



## 2008 NOWPAP International Coastal Cleanup and Training Workshop

The NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) is being implemented since March 2008, after its approval by four NOWPAP member states. The 2008 NOWPAP International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) and Training Workshop were held in Vladivostok, Russian Federation on 26-28 September, as one of RAP MALI activities. Representatives of the member states and the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) of NOWPAP and its partners such as COBSEA (Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia), YSLME (Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem) Project and Ocean Conservancy (which initiated the ICC campaigns in 1986) attended the events. In addition, Russian students, NGOs, media representatives and general public also participated.

At the training workshop on 26 September, 12 presentations were given to share national case studies on the ICC campaigns and related activities in the NOWPAP region and beyond. The global vision of the ICC campaign as a year around movement was presented by the representative of Ocean Conservancy.



An on-site training for ICC beach cleanup was conducted in Schitovaya Bay, Vladivostok on 27 September. Fifty participants collected approximately 40 kg of marine litter. After the on-site training, there was a small group meeting to exchange views on the annual ICC campaign in NOWPAP region as part of

outreach strategies to address marine litter issues. The meeting encouraged China and Russia to continue their efforts to organize national ICC campaigns.

A working meeting was held on 28 September, back-to-back with the workshop and on-site ICC training to discuss the current progress on the implementation of RAP MALI. Further activities to be carried out in the 2008-2009 biennium were also discussed in-depth.



Also within the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, an International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) campaign was held in Dalian, People's Republic of China on 11 September 2008. This event brought several hundred volunteers from local governmental agencies, industries, universities and non-governmental organizations together with international participants representing Japan, Ocean Conservancy and NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit.

As a direct result of the activity, over one

hundred kilogram of marine litter has been collected on a swimming beach and more from the adjacent seabed where scuba divers were involved. Immediate prior to the ICC campaign, a domestic meeting on marine litter was organized by the Ministry of Environmental Protection to build up awareness on the issue and share experiences among relevant governmental authorities such as Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Safety Administration and State Oceanic Administration in tackling the problem nationwide.

Right after the ICC campaign, an international marine litter prevention and control workshop was also organized. It is the first time that Ocean Conservancy, the initiator of the ICC campaign worldwide, has sent a senior vice president to China to participate and promote the ICC in China. Similar ICC activities are being organized in Shanghai and other parts of China.

## 2nd Joint NOWPAP Oil Spill Exercise

The 2nd Joint NOWPAP Oil Spill Exercise was conducted on 2 September 2008 in Qingdao, China. This exercise was jointly organized by China Maritime Safety Administration and the Korea Coast Guard as one of the activities under the NOWPAP programme of work for 2008.

The purpose of having this joint exercise was to check the coordination between Chinese and Korean authorities in dealing with oil spill. More than two dozen vessels, including two from Korea, an airplane and helicopter participated in the drill with more than 500 people observing the exercise. Representatives from 16 national and local agencies and related industries participated in the event.

International observers included NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit and the Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response Regional Activity Centre (NOWPAP MERRAC), International Maritime Organization, Japan Coast Guard and a Singapore-based oil spill-response company.



## Meetings / events attended by RCU staff



- 2nd EAS Partnership Council Meeting organized by PEMSEA, 14-18 July, Tokyo, Japan
- UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project Youth Programme 2008, 19-21 August, Buan, Korea
- 2nd Meeting on Countermeasures against Marine Litter in Japan organized by Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center, 28 August, Tokyo, Japan

## Missions planned for the 4th quarter



- Marine Litter Summit in Japan, 2-4 October, Toba, Japan
- 13th Intergovernmental Meeting of NOWPAP, 20-21 October, Jeju, Korea
- Environmental seminar of the Organization for the East Asia Economic Development, 23-24 October, Shimonoseki, Japan
- PICES 17th Annual Meeting, 24 October – 2 November, Dalian, China
- 3rd Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop, 2 November 2008, Changwon, Korea
- 3rd International Ecological Forum, 12-13 November, Vladivostok, Russia
- 6th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in East Asian Countries, 18-20 November, Tokyo, Japan
- 5th Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel (RSTP) and Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting for the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project, 24-28 November, Shanghai, China

## Public awareness / Promotional activities



- Speech on NOWPAP activities at the Toyama Association of Corporate Executives Summit, 3 September, Toyama, Japan
- Participation at a local beach clean-up, 5 September, Takaoka, Japan

## Public awareness / Promotional activities, planned for the 4th quarter



- Display posters and NOWPAP publications at the International Exchange Festival 2008, 11-12 October, Toyama, Japan
- Participation in Global Gathering 2008, 12 October, Busan, Korea
- Display posters and NOWPAP publications during the UN Day event, 24 October, Tokyo, Japan

*Keep our seas clean*  
*Keep our seas clean*  
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# NOWPAP

NOWPAP is an acronym for the Northwest Pacific Action Plan, which is a part of UNEP Regional Seas Programme.

NOWPAP was adopted in 1994 by its four member states:

People's Republic of China,  
Japan,  
Republic of Korea and  
Russian Federation.

Four NOWPAP Regional Activity Centers are located in:

Beijing (DINRAC),  
Daejeon (MERRAC),  
Toyama (CEARAC) and  
Vladivostok (POMRAC).

NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit is co-hosted at:

5-5 Ushijimashinmachi Toyama, Japan  
T: +81-76-444-1611, F: +81-76-444-2780

and

408-1 Sirang-ri Gijang-eup Gijang-gun Busan, Korea  
T: +82-51-720-3000, F: +82-51-720-3009

[www.nowpap.org](http://www.nowpap.org)