

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WESTERN PACIFIC REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PROMOTION OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND APPLIED STUDIES  
(PEPAS)



SUMMARY OF 1985 ACTIVITIES

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## SUMMARY OF 1985 ACTIVITIES

### Introduction

During 1985 the WHO Western Pacific Regional Centre for the Promotion of Environmental Planning and Applied Studies (PEPAS) continued to carry out its activities based on the needs of the countries or areas in the Region and in support of WHO programmes in the promotion of environmental health, namely, community water supply and sanitation; environmental health in rural and urban development and housing; control of environmental health hazards and food safety.

The staffing situation of the Centre during 1985 is shown in Annex 1.

### Direct national technical cooperation activities

PEPAS provided technical cooperation to 37 activities in 12 countries or areas of the Region, amounting to about 42 man-months of staff and consultant time. A list of these activities is given in Annex 2.

Among other topics, the collaborative activities covered subjects such as examination of drinking-water supply systems, air and water quality monitoring and management, marine pollution control, development and training of manpower for environmental pollution control, toxic and hazardous waste disposