

Addressing biodiversity issues within NOWPAP

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NOWPAP outline

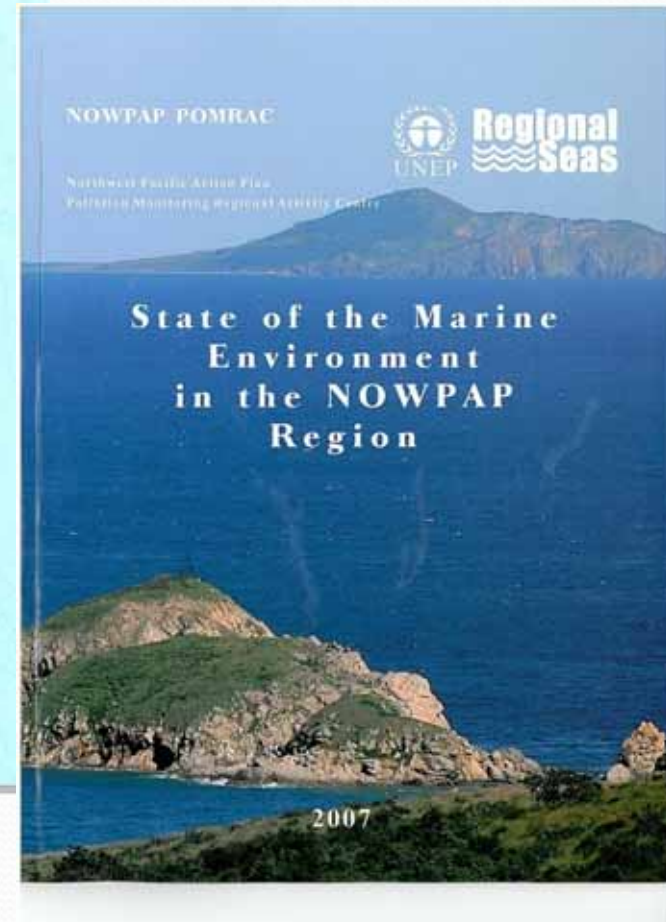
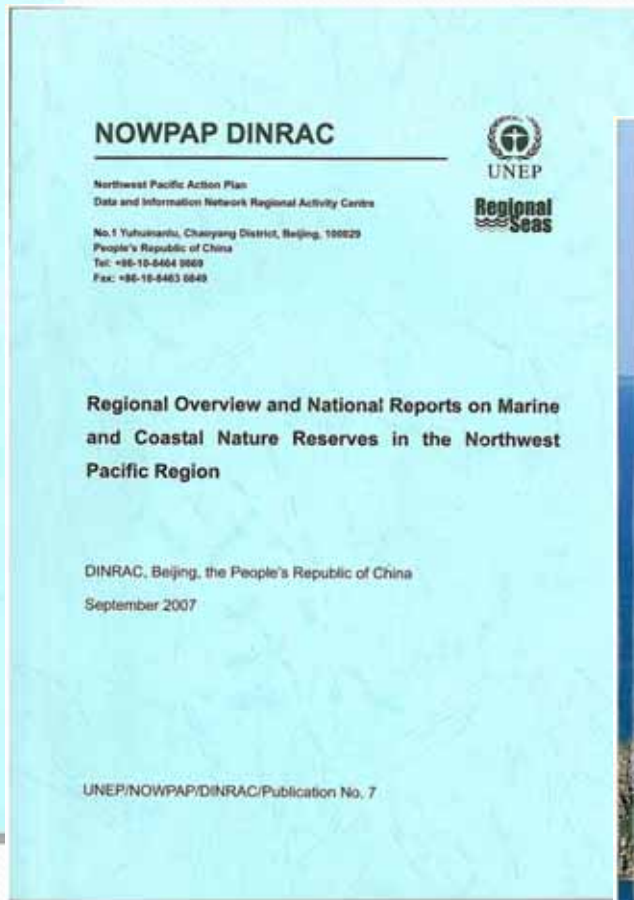
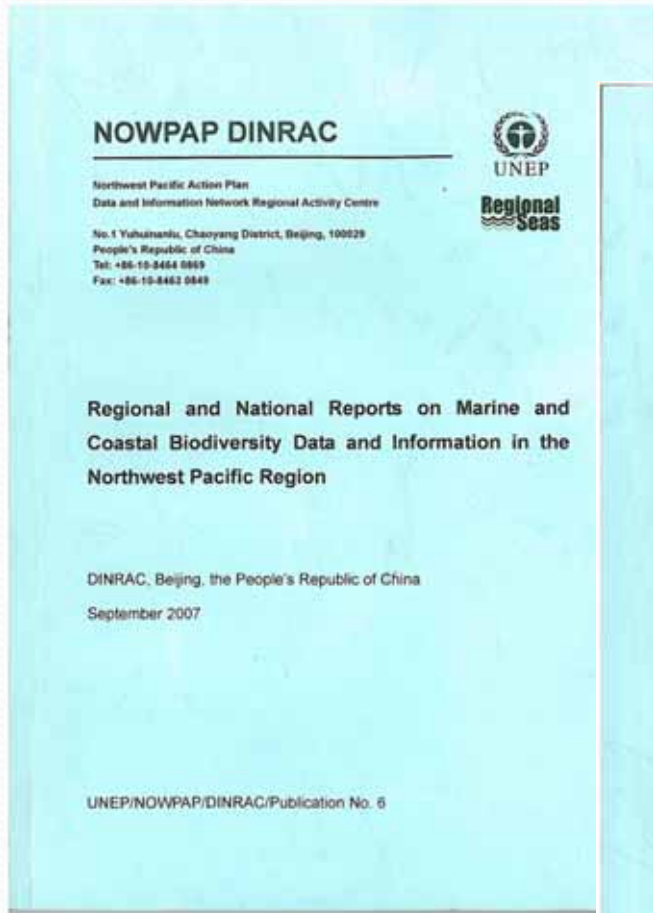
- Established in 1994 by four member states.
- Annual Intergovernmental Meetings (IGMs).
- Four Regional Activity Centers (RACs) since 2002.
- Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) since 2005.
- Most activities are implemented by RACs after approval by IGM.

