



IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM: RESTORING ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES AND CONSOLIDATION OF A LONG-TERM REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK (UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project)

Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of the Regional Working Group on Sustainable Mariculture (RWG-M) of the UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project

*Jeju, RO Korea
8-9 November 2018*

Table of Contents

Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of the RWG on Mariculture	3
Opening of the meeting.....	3
Organization of the meeting	3
Adoption of agenda	3
Review of progress of activities approved by the Interim YSLME Commission	4
Session 1: Review the ongoing progress on IMTA promotion and demonstration	4
Progress on IMTA demonstration of seaweed-shellfish-sea cucumber, land-based IMTA and eco-farming of oyster in PR China	4
Progress on IMTA demonstration in RO Korea	5
Progress on study of coastal areas suitable for IMTA application in Shandong and potential economic value as a part of IMTA promotion.....	5
Session 2: Review the IMTA training module and additional information to be added (training module to be included in meeting kit)	5
Session 3: Framework and Process to Develop Good Aquaculture Practices of IMTA ...	7
Possible GAP framework and indicators in line with international guidelines in particular the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture and seaweed standards developed by ASC and MSC	7
Presentation on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in PR China.....	7
Presentation on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in RO Korea	8
Session 4: Social-economic impact of IMTA as a part of the good aquaculture practices in PR China and RO Korea, including the case studies.....	9
Presentation on governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in PR China	9
Presentation on governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in RO Korea	9
Session 5: Collaboration with other partners	9
Agenda of next RWG-M meeting and next Regional IMTA training.....	10
RWG-M Work-plan of 2019.....	10
Other business.....	10
Wrap-up and closure of the meeting	11
Annex 1: List of Participants	12
Annex 2: Programme.....	15

Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of the RWG on Sustainable Mariculture

Opening of the meeting

1. The 2nd Meeting of the Regional Working Group on Mariculture (RWG-M) of the UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project was held in Suites Hotel, Jeju, RO Korea on November 8-9, 2018. Organized by the Secretariat, the meeting was participated by members of the RWG-M from RO Korea: representatives from the National Institute of Fisheries Science (NIFS), Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM), Pusan National University, Incheon National University, and Pukyong National University; and from PR China: Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences ((YSFRI/CAFS), Nanjing University, Yellow Sea Aquatic Production Co. Ltd., and Chudao Aquatic Food Co. Ltd. Staff from the Project Management Office (PMO) were also present.
2. Mr. Sangjin LEE, Environmental Economist of the PMO, opened the meeting by welcoming participants to Jeju Island. In his opening remarks, Mr. LEE briefly introduced the background of the project, highlighting unsustainable mariculture as one of the key transboundary environmental concerns identified in Yellow Sea. Reminding the RWG-M of its mandate, Mr. LEE emphasized three goals and key issues to be discussed during the meeting: 1) to review for adoption the draft versions of IMTA training modules; 2) to finalize for adoption the GAP Framework of IMTA system; and 3) to discuss organization of IMTA GAP international workshop that could be combined with the 3rd RWG-M meeting in 2019.
3. Mr. Jianguang FANG of PR China and Mr. Ik-Kyo CHUNG of RO Korea were elected as Chair and Co-chair, respectively.
4. The participants went through a round of self-introduction of their names, organizations and expertise related to the mandate of the RWG-M. The list of participants is attached to this report as Annex I.

Organization of the meeting

Adoption of agenda

5. Mr. Zhengguang ZHU, Environment Officer of the PMO, introduced the agenda and explained in detail the working arrangements and substance of the meeting, which was divided into five sessions: 1) Review the ongoing progress on IMTA promotion and demonstration in PR China and RO Korea; 2) Review the IMTA training module and additional information to be added (training module included in meeting kit); 3) Framework and Process to Develop Good Aquaculture Practices of IMTA; 4) Social-economic impact of IMTA as a part of the good aquaculture practices in PR China and RO Korea including the case studies from PRC and ROK; and 5) Collaboration with other partners.
6. Participants agreed on the working arrangements and the provisional agenda was adopted as it is. The final agenda is provided as Annex II.

Review of progress of activities approved by the Interim YSLME Commission Council

7. The Secretariat presented the targets of 2018; implementations and work progress of each activity; and issues, recommendation and follow up activities.
8. Ms. Sunyoung CHAE, from KOEM of RO Korea, expressed a concern on lack of information sharing on the implementation of activities, especially on two IMTA training workshops held in PR China. Collaboration between PR China and RO Korea was also missing.
9. In response, Mr. ZHU clarified that the activities held in PR China were not workshops but trainings. Information about the two trainings will be introduced in the next-day meeting agenda. Meanwhile, for the next workshop, experts from RO Korea will be invited for collaboration.

Session 1: Review the ongoing progress on IMTA promotion and demonstration

Progress on IMTA demonstration of seaweed-shellfish-sea cucumber, land-based IMTA and eco-farming of oyster in PR China

10. On behalf of Mr. Jianguang FANG, Mr. Jinghui FANG from YSFRI made a presentation on IMTA demonstration in PR China. Contents include progress on IMTA demonstration of seaweed-shellfish-sea cucumber in Sanggou Bay, land-based IMTA in Haiyang and eco-farming of oyster in PR China. Mr. FANG highlighted the significant economic improvement brought by the implementation of the IMTA system such as increase in income and other benefits of integrated culture of bivalves and kelp. In the demonstration site in Haiyang, a significant decrease of P and N was observed in the waste water from IMTA ponds.
11. Based on scientific findings, the IMTA technology could enhance the growth rate of shellfish and sea cucumber with reduction of carbon from sea water. The enhancement of scallop on the sea bed of Dongchu Island also turned out to be successful as reflected in the results showing improved water quality in Sanggou Bay.
12. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM, from NIFS of RO Korea, raised a concern on the occurrence of unstable environmental factors such as increase of seawater temperature that might be caused by climate change. She also asked how PR China faced difficulties brought by climate change.
13. In response, Mr. Jinghui FANG said that environmental changes faced in recent years drove possible changes of species to cultivate. To adjust to climate change, PR China implemented a selective choice of fish species, especially high value fish species, and used underground sea water to cultivate. He added that because of the increase of temperature in summer 2018, a number of sea cucumbers died. This phenomenon demonstrates that environmental and climate factors are important in cultivation; thus, there is a need to come up with more strategies and methods.

Progress on IMTA demonstration in RO Korea

14. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM presented the current research status of IMTA in RO Korea. The activity was initiated by NIFS with a project on IMTA system linked to tourism in the south coast of the country. Having similar findings in Sanggou Bay, the growth rate of sea cucumber in RO Korea was 2.7 times faster in IMTA than in a bottom culture farm. Results also showed a surprising 0% disease occurrence in rockfish, showing benefits of IMTA over monoculture farming, which recorded more than 40%.
15. A substantial discussion was held to recommend ways to further promote IMTA in RO Korea. The strategies shared were to reflect positive results of IMTA into laws and regulations, promote IMTA technologies and collaborate with industrial sectors.
16. Asked on the cultivation process of abalone in RO Korea, Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM explained that IMTA on abalone was not implemented in RO Korea due to difficulties in enhancing survival rate with the increase in temperature. The abalone cultivation in RO Korea was also still in the primary stage, and the addition of other species (e.g. sea cucumber), standardization and related industrial studies are needed.
17. Mr. Ik-kyo CHUNG agreed with Ms. LIM, and suggested that RO Korea and PR China treat cultivation of abalone as a study topic since both countries share the same concerns.
18. Mr. Jianguang FANG seconded the recommendation to conduct a study topic, and proposed to organize field trips to demonstration sites. He also reminded the meeting that the final goal of the IMTA system implementation is to reach 5% pollutant reduction, which was agreed in the ICC-1.

