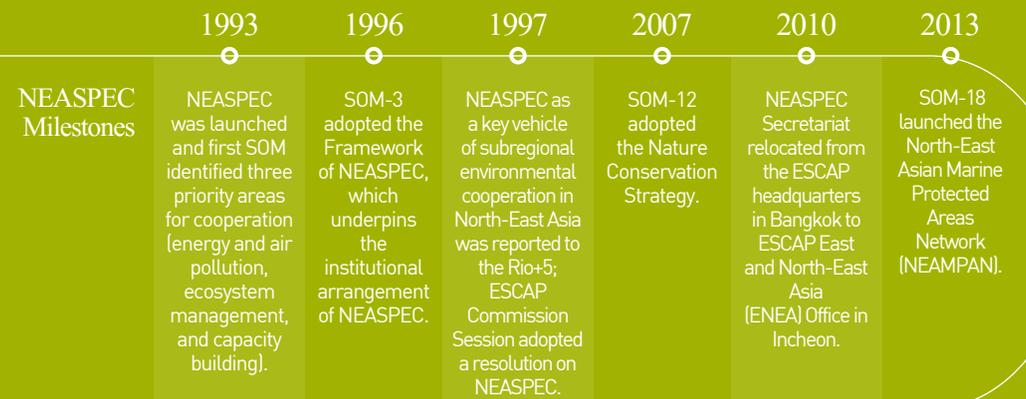
- Promote subregional environmental cooperation and sustainable development efforts for enhancement of quality of life and well-being of present and future generations;
- Enhance capacities of the participating Parties in environmental management efforts through subregional cooperation, and facilitate complete and effective participation of national institutions at all levels in sustainable development efforts; and
- Have a step-by-step and practical approach as building blocks for strengthening subregional cooperation

Furthermore, member States by adopting the Vision Statement in 2000 agreed to:

- Periodically review the environmental conditions and trends as well as the implementation of priority projects in the North-East Asian subregion with a view to identifying additional priority areas for cooperation;
- Promote common policy dialogue on approaches and views and coordinated actions on subregional environmental issues; and
- Make further efforts to increase the involvement of major groups, particularly local governments, civil societies, private sectors and other interested groups to contribute to NEASPEC

Secretariat

ESCAP had been acting as NEASPEC's interim secretariat since its launching in 1993 until May 2011. Upon the establishment of the ESCAP East and North-East Asia (ENEAA) Office in May 2010, NEASPEC relocated its secretariat from the ESCAP Headquarters to the ESCAP ENEAA Office located in Incheon, Republic of Korea. Subsequently, the 16th SOM held in 2011 agreed to change secretariat status from interim to permanent.



NEASPEC

Programme Areas

Desertification and Land Degradation

—
Nature Conservation

—
Transboundary Air Pollution

—
Low Carbon Cities

—
Marine Protected Areas



Desertification and Land Degradation

- 2015
Development of a **Joint Action Plan** to mobilize concerted efforts and to enhance coordination and joint planning among key stakeholders in North-East Asia for greater impact and efficiency

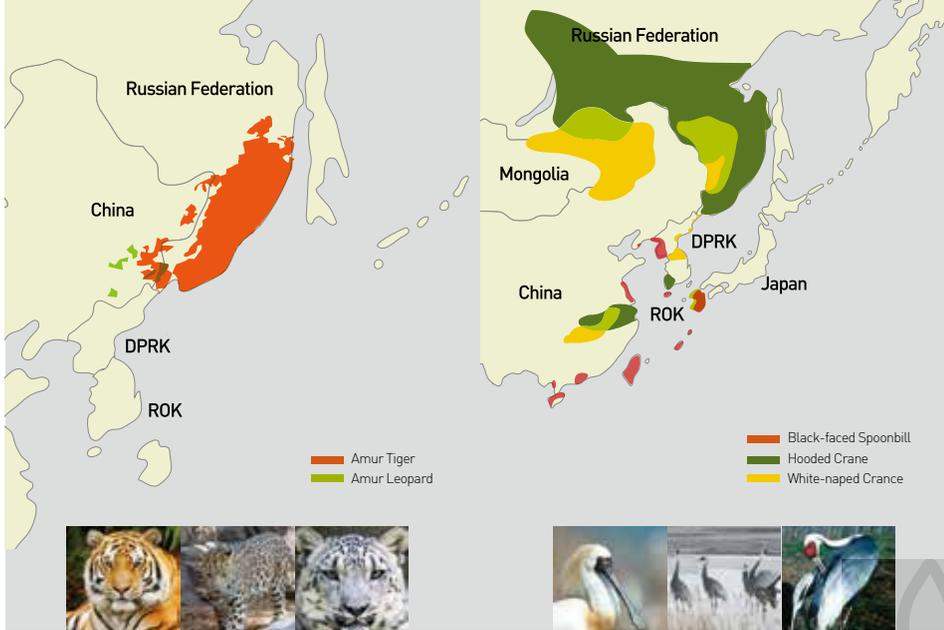
- 2011-2013
Capacity building in China for Mongolian experts