Some “bad history”

- In 2003, member states decided that NOWPAP should not deal with biodiversity (especially fisheries) issues as there are other global and regional programmes/bodies dealing with those.
- In 2004, one of DINRAC activities related to collecting information and data on biodiversity was postponed for more than 1 year because of that attitude of member states.

Fortunately, the situation is changing (slowly)

Initial compilation of BD information (2005-2007)



Ongoing and planned activities, 2009-2011 (1)

NOWPAP Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Center (CEARAC), based in Toyama, Japan:

- In June 2009, completed development of a common procedure for eutrophication assessment for the NOWPAP region.
- In 2010-2011, will be developing a methodology for coastal environmental assessment focusing on marine biodiversity.

Ongoing and planned activities, 2009-2011 (2)

NOWPAP Data and Information Networks Regional Activity Center (**DINRAC**), based in Beijing, China:

- Maintains NOWPAP database of marine and coastal nature reserves (linked to the WDPA).
- In 2010-2011, will be visualizing the nature reserves data using web-based GIS.

Ongoing and planned activities, 2009-2011 (3)

Two other NOWPAP RACs could be also involved in future activities related to BD:

- Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Center (**POMRAC**) - through Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management (ICARM); e.g. MPAs establishment.
- Marine Environment Emergency Preparedness and Response Regional Activity Center (**MERRAC**) – through the project(s) related to marine invasive species, e.g. ballast waters management.



NOWPAP brainstorming workshop on marine and coastal biodiversity (September 2009). Experts ranking of priorities for the region:

- Assessment of the current status of BD in the NOWPAP region.
- Assessment of climate change impacts and other factors on BD.
- Establishing networks of marine protected areas (MPAs).
- Developing a regional programme to deal with marine invasive species.

Next step

14th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (8-10 December 2009) will decide on future NOWPAP activities/projects related to biodiversity conservation, including potential funding sources (UNEP HQ, GEF, APN, etc.).

Thank you.