

# APPENDIX 1

## **Technical Assistance for the Prevention and Control of Dust and Sandstorms in Northeast Asia Project (RETA 6068)**

(Co-financed by the Japan Special Fund and the Global Environmental Facility)

### **A. Purpose and Outputs**

The objective of the Technical Assistance (TA) is to promote the establishment of regional cooperation mechanism for the prevention and control of Dust and Sandstorms (DSS) and to facilitate cooperation for and coordination among interventions by the major stakeholders in the region.

The main outputs of the TA will include (i) an initial regional institutional framework that will enable international policy and operational coordination among the major DSS stakeholders at the regional level, and (ii) a regional master plan for the alleviating DSS, based on a comprehensive assessment of scientific findings. The master plan will include, *inter alia*, (i) a phase program for establishing a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS, and (ii) an investment strategy including recommendations on sustainable financing mechanisms and identification of eight priority demonstration projects to disseminate the best practices in addressing the causes of DSS; four in PRC and four in Mongolia.

### **B. Methodology and Key Activities**

The TA will be implemented in the context of the ongoing joint efforts of the major DSS stakeholders in the region, including the governments of People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Mongolia; and four international institutions: ADB, UNESCAP, UNCCD and UNEP. These four governments and four institutions will be collectively referred to as the participating parties. The key activities under the TA fall into two major components, one for initiating an institutional framework for regional cooperation on DSS, and the other for developing a master plan for regional cooperation on alleviating DSS.

**Initiating the framework.** To initiate an institutional framework for regional cooperation on DSS, the participating parties will form a steering committee to be co-chaired by PRC and Mongolia. The committee will provide overall guidance for implementation of the TA. Under the steering committee, the participating parties will set up three technical committees: one for promoting a regional cooperation mechanism, to be chaired by UNCCD; one for preparing a phased program to establish a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS and a comprehensive assessment of scientific findings, to be chaired by UNEP; and one for preparing an investment strategy for mitigation measures in DSS originating sources areas, to be chaired by UNESCAP. The membership of the technical committees will be open to all the participating parties, and other countries and institutions that can contribute, technically or financially, to alleviating DSS in the region.

By involving DSS-affected countries and international institutions in the initial regional cooperation mechanism, the TA will help establish a standardized DSS monitoring and early warning system in the region covering both DSS-originating and DSS-affected countries. The TA will also help mobilize technical, financial, and operational supports from the DSS-affected countries, international institutions, and other stakeholders to supplement the mitigation actions that have been, and will be, undertaken by the PRC and Mongolia in the DSS-originating source areas. The initial framework will provide a forum and enabling mechanism for these stakeholders to develop a more permanent institutional structure for regional cooperation on DSS that will sustain beyond the implementation period of the TA.

The major activities under the component will include (1) setting up the steering committee and organizing up to four plenary sessions of the steering committee for policy consultation and decision making, (ii) establishing the three technical committees and organizing up to four plenary sessions of each technical committee to provide technical advice and guidance, (iii) setting up a project secretariat under the guidance of the steering committee to provide operational coordination and administrative support to facilitate TA implementation, (iv) establishing and maintaining a computerized data bank for DSS for the participating parties, and (v) launching and operating a public awareness program through a project website and multimedia presentation to strengthen public awareness of the DSS and mobilize public support for alleviating DSS.

**Developing a Master Plan.** The master plan for regional cooperation on alleviating DSS will be developed through participatory consultation. Specific components of the draft master plan will be reviewed and cleared by the relevant technical committees and approved by the steering committee. Public participation will be facilitated through design workshops and a special web site under the public awareness program. The preparation of the phased program for establishing a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS will include (i) organizing an international workshop for a review of the national monitoring and early warning system to identify the issue that need to be addressed in developing the program, (ii) providing a team of consultants to develop the draft program, (iii) organizing two design workshops for technical review and participatory design process, and (iv) undertaking official survey and site visits to selected DSS monitoring facilities.

For preparing the master plan and investment strategy, emphasis will be placed on examining innovative financing mechanisms to mobilize continued support from public and private stakeholders and civil society to strengthen the sustainability of the regional cooperation on combating DSS. In designing the investment strategy, special emphasis will be placed on disseminating the best practices that can offer environment friendly jobs to improve the livelihood of people in the DSS originating source area. This will be done by introducing and promoting the successful demonstration projects that have both poverty reduction and DSS mitigation effects. The major activities will include (i) providing a team of consultants to draft a master plan and an investment strategy; (ii) organizing two design workshops to present the best practices and to enable a technical review and participatory design process; (iii) organizing site visits of the officials concerned to selected pilot and anti-desertification projects in the DSS originating source areas, to identify the best practices and suitable demonstration projects; and (iv) inviting international experts as resource persons to present at the workshops best international practices for technology transfer and experience sharing.

### **C. Cost and Financing**

The TA is estimated to cost US\$ 1.215 million equivalent, comprising US\$745,000 foreign exchange and US\$470,000 equivalent in local currency costs. ADB will provide US\$500,000 equivalent to cover US\$426,400 of the foreign exchange cost and US\$73,600 equivalent of the local currency cost. The TA will be financed on a grant basis from the Japan Special Fund, funded by the Government of Japan. The TA will be cofinanced by GEF on a grant basis in the amount of US\$500,000 equivalent to cover US\$318,600 of foreign exchange cost and US\$181,400 of the local currency cost. The governments of PRC and Mongolia will finance US\$125,000 equivalent and US\$90,000 equivalent, respectively, to cover the in-kind expenditures for counterpart support services and office space and office facilities occurred in their countries.

#### D. Implementation Arrangements

The TA will be implemented over an 18 month period from January 2003 to June 2004. ADB will be the Executing Agency, responsible for overall management and administration of the TA. The TA will be implemented in cooperation with UNESCAP, UNCCD, and UNEP. UNEP, which services as the GEF implementing agency for the GEF cofinancing resources, will chair the technical committee for developing a program for establishing a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS and comprehensively assessing the scientific findings. In this connection, UNEP will provide 12 persons months of professional services and office space, free of charge, as its in-kind contribution to the TA. UNESCAP, which services as a coexecuting agency for technical coordination, will chair the technical committee for developing an investment strategy. UNESCAP will provide 10 person months of professional services as its in-kind contribution. In cooperation with UNCCD, the TA will establish a project secretariat to provide operational and administrative support for the steering committee and ADB as Executing Agency. In this connection, UNCCD will provide 18 person months of professional services and office space, free of charge, for the project secretariat. All the three agencies of the United Nations – UNCCD, UNEP, and UNESCAP – will endeavor to mobilize, with their influence and expertise, supplementary technical and financial resources to support the TA.

The PRC Government as designated its State Development Planning Commission as the national coordination agency for the TA. The PRC Government will establish a multi-agency working group including representatives from the State Development Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, State Environmental Protection Administration, and State Forestry Administration to guide and support the TA. The Government of Mongolia has designated the Ministry of Nature and Environment as the national coordination agency for the TA. The representatives from the Ministry of Nature and Environment, Ministry of Finance and Economy and other concerned agencies to guide and support the TA.

The TA will require about 11 person months of international consulting services in policy and strategic planning, DSS monitoring and mitigation, anti-desertification, and international investment. The TA will require about 42 person months of domestic consulting services from PRC and Mongolia in strategic planning, DSS ground monitoring, remote sensing, sandy land revegetation, and environmental management. All consultants will be selected and engaged by ADB as individuals in accordance with its *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants* and other arrangements for the selection and engagement of domestic consultants.

### Logical Framework of the Technical Assistance

Design Summary	Performance Indicators/Targets	Monitoring Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
<p><b>Goal</b> To reduce the frequency, severity, and damage of the transboundary environmental problem of dust and sandstorms (DSSs) in Northeast Asia through regional cooperation.</p>	<p>Reduced damage by introducing an effective regional monitoring and early warning network.</p> <p>Reduced frequency and severity by arresting the land degradation in the originating source areas of DSS in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Mongolia.</p>	<p>Continued monitoring of DSS and the damage reports.</p> <p>Continued monitoring and regular report on land degradation and improvement in the originating source area.</p>	<p>The frequency, severity, and damage of DSS can be reduced through well planned and coordinated public intervention.</p> <p>Land degradation in the DSS originating area is one of the major causes of increased DSSs in the region.</p>
<p><b>Purpose</b> To promote establishment of a regional cooperation mechanism for prevention and control of DSS in Northeast Asia to encourage and facilitate coordinated interventions of all the stakeholders on DSS at regional level.</p>	<p>To establish a regional cooperation mechanism that is supported with operational capacity to coordinate interventions on DSS and to mobilize support of stakeholders for combating DSS.</p> <p>To prepare a regional master plan for combating DSS that will be supported with the following: (i) a phased development program for establishing a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS (ii) an investment strategy including recommendations for sustainable financing mechanism and identification of eight demonstration projects.</p>	<p>All the parties involved (i.e., the PRC, Japan, Republic of Korea, and Mongolia and Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP)) will establish a steering committee to provide overall guidance for project implementation.</p> <p>All the parties will also set up three technical committees to provide technical advice on specific technical issues during implementation of the technical assistance (TA).</p>	<p>All the four countries have the political will and policy commitment to addressing DSS through regional cooperation.</p> <p>All the four international institutions will cooperate with due diligence.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An initial institutional framework for regional cooperation on DSS.</li> <li>A regional master plan for regional cooperation on alleviating DSSs, which will be supported with, <i>inter alia</i>, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a phased program to establish a well-functioning regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS, and</li> <li>an investment strategy including recommendations for sustainable financing mechanisms and identification of 8 demonstration projects, four in the PRC and four in Mongolia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The initial institutional framework will provide a forum and enabling mechanism for the major DSS stakeholders to coordinate their policy and intervention on DSS at a regional level.</p> <p>The master plan will be approved by the steering committee.</p>	<p>All the activities of the initial institutional framework will be under close monitoring of the major stakeholders through the steering committee.</p> <p>The master plan will be based on a comprehensive assessment of existing scientific findings and be developed in cooperation with the multiagency national working groups under the guidance of the national coordination agencies of PRC and Mongolia. The master plan will be reviewed by the technical committees concerned before being submitted to steering committee.</p>	<p>The steering committee can make decisions on policy and operational issues on behalf of the governments concerned.</p> <p>The technical committees concerned are capable of providing technical advice and guidance.</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>1. To establish (i) an initial institutional framework for regional cooperation on combating DSS; (ii) a regional data bank on DSS; and (iii) a website for the TA as part of the public awareness program.</p> <p>2. To review and analyze: (i) existing scientific research findings on DSS and the</p>	<p>The initial institutional framework and the web site for public awareness should be in operation within one month of approval of the technical assistance (TA).</p> <p>The detailed work program for all the activities should be available for review and endorsement by the technical committees concerned, and for review and consideration by the steering committee at the inception meeting</p> <p>Findings of the review and analysis should be available for timely review by the technical committees concerned.</p>	<p>The work program will be reviewed by the technical committees and approved by the steering committee.</p> <p>Consultants are requested to submit weekly report to the project secretariat and ADB.</p> <p>Project secretariat will submit a monthly report to ADB, national coordination agencies, and the steering committee.</p> <p>Project secretariat will circulate a newsletter for information dissemination and public awareness</p>	<p>The governments will provide the consultants with access to the data and documents for their study.</p> <p>The project secretariat should be able to provide operational and administrative support to monitor and facilitate day to day operation of the field work.</p>

Design Summary	Performance Indicators/Targets	Monitoring Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
<p>existing national monitoring and forecasting systems for DSS in the region;</p> <p>(ii) existing national program/action programs on DSS and the national experiment/demonstration projects in PRC and Mongolia;</p> <p>(iii) best practices for alleviating DSSs; and</p> <p>(iv) initiatives from the private sector or non-government organizations.</p> <p>3. To recommend a regional master plan for alleviating DSS through cooperation at regional level; the master plan should be supported with:</p> <p>(i) a phased program to establish a regional monitoring and early warning network for DSS, and (ii) an investment strategy including recommendations on sustainable financing mechanisms and identification of 8 demonstration projects, 4 in PRC and 4 in Mongolia</p>		and supervision.	