

COUNTRY: CHINA

Source of Information:

Prof. Qisheng Tang, October 2003

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Participating Institutions:

Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Qingdao

Second Institute of Oceanography, Hangzhou

Institute of Oceanology, Qingdao

Ocean University of Qingdao, Qingdao

Research Focus:

YSEC (China GLOBEC II): Ecosystem Dynamics and Sustainable Utilization of Marine Living Resources in the East China Sea and Yellow Sea

Project Description:

The programme goals are:

- identify key processes of ecosystem dynamics, and improve predictive and modeling capabilities in the East China Sea and the Yellow Sea.
- provide scientific underpinning for the sustainable utilization of the ecosystem and rational management system of fisheries and other marine life.

The scientific objectives of the programme are to determine the:

- impacts of key physical processes on biological production.
- cycling and regeneration mechanisms of biogenic elements.
- basic production processes and zooplankton role in the ecosystem.
- food web trophodynamics and shift in dominant species.

System Types Studied:

East China and Yellow Sea: shelf area

Target Organisms:

Calanus sinicus

Engraulis japonicus

and other key species in each trophic level

Physical Processes Examined:

Contribution of stratification, frontogenesis, upwelling and bottom boundary interaction to trophodynamics

Key Questions, Hypotheses and Issues:

- Energy flow and conversion of key resource species; dynamics of key zooplankton population; cycling and regeneration of biogenic elements; ecological effect of key physic processes; pelagic and benthic coupling; microbial loops contribution to main food web.
- Key physico-chemico-biologic processes in high production areas
- Exchanges contributing to the dominant species shift and population dynamics

Number of scientists and fte: 94 scientists

Duration: October 1999 - September 2004

Budget: US\$4.7 Million

Funding Agency: The Ministry of Science and Technology, P.R. China