- 2012
 - Tree planting and public awareness raising in Zamin-Uud, Mongolia
 - Development of online GIS database on national projects for combating desertification in Mongolia

Over a quarter of China's landmass and 90% of Mongolian pastureland are threatened by desertification and land degradation (DLD). Together with the associated dust and sandstorms that can travel thousands of miles, DLD is affecting millions of people living within and beyond these areas.

NEASPEC has been working on strengthening national capacity in addressing DLD through multi-/bi-lateral cooperation in connection with the Regional Master Plan jointly developed by ADB, UNEP, UNCCD and UNESCAP and four member States (China, Mongolia, Japan and Republic of Korea) in 2005.





Nature Conservation

o 2013-2015

Implemented the project on **"Conservation and Rehabilitation of Habitats for Key Migratory Birds Project"** to undertake scoping surveys, joint studies, capacity building and awareness raising on habitat management and conservation. The Project identifies conservation priorities, maps for more effective management and enhances multilateral and multi-level cooperation.

o 2014-2015

Carried out the **"Study on Transborder Movement of Amur Tigers and Leopards using Camera Trapping and Molecular Genetic Analysis"** to provide the scientific basis for conservation policy and bi-/multi-lateral cooperation through joint study using molecular genetic techniques.

Economic growth and expansion of land use in North-East Asia caused fragmentation of the natural habitats and threatened numerous species.

NEASPEC member States endorsed the Nature Conservation Strategy at SOM-12 (2007), which identifies Black-faced Spoonbills, Hooded Cranes, White-naped Cranes, Amur Tigers, Amur Leopards and Snow Leopards as the six flagship species for joint conservation work.

Under the Strategy, NEASPEC has been implementing projects to promote transboundary and intergovernmental cooperation for nature conservation, generate critical information for filling knowledge gaps and establish coordination mechanisms.



o 2014-2016

Development of a **science-based and policy-supported framework for assessment and abatement of transboundary air pollution**

o 2011-2012

Review of national and subregional programmes to address transboundary air pollution, and the potential for further improvement of national and subregional capacity

o 1996-2012

Mitigation of transboundary air pollution from coal-fired power plants, implemented with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to increase technical capacity of coal-fired power plants in China and Mongolia to reduce SO₂ emissions

Transboundary Air Pollution

Since 1996, NEASPEC has been working closely with various partners and existing mechanisms to improve capacity in controlling air pollution, facilitate cooperation, and address technical and policy issues. NEASPEC worked on the control of air pollutions from coal-fired power plants in China and Mongolia during the 1990s, and moved on to broader issues of technical and policy coordination.

With particulate matters (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) and Ozone as target pollutants, NEASPEC works on strengthening subregional cooperation on modeling of source-receptor relationship of transboundary air pollution, policy scenarios, impact assessment, etc.





North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform (LCCP) is a partnership platform of organizations working on LCC approaches, policies and programmes.

LCCP facilitates access and utilization of technical expertise in the subregion, through partners and technical centers in supporting cities in their specialty areas.

Key activities of the LCCP includes:

- Information sharing and communications
- Technical assistance
- Analytical studies
- Capacity building



Low Carbon Cities

North-East Asia consumes one-third of the world's energy and emits more greenhouse gases than any other subregion in the world. Reducing resource consumption of this subregion has significant implication at a global scale, in particular on climate change.

Considering the carbon and energy intensity of cities, timely movement towards low carbon cities (LCC) therefore can have substantial contributions to subregional efforts for mitigating climate change.

NEASPEC promotes development of LCC through providing a subregional platform to harness national experiences for subregional benefits and to link cities and stakeholders for building a stronger network in LCC development.

