INTRODUCTION OF NOWPAP DINRAC

Data and Information Management on Coastal and Marine Environment in NOWPAP Region

1st East Asian Seas Knowledgebase workshop

5 April 2007, Singapore

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Outline

- Introduction of NOWPAP & DINRAC
  Background, Structure, Responsibility, Organization and Staff

- Major Activities of DINRAC in 2001-2006

- Proposed Activities for the Biennium 2007-2008
Introduction of NOWPAP

Background

The Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) was established in 1994 as a part of UNEP Regional Seas Programme. Currently, the People’s Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation are Members of NOWPAP. The geographical scope of NOWPAP covers the marine environment and coastal zones from 121° E longitude and from 33° to 52° N latitude.
**Goal of NOWPAP**

The overall goal of NOWPAP is “the wise use, development and management of the marine and coastal environment so as to obtain the utmost long-term benefits for the human populations of the region, while securing the region’s sustainability for future generations.”

**Structure of NOWPAP**

Each NOWPAP Member country hosts one Regional Activity Centre (RAC). With support of experts and concerned organizations from four countries, RACs carry out activities and projects approved by the Intergovernmental Meeting.
**IGM**
\*Intergovernmental Meeting*

The IGM is the high-level governing body of NOWPAP that provides policy guidance and makes decisions. Hosted annually, it is made up of senior representatives of the NOWPAP Members: China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Russia.

**RCU**
\*Regional Coordinating Unit*

The RCU directs and promotes the NOWPAP activities. It has overall responsibility for the implementation of the NOWPAP Members’ decisions regarding the operation of the Action Plan.

**DINRAC**
Data & Information Network Regional Activity Centre  
**Beijing, China**

**MERRAC**
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness & Response Regional Activity Centre  
**Daejeon, Korea**

**CEARAC**
Special Monitoring & Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Centre  
**Toyama, Japan**

**POMRAC**
Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Centre  
**Vladivostok, Russia**

Toyama Office  Busan Office
Responsibilities of the NOWPAP DINRAC

(i) to maintain contact with the RCU Offices, Focal Points of the NOWPAP members for implementation of DINRAC’s activities;
(ii) to organize meetings of DINRAC Focal Points and Experts;
(iii) to keep close contacts with other regional programmes, such as IOC, IODE, COBSEA, YSLME and NEAR-GOOS, etc.;
(iv) to maintain a regional prototype homepage for connection with national participating institutions (including to function as a Clearing-House to direct users to appropriate databases);
(v) to coordinate the network of homepages in institutions where such needs arise;
Responsibilities of the NOWPAP DINRAC

(vi) to collect relevant information and data;
(vii) to provide technical advice to the participating institutions on the environmental data and information exchange and management, whenever required;
(viii) to plan and organize training courses and relevant technical workshops;
(ix) to publish technical publications (manuals and newsletters, etc.) as results of NOWPAP activities; and
(x) to summarize DINRAC activities and to report to the NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting.
Organization and staff of DINRAC

In December 2000, the Data & Information Network Regional Activity Centre (DINRAC) hosted by the Environmental Information Center of State Environmental Protection Administration of China (EIC/SEPA) was established in Beijing.

Three staffs are currently employed by Policy Research Centre for Environment and Economy (PRCEE/SEPA) with the financial support from the government of China.
Major Activities of DINRAC implemented in 2001-2006

Following up the establishment of the DINRAC, and under the general guidance of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) a series of activities were conducted in 2001-2006.

a. Focal Points Meetings

First Meeting
The First NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) was held in Shanghai, China (25-28 November, 2002). The meeting approved the activities and budget for NOWPAP DINRAC in the 2002-2003 biennium.
Main activities included:

1) Harmonization and Completion of National Reports on data and information networks;
2) Update, Maintenance and Enrichment of DINRAC website;
3) Finalization of Institutions and Experts Database;
4) Draft the general NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing;
5) Establishment of Principles for NOWPAP DINRAC meta-database.
Second Meeting

The Second FPM was held in Sanya, China (29 October-1 November 2003). Besides the routine DINRAC activity report in 2002/2003, the meeting reviewed the General NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing and Guidelines and the Establishment of Principles and Guidelines for NOWPAP Meta-database Management System. In addition, the workplan and budget for NOWPAP DINRAC for 2004/2005 were also agreed by the meeting.
Third Meeting

The 3rd NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was held in Busan, Republic of Korea, 26-28 October 2004.
1) The “Establishment of the NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing” and on the “Establishment of Principles and Guidelines for NOWPAP Meta-database Management System” have been agreed in principle by the meeting.

2) Terms of Reference of DINRAC Experts Group Meeting integrated with the mechanism for implementation of the DINRAC activities by the leading country was discussed and adopted by the Meeting.
3) The new suggested activity of Framework for the creation of NOWPAP DINRAC Meta-database (Activity I) was agreed by the meeting and the Republic of Korea is the leading country to implement the Activity I.