Progress on study of coastal areas suitable for IMTA application in Shandong and potential economic value as a part of IMTA promotion

19. Mr. Jinghui FANG, from YSFRI of PR China, presented specific statistical data and explanation about aquatic production, total areas of aquaculture, and areas of different aquaculture in Shandong Province. He also discussed potential IMTA application areas in Qingdao and marine development function zones.
20. Mr. Ik-kyo CHUNG asked regarding laws and regulations on the implementation of IMTA in Shandong Province. In response, Mr. Jianguang FANG explained that this year, the Chinese Central Government set new policies on environment protection for provinces including Shandong. Strict government standards had to be followed. This includes reduction of waste water and removal of fishing cages.

Session 2: Review the IMTA training module and additional information to be added (training module to be included in meeting kit)

21. Mr. Zengjie JIANG, from YSFRI of PR China, gave a brief introduction on IMTA training module. The introduction was made by following the chapters listed in the training module, which contains six chapters: 1) global view on the development of IMTA; 2) carrying

capacity assessment for IMTA; 3) development and management of IMTA; 4) evaluation of ecosystem service and value in different aquaculture modes; 5) mariculture environmental monitoring; and, 6) prospects and suggestions. The two IMTA international training courses held in May and September, both in Rongcheng city, PR China, were also presented with general information.

22. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM suggested that based on the experiences in Sungo Bay and land-based IMTA, the training module should be completed early as it will serve as basis for demonstration and replication. As for the contents, she suggested that standardization be observed like in the regulation of input amount in mariculture. Information on laws and regulations, cleaning of fishing grounds and gears, break period, and other related subjects could be added.
23. To improve the quality of the training module, Ms. LIM also suggested to add case studies from both countries and tap one expert from each side for further collaboration and communication.
24. Mr. Ik-kyo CHUNG suggested to provide annexes with information on IMTA facilities and major species to be cultured. He pointed out that the current training module is quite ambiguous in terms of not having a specific target group of readers (e.g. fishermen, corporation, government officials). He proposed to create different versions to cater different types of target sectors. During implementation, different operations and practices would also be provided.
25. In response, Mr. Jianguang FANG said the training module is not limited to a specific group of readers. For example, the assessment part could be useful for people in management, while case studies and examples may be used as reference for fishermen. In addition, he proposed that a Korean version of the training module should be made as there is already an existing Chinese version.
26. Mr. Ik-kyo CHUNG suggested that since PR China side has already prepared its training module with substantial contents, Korean cases could be added by adding annexes to form a combined print version.
27. Mr. Jianguang FANG said the suggestions from Korean side were acceptable in terms of providing annexes with information on major species to be cultured and size of mariculture. However, the addition of Korean cases to the current training module may depend on whether or not there are enough materials. Further discussions are also needed to decide whether there will be one or two books of training modules.
28. Mr. Zhenguang ZHU of the PMO commented that since the framework is almost done, if RO Korea prefers to have one training module together with PR China, it will need two or three months to add the inputs from RO Korea side.
29. Mr. Ik-kyo CHUNG responded that Korean experts need to make efforts and communicate with PR China as both sides agreed to tap one expert each for further collaboration and communication.

Session 3: Framework and Process to Develop Good Aquaculture Practices of IMTA

Possible GAP framework and indicators in line with international guidelines in particular the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture and seaweed standards developed by ASC and MSC

30. Ms. Jihong ZHANG, individual consultant from YSFRI of PR China, introduced possible GAP framework and indicators in line with international guidelines with emphasis on three areas: 1) ecosystem approach to aquaculture; 2) ASC-MSC seaweed standard; and 3) possible GAP framework and indicators of IMTA.
31. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM pointed out that it was difficult to implement the GAP framework as complicated matters like economic factors needed to be considered.
32. Ms. Yan ZHANG of PR China proposed to choose a relatively mature framework and standard to operate.
33. Mr. Jinghui FANG of PR China recommended to choose a regional area for operation with limited species to adopt a general framework without much details.
34. Mr. Hyung Chul KIM agreed to Mr. FANG's recommendation and suggested to select specific species, exclusive rather than inclusive, in order to find representative species for study and to form a general framework.
35. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Sangjin LEE expressed that since the guideline could not be decided in the meeting due to various factors to be considered, further discussions could be made through e-communication between two countries.
36. Mr. Zhengguang ZHU emphasized that the guideline and framework should be finalized before the 3rd ICC meeting in January 22, 2019. He suggested that both countries agree on a basic framework first and add details later.
37. The meeting agreed that both countries choose one expert from each side to conduct further collaboration and communication regarding the formulation of GAP framework and guideline. Mr. Jianguang FANG tapped Mr. Jinghui FANG of YSFRI as Chinese expert for communication.
38. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM confirmed that Korean side will prepare training module texts, and urged for a strengthened collaboration with experts from PR China.