Key thematic areas of NEAMPAN activities include:

- Sustainable use of marine resources
- Protection of key marine animals
- Effective MPA management
- Collaboration with other relevant programmes in North-East Asia and beyond



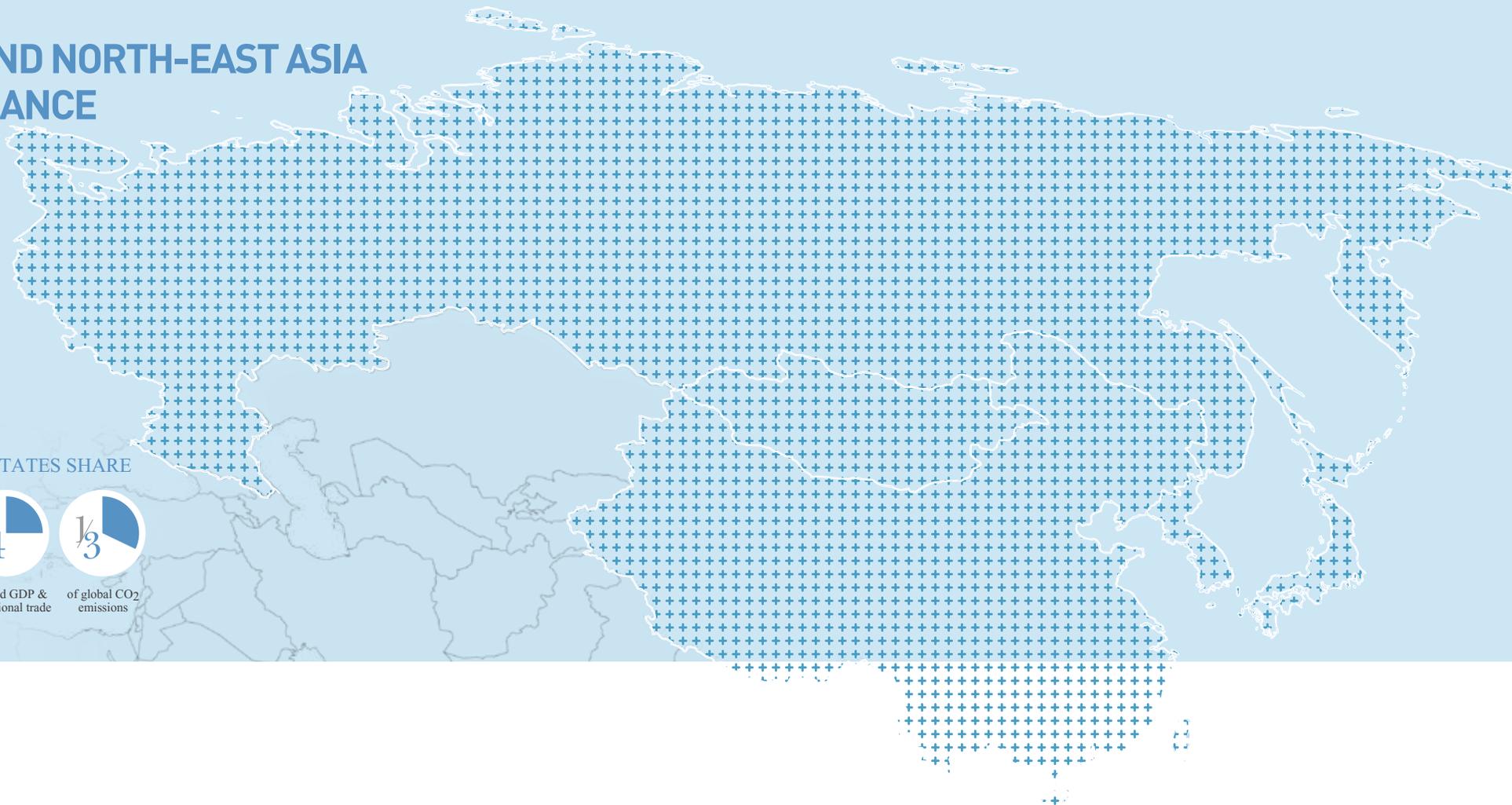
Marine Protected Areas

Marine and coastal areas have been increasingly pressured from population and economic growth. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), in particular, are facing multiple challenges in conserving marine resources.

To promote more effective MPA management, NEASPEC brings together MPAs in North-East Asia and facilitates their cooperation through the **North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN)**, launched in 2013.

NEAMPAN aims to establish an effective, functional, and representative network of MPAs for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and more efficient MPA management through network meetings, joint research, training, information sharing, etc.

EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA AT A GLANCE



6 MEMBER STATES SHARE



NEASPEC Member States

- + China
- + Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- + Japan
- + Mongolia
- + Republic of Korea
- + Russian Federation

ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office

Serving as the Secretariat of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), ESCAP ENEA Office, inaugurated in 2010 in Incheon, Republic of Korea, has been a subregional platform for multilateral partnerships and intergovernmental cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development in North-East Asia. It serves six member States of ESCAP in the subregion, namely China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation as well as two associate members, Hong Kong and Macao, China.

NEASPEC Secretariat

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