4) DINRAC is the leading institution to implement Activity on Existing GIS-type Products from within and outside of NOWPAP (Activity J)
Fourth Meeting

The Fourth FPM was held on 27-28 September 2005 in Dalian, China. In the meeting, the new suggested future activities in the biennium of 2006/2007 were put forward for discussion and DINRAC was clearly positioned to serve as a “switchboard” to direct users to available data and information on marine environment quality in the NOWPAP Members and to provide information generated by other NOWPAP activities mostly by RACs and Working Groups according to the recommendations of the First Intersessional Workshop of NOWPAP.
The 5th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting took place in Shenzhen, China from 10 to 11 May 2006.
The meeting discussed the newly expected activities and revised proposal workplan and budget for 2006-2007 biennium based upon the decision of the 10th IGM.

The meeting agreed to submit ‘General NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing’ to the 11th IGM.

NOWPAP Meta-database System Training Course has been conducted by a Korean expert.

The proposal for the establishment of Reference Database on Atmospheric Deposition & River and Direct Inputs of Contaminants into the Marine and Coastal Environment through collaboration of DINRAC and POMRAC was agreed by the meeting.

Establishment of DINRAC website as a Clearing-House of NOWPAP, using the concept of Switchboard – storage and easy retrieval of data was discussed at the meeting.
b. Publications

1) National Reports on Coastal and Marine Environmental Data and Information Networks in the Northwest Pacific Region

2) Reports of DINRAC Focal Points Meetings

3) Newsletters from DINRAC

4) NOWPAP Brochure in Chinese-English Version

5) CD-ROM of NowpapExpert and NowpapInstitution Databases
c. DINRAC Website

http://dinrac.nowpap.org

Regional Seas; NOWPAP; DINRAC; Related Organizations
NowpapInstitution; NowpapExpert, NowpapGIS, etc.
Meetings Documents
d. **DINRAC databases available in its Website**

Databases on Coastal and Marine Environmental Institutions and Experts in the NOWPAP Region

NowpapInstitution & NowpapExpert

http://dinrac.nowpap.org/ NowpapInstitution.php3

http://dinrac.nowpap.org/ NowpapExpert.php3

It includes information of 744 experts and 167 Institutions, organizations, NGOs from NOWPAP Members in the NowpapExpert and NowpapInstitution.
The Reference database on River and Direct Inputs of Contaminants into the Marine and Coastal Environment in NOWPAP Region (joint activity with POMRAC)
http://dinrac.nowpap.org/NowpapReferenceRDI.php

The Database on Marine Litter related information and data provided by NOWPAP Members and data from GPA clearing house. (joint activity with RCU and other RACs)
http://dinrac.nowpap.org/MALITA_WhatIs.htm

Study on GIS-type products and applications in NOWPAP region
http://dinrac.nowpap.org/NowpapGIS.php3
e. Framework for the Creation of NOWPAP DINRAC Meta-database

1) Establishment of the format and standards of NOWPAP DINRAC meta-database;
2) Confirmation of core elements of NOWPAP DINRAC meta-database;
3) Development of the production system, management system and application system of NOWPAP DINRAC meta-database;
4) Development of a dissemination, search, exchange platform of marine and coastal data and information products in NOWPAP region using NOWPAP DINRAC website.
5) Creation of NOWPAP DINRAC meta-database system software user manual
f. Activity on Existing GIS-type products from within and outside of NOWPAP

http://dinrac.nowpap.org/NowpapGIS.php3

NOWPAP GIS Databases: (96 records)

37 GIS & RS datasets from 30 institutions
32 GIS & RS systems from 26 institutions
27 GIS & RS reports from 22 institutions

National Reports on Coastal and Marine Environmental GIS and RS

Applications in the NOWPAP Region
Proposed DINRAC Activities for the Biennium 2007-2008

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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Tentative Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Activity B: Update, Maintenance and Enrichment of DINRAC website (continue)</td>
<td>throughout</td>
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<td>Activity G: Organization of the 6th Focal Points Meeting</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
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<td>Activities</td>
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<td><strong>Activity L:</strong> Establishment of Regional Internet Communication Systems between DINRAC and NOWPAP Member Countries</td>
<td>Jan. 2006 ~ Dec. 2008</td>
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<td><strong>Activity I:</strong> Further Development of the NOWPAP DINRAC Meta-database (continue)</td>
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<td><strong>Activity M:</strong> Establishment of the Meta-database of Coastal and Marine Nature Reserves in the NOWPAP Region</td>
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<td><strong>Activity N</strong> Establishment of the Meta-Databases on Contaminants and Nutrients in the Coastal and Marine Environment</td>
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<td><strong>Activity O</strong> Compilation and Publication of the Overview on National Legislation, Objectives, Strategies, Policies and Laws Associated with Marine Environment of NOWPAP Members (NOWPAP/2)</td>
<td>Sep. 2007</td>
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<td><strong>Activity R</strong> the Meta-database of the Background of Biodiversity in NOWPAP region</td>
<td>Dec. 2008</td>
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Thank you