Building a network of MPA education centers to increase awareness of threats, values, impact of loss and YSLME biodiversity

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CONTENTS

01 Status of MPA Education center in ROK

02 Local MPA Center Network in ROK

03 Various Activities of Local MPA Center Network in ROK

04 Citizen Monitoring Program – Getbol Keepers

05 Conclusion
## Composition of Local MPA Center Network

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Center of Membership in Network</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Ganghwa tidal flat center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Seocheon bird eco exhibit hall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Buan julpo Tidal flat ecological center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Ramsar Gochang Tidal flat visitor center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Muan ecological tidal flat center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Jeung island Tidal flat ecological exhibit hall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Suncheon Bay ecological exhibit hall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Bongam Tidal flat eco experience center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Nakdong river estruarine eco center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Siheung gaetgol eco park</td>
<td>Planning for building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Seosan City (Garorim bay MPA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Ansan City(Daebudo Tidal flat MPA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Incheon Yeonsu-gu(Songdo Tidal Flat MPA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Eco education hub Moolsaeal</td>
<td>Chair &amp; Secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Eco-Horizon Institute</td>
<td>WLI Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Ramsar Regional Center-East Asia</td>
<td>Supporting Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 MPA Management Team of KOEM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Existing centers in operation
- Centers in preparation
- Supporting institutions for centers
Status of MPA Education Centers
Status of MPA Visitor Centers
Function of MPA center in RO Korea

- Exhibition and public relations of MPAs
- Development and operation of MPAs education programs & materials
- Information sharing and international cooperation on MPAs
- Operation of Local MPA committee
- Participation and cooperation in Local MPA Center Network
- Other business needed to manage MPAs

Roles of MPA center are of great importance not just for exhibition, education and publicity, but also on-site management that practically protects the marine ecosystem.

However, the individual center’s efforts alone have limited capacity-building and progressive so that Local MPA Center Network has launched for joint cooperation among the centers in 2011.
Local MPA Center Network (1)

Purpose of MPA center Network

✓ To improve conservation, management and wise use of marine ecosystem on MPA through each center

✓ To enhance its role as a channel to raise public awareness and provider of education service on marine ecosystem conservation

✓ To facilitate information exchange and joint cooperation activities between the local MPA centers

Legal basis of network

✓ 「Guidelines for MPA Management and Administration」 by Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (Administrative ordinance)
Main activities of Local MPA Center Network

- Support for capacity-building of individual MPA centers
- Development joint education programs for the public and training course for MPA managers
- Support to promote communication, information exchange, and cooperation among local MPA centers
- Operation international exchange and cooperation programs
- Improvement of law and policy for sustainable and stable operation of MPA centers
General Meeting of Network
Various Workshop for Capacity-building of MPA Centers & Managers
Joint Exhibition on Status of MPA Designation in ROK
Development Joint Education Program & Materials on Sustainable Fishery in Yellow Sea
ROK-Wadden Sea Exchange & Cooperation Programs
Development of Citizen Monitoring Programs & Training Course
Purpose of Citizen Monitoring

- Continuous tracking and observation of environmental change in marine ecosystem
- Using of the citizens and local residents’ vivid field experience
- Promoting public awareness on marine ecosystem

✓ Activation of on-site management in MPA
✓ Strengthening management capacity of MPA through government-NGO cooperation
✓ **Getbol Keepers** who is keeping watching & keeping on tidal flats

✓ **Online Platform** for citizen monitoring on tidal flats

- App, Web System
Developing Online Platform - App

- **Application** (Android version / iOS version)

![Application Image]

- **Getbol Keepers**

- **Features**
  - Getbol Keepers
  - Monitoring
  - Habitat Monitoring
  - On-site Monitoring
  - Surveillance

![Map Image]
Developing Online Platform - Website
1st Training Course for Getbol Keepers – Benthos Habitat Mapping
2nd Training Course for Getbol Keepers – Waterbird Monitoring
Future Plan of Getbol Keepers

- Benthos Monitoring (Habitat Mapping)
- Ecological Linkage
- Waterbird Monitoring (Endangered Species)
- Sediment Monitoring (Environment Change)
Pursuing Integrated Function of MPA Centers for Conservation and Wise Use in Yellow Sea

Integrated Function

Education & Exhibition Function
- Educating tidal flat theory & experience
- Developing education program & exhibition
- Developing teaching material
- Training eco-guides

Conservation & Management Function
- Implementing management plan
- Watching environmental pollution
- Communicating with various stakeholders

Monitoring Function
- Monitoring regularly
- Supporting the specialized research
- Developing exhibition & education programs using the research outcome

Local Development Function through Wise Use
- Securing local resident’s participation opportunity
- Developing local brand & eco-tourism
- Developing new job opportunity & income creation for local community

✓ We need to set up a network of MPA education centers within the entire Yellow Sea for joint cooperation at the YSLME level.
Thank you for your attention!