Presentation on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in PR China

39. Mr. Jinghui FANG from YSFRI introduced IMTA GAP framework in PR China. He presented the definition, objectives and key principles, preparation and initiation, implementation, and future development.
40. Mr. Jinghui FANG also shared the difficulties in implementing IMTA GAP in the entire country, and said Yellow Sea could serve as a region of development.

41. Mr. Jang Kyun KIM expressed that a general framework can be made and details like choices of species can be identified and decided by fishermen later.

Presentation on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in RO Korea

42. Mr. Jang Kyun KIM from Incheon National University presented the development of IMTA system for Korean waters. He focused his presentation on cases in which the framework is also explained. He introduced IMTA papers, seaweed aquaculture, fin-fish and shellfish aquaculture, and red tide occurrence in RO Korea. He mentioned that the influences of IMTA on oyster are not only in acceleration of growth, but also in enhancement of quality, especially the impact on N.
43. Mr. Jang Kyun KIM presented the open water IMTA site case in Tongyoung with explanations on growth of red seabream, sea cucumbers, pacific oysters, and seaweeds. He also compared tissue nitrogen in oyster and mussel, tissue nitrogen in oysters cultured through IMTA and monoculture, and nitrogen contents.
44. Ms. Jihong ZHANG suggested that the meeting agree on the general framework of the IMTA. After reaching a consensus, details could be added later. Changes and implementation could also be adjusted and revised according to practices and circumstances.
45. Mr. Jinghui FANG suggested to study specific cases to analyze rules that could show general framework of IMTA and GAP.
46. Mr. Zhengguang ZHU of the PMO asked the possibilities of GAP implementation in both counties with the certification received for GAP such as national level certification.
47. In response, Mr. Jianguang FANG said certifications from related organizations are needed before the implementation can take place. He pointed out the difficulties in general implementation due to complexity of regional species and differences in regional ecological environments in RO Korea and PR China. He suggested that both countries have detailed IMTA modes and specific species for IMTA. Meanwhile, Chinese IMTA can refer to the training module.
48. After a lengthy discussion, the meeting tentatively agreed on the suggested IMTA framework, which will depend on the availability of data, especially in RO Korea. The data shared was composed of introduction, scope, legislation, terminology, IMTA system design, and implementation of GAP. Furthermore, the meeting raised concerns on difficulties in developing GAP of IMTA if consideration of methodologies and types of species and geographical scope is given.
49. Having acknowledged complicated circumstances faced in the development of GAP, the meeting agreed that the framework could be composed of IMTA types consented by both countries, particularly major species (e.g. fish, bivalve and seaweed), and should be in line with international standards.

Session 4: Social-economic impact of IMTA as a part of the good aquaculture practices in PR China and RO Korea, including the case studies

Presentation on governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in PR China

50. Ms. Ping ZUO, from Nanjing University, presented the governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in PR China with Dongchu Island village as an example. She introduced the background of the village, methods and comprehensive approach used for the study, results, and other expected outcome. She used SWOT analysis to investigate strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the system. Challenges in translating policy goals into tangible outcomes (e.g. health of seagrass affecting mariculture) were also explained.
51. Mr. Zhengguang ZHU highlighted the importance of social economic influence and local and government response impacted by the IMTA implementation.
52. Mr. Junwei WANG, CEO of Chudao Aquatic Food Co. Ltd., acknowledged the developments in Dongchu Island, especially in the aspects of economic development, multiple mariculture mode, and recovery of ecosystem.

Presentation on governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in RO Korea

53. Mr. Do Hoon KIM, from Pukyong National University, presented socio-economic impact of IMTA in RO Korea, mentioning that the system could be more profitable and sustainable by increasing farming incomes from multiple target species and market price for sustainable seafood; reducing costs; and improving survival rates. Bio-mitigation and pollution reduction effects by IMTA target species could also increase environmental benefits. Future researches on optimal IMTA production system were recommended.
54. The meeting agreed that the social-economic impact of IMTA is a critical factor and suggested to include it under governance component of the GAP for further development.

Session 5: Collaboration with other partners

55. Ms. Yan ZHANG from YSFRI presented aquatic standardization systems in PR China, including national standards, mandatory national standards, voluntary national standards, aquatic sector standards, local standards, association standards, and enterprise standards. She also introduced Standardization Administration of the People's Republic of China (SAC) and National Technical Committee 156 on Aquatic Product of SAC (TC156).
56. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM asked about the carrying capacity, certification and related legislation of IMTA in PR China.
57. Mr. Hyung Chul KIM also raised a question regarding standards in mariculture in PR China. He shared that in RO Korea's case, there is a standard on pollution and related license

system, which involves examination and verification processes every ten years to check organisms and sanitation.

58. In response to both questions above, Ms. ZHANG explained that every region in PR China has its own standard which also varies from city to city. Different regions set plans and form evaluation system with technical support (e.g. standard for fishing resources). For IMTA system, there is no established standard in the country. Like RO Korea, PR China also has a license system, but does not involve examination and verification check.
59. The PMO presented YSLME possible participation in the IMTA training in collaboration with Asian Institute of Technology based in Bangkok in December 2018 by introducing the general programme.
60. Experts from PR China confirmed their participation and welcomed Korean experts to participate as well.

Agenda of next RWG-M meeting and next Regional IMTA training

61. As agreed, the PMO will consult with both countries and share information accordingly.

RWG-M Work-plan of 2019

62. Ongoing activities in 2018 to be carried over in 2019 and new activities to be initiated in 2019 were introduced by the PMO. The meeting made the following suggestions on activities to be implemented in both 2018 and 2019:
 - a. to participate in IMTA training in collaboration with Asian Institute of Technology based in Bangkok in early December 2018, with 3 experts from the two countries;
 - b. to organize IMTA training workshop in 2019; and
 - c. to hold the 3rd RWG-M meeting in 2019.
63. Ms. Hyun Jeong LIM suggested that both countries set mariculture standardization together, and hoped that PR China and RO Korea also hold YSLME activities in conjunction next year.
64. Mr. Jianguang FANG suggested that activities and meetings be held in the months of April and May in 2019. He also mentioned that the size and contents of training module need to be decided and consulted by the government.
65. Mr. Ik-Kyo CHUNG suggested to exclude GAP from the workplan. With regards to activities, he proposed to combine meetings to save time and invite more fishermen to participate. Mr. CHUNG recommended Rongcheng City as venue for the next RWG-M meeting.

Other business

66. With regards to YSLME participation in the IMTA training event in collaboration with Asian Institute of Technology, two experts from PR China were decided while one expert from RO Korea is expected to send confirmation to PMO. Information regarding the time and

meeting venues for the IMTA training workshop and 3rd RWG-M meeting will be drafted by the PMO in close collaboration with the two countries, and will be shared accordingly.

67. Mr. Ik-Kyo CHUNG emphasized that the contract of expert teams will end in 2019; therefore, plans after 2019 should be considered in advance. He urged experts from two countries to come up with suggestions at any time to the PMO, and encouraged to form a YSLME network through information sharing with participation from fishermen and government officials.

Wrap-up and closure of the meeting

68. The Chair and Co-chair both thanked the participants for their cooperation and patience. The meeting was closed on 9th November 2018.

Annex 1: List of Participants

2nd Meeting of the Regional Working Group on Mariculture (RWG-M) of the UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project

Suites Hotel, Jeju, RO Korea, 8-9 November 2018

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Annex 2: Programme

2nd Meeting of the Regional Working Group on Mariculture (RWG-M) of the UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project

Suites Hotel, Jeju, RO Korea, 8-9 November 2018

Programme

7 Nov (Wednesday) Arrival of Participants	
Day 1: 8 Nov (Thursday)	
09:00~09:30	Registration for participants
09:30~09:50	Opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome addresses - Introduction of the members and participants
09:50~10:00	Organization of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and adoption of agenda
10:00~10:30	Review of progress of activities approved by the Interim YSLME Commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress of project activities in 2018 related to the mandate of RWG-M Presenter: Mr. Zhengguang ZHU, PMO
10:30~10:45	Photo and Coffee Break
10:45~12:00	Session 1: Review the ongoing progress on IMTA promotion and demonstration in PR China and RO Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country presentation on the progress on IMTA demonstration of seaweed-shellfish-sea cucumber, land-based IMTA and eco-farming of oyster in PR China Presenter: Mr. Jianguang FANG, YSFRI - Country presentations on the progress on IMTA demonstration in RO Korea Presenter: Hyun Jeong LIM, NIFS - Progress on study on coastal areas suitable for application of IMTA in Shandong and potential economic value including ecological value as a part of IMTA promotion in Shandong Province Presenter: Mr. Jinghui FANG, YSFRI
12:00~14:00	Lunch and Break
14:00~15:00	Session 2: To Review the IMTA training module and additional information to be added (training module to be included in meeting kit) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of IMTA training module by YSFRI Presenter: Mr. Zengjie JIANG, YSFRI

	<p>The presentations will be followed with discussions on the IMTA training module, additional information to be added, and possible use of the training module in regional and LME training courses</p>
15:00~15:15	<p>Coffee break</p>
15:15~18:00	<p>Session 3: Framework and Process to Develop Good Aquaculture Practices of IMTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible GAP framework and indicators in line with international guidelines in particular the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture and seaweed standards developed by ASC and MSC Presenter: Individual consultant - Country presentations on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in PR China Presenter: Mr. FANG Jinghui, YSFRI - Country presentations on the framework of good aquaculture practices of IMTA in RO Korea Presenter: JangKyun KIM, Incheon National University <p>Session 4: social-economic impact of IMTA as a part of the good aquaculture practices in PR China and RO Korea including the case studies from PR China and RO Korea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country presentation and governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in PR China Presenter: Ping ZUO, Nanjing University - Country Presentation on governance and socio-economic impact of IMTA applications in RO Korea Presenter: Do Hoon KIM, Pukyong National University <p>Discussion will follow focusing on the following aspects of the GAP of IMTA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - good aquaculture practice based on experience of different models of IMTA in PR China and RO Korea; - the framework and socioeconomic, governance and environmental indicators of Good Aquaculture Practices of IMTA; - process of development of GAP of IMTA, and workplan; - opportunities of integration into GAP of IMTA into national aquaculture standards of PR China and RO Korea Presenter: Ms. Yan ZHANG, YSFRI <p>At the end of the session, the framework indicators, process, and workplan for development of the GAP of IMTA will be agreed upon among RWG-M members.</p>
18:00~	<p>Dinner hosted by PMO</p>
<p>Day 2: 9 Nov (Friday)</p>	
09:00~09:30	<p>Session 5: Collaboration with other partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In this session, the RWG members will be invited to give suggestions on collaboration with other partners. Co-operation with other project components and relevant activities in the region will also be reviewed, in particular the IMTA training in collaboration with Asian Institute of Technology based in Bangkok in early December, 2018. Based on review, 1-2 collaborative events

	in 2018 and 2019 will be proposed for support by the Project.
09:30~09:45	Coffee break
09:45 ~12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agenda of next RWG-M meeting and next Regional IMTA training - RWG-M Work-plan of 2019 - Other business - Wrap-up and closure of the meeting
12:00~13:30	Lunch and Break
13:30~16:30	- Field trip (TBC)
Day 3: 10 Nov (Saturday) Departure	