



History of RO Korea's Engagement in Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia

1994	Republic of Korea joins PEMSEA
2000	Shihwa Lake is designated as ICM Parallel Site
2001	Shihwa Lake Declaration is endorsed through the LOA between MOF-PEMSEA-Local Governments (Kyunggi, Ansan, Siheung, Hwaseong)
2002	Republic of Korea hosts Ministerial Forum in Busan
2006	Cost Sharing Agreement signed by UNDP – MOF
2007	MOF Official, Dr. Won-Tae Shin, is seconded to PEMSEA as P-4 Senior Staff
2008	MOF – PEMSEA –KMI signs MOA in order to establish the Twinning Program Secretariat Twinning Workshop is held once per year from 2009~2011
2010	Participated in the 3rd PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting
2011	Hosted the 4th PEMSEA Council Meeting in Busan Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) signs MOU with PEMSEA and joins PEMSEA as a Non-Country Partner
2012	Hosted the 4th EAS Congress in Changwon, RO Korea; Hosted the 4th Ministerial Forum and adopted the Changwon Declaration towards an Ocean-based Blue Economy: Moving Ahead with the Strategy for the Seas of East Asia that endorsed the Regional 5-Year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan; Hosted the EAS marine water quality monitoring project organized by KOEM
2013	Participated in the 12th PEMSEA Expanded Executive Committee Meeting Participated in the 5th PEMSEA Council Meeting Dr. Chul-Hwan Koh elected as Technical Session Chair Participated in the 13th PEMSEA Executive Committee Meeting Hosted the International Education Program on Marine Environment for High Level Officials from the East Asian Region organized by KOEM and PEMSEA
2014	Participated in the 14th PEMSEA Executive Committee Meeting Participated in the 6th PEMSEA Council Meeting Hosted the 2nd Marine Ecosystem evaluation and Marine Spatial Planning International Workshop organized by KMI Participated in the CBD Partners Roundtable on Achieving the Aichi Targets through Integrated Coastal Management Participated in the 15th PEMSEA Executive Committee Meeting
2015	Participated in the PEMSEA Expanded 16th Executive Committee Meeting Participated in the PEMSEA ICM Capacity Building Workshop Participated in the 7th PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting Participated in the 5th EAS Congress in Danang, Vietnam; Participated in the 5th Ministerial Forum and adopted the Danang Compact on the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia 2015;

2016	Participated in the 17th PEMSEA Executive Committee Meeting Participated in the 8th PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting Dr. Jaeryong Oh elected as Technical Session Co-Chair Implemented the Regional Task Force to develop coastal management in Cambodia organized by KMI and Seoul National University Participated in the 18th PEMSEA Executive Committee Meeting
2017	Participated in the 19th PEMSEA Expanded Executive Committee Meeting Participated in the 9th PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting MABIK joined PEMSEA as a non-country partner Hosted the Sea Water Quality Analysis and Monitoring Training program organized by KOEM Dr. Jae-young Lee joined the PEMSEA PRF as Deputy Head of Planning and Partnership
2018	Participated in the 10th PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting Participated in the 6th EAS Congress in Iloilo, Philippines; Participated in the 6th Ministerial Forum and adopted the Iloilo Declaration: East Asian Region Moving as One to Secure Healthy Oceans, People and Economies. Participated in the following workshops at the Partnership Hubs - Establishing Blue Carbon Research Network in East Asian Seas Region sponsored by MOF (KOEM) - Enhancing Ways to Reducing Impact of Marine Debris in the East Asian Seas Region (KOEM) - A Critical Review of 25 years of Land Reclamation in East Asia organized (KIOST) - Ocean Energy: The Future of Blue Economy (KIOST) - Promoting Biodiversity in the Seas of East Asia (MABIK)
2019	Participated in the 11th PEMSEA Partnership Council Meeting Dr. Jaeryong Oh elected as Technical Session Chair Hosted the Sea Water Quality Analysis and Monitoring training organized by KOEM Hosted the International Symposium on Marine Microplastics Hosted the Expert Training Workshop on Marine Debris Hosted the Technical Working Group Meeting on marine pollution focusing on knowledge sharing and capacity development to tackle ocean deoxygenating issue
2020	MOF official, Mr. Won Bae-Kim, seconded to PEMSEA MOF sponsored EAS Futures Grant (youth photo competition)
2021	MOF and KIOST co-organized a regional awareness raising seminar on biofouling management in collaboration with IMO and PEMSEA MOF sponsored EAS Futures Grant (youth photo and video competition) Incheon Port Authority (IPA) entered into an MOA with PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) to develop a report on GHG emission reduction in the maritime transport sector in the EAS region RoK participated in EAS Congress 2021 RoK, through MOF, signed the Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration
2022	ROK participates in the preparation of the 2023-2027 SDS-SEA Implementation Plan KIOST co-organized the Regional Task Force Meetings to develop the regional strategy on biofouling management in ASEAN with IMO and PEMSEA IPA entered into a MOA with the PRF to undertake a report on integrated port/ship waste management: policies and practices in the EAS region
2023	In 2023, PEMSEA and the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) signed a Letter of Cooperation to jointly organize a Learning Exchange Workshop on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem-based management during the 6th GEO Blue Planet Symposium in Seoul, co-organized with MOF, KOEM, and the Blue Carbon Research Center. RO Korea also reinforced support for PEMSEA's goal of shaping future climate and ocean leaders, with the Korean National Ocean Science Museum (KOSM) committing to host a regional youth forum in East Asia as part of the EAS Congress 2024. An agreement between PEMSEA and KOSM was signed on November 2, 2023. That same year, PEMSEA launched the six-year, US\$9M ODA Project on Reducing Marine Plastics in the East Asian Seas Region, funded by RO Korea through MOF, with initial efforts focused on establishing foundations for activities in 10 sites across the Philippines and Timor-Leste. The 3rd PNLC General Assembly was also held in Seoul on November 2, where four new members signed the PNLC Charter, bringing the network to 19 members, with two more under review.
2024	Held in Ulsan, ROK, on 15–19 October 2024, the Youth Forum gathered 19 delegates from EAS countries for workshops, field visits, and expert exchanges, culminating in the 2024 EAS Youth Call to Action for Blue Synergy and Inclusive Ocean Governance. During the EAS Congress 2024, RO Korea also signed the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration.

2025

KIOST hosted the 33rd Executive Committee Meeting in Busan in April 2024, where Busan also committed to host the PNLG 2026.

Members from Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM), Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), National Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea (MABIK), Pohang University, Kunsan National University joined the Blue Carbon Technical Working Group.