

[NEAMPAN Webinar]

Climate Change and Marine Protected Areas: Insights from China and the Republic of Korea

12 May 2026, virtual

Background

Marine ecosystems in North-East Asia are increasingly affected by climate change, including rising sea temperatures, ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and shifts in species distribution. These changes pose growing challenges to the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of marine protected areas (MPAs), which are themselves increasingly exposed to climate-related risks. At the same time, MPAs serve as important tools for conserving biodiversity, strengthening ecosystem resilience, and supporting climate change adaptation, while also contributing to broader ocean-based climate action in the region.



In this context, the North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN), under the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), has undertaken studies to assess the impacts of climate change on MPAs, with a focus on China and the Republic of Korea. These studies provide site-level analyses of climate risks and vulnerabilities, as well as an overview of existing management responses and potential adaptation measures. They also highlight emerging gaps and opportunities to enhance climate-responsive management at both the site and network levels.

Building on these findings, the webinar aims to disseminate key findings of the NEAMPAN studies and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences among policymakers, practitioners, and experts.

Programme (GMT+9)

Time	Programme
15:00-15:05	Opening
15:05-15:25	Presentation on China by Dr. Linlin Zhao
15:25-15:45	Presentation on the Republic of Korea by Dr. Jungho Nam
15:45-16:05	Moderator-led discussion, including an exchange between the authors
16:05-16:25	Floor discussion and Q&A
16:25-16:30	Closing

Meet the Authors

	<p>Dr. Linlin Zhao is an Associate Researcher and Master Supervisor at the Marine Ecology Research Center of the First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China. His work focuses on marine protected area management, marine biodiversity conservation, and the conservation biology of endangered marine species. He has published extensively in domestic and international journals.</p>
	<p>Dr. Jungho Nam is a senior researcher at the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), where he has worked since 1996. His expertise includes integrated coastal and marine spatial planning, climate change adaptation, marine environment management, and transboundary marine cooperation. He has contributed to marine policy development in the Republic of Korea and has been actively involved in regional and international initiatives such as PEMSEA, COBSEA, NOWPAP, and YSLME.</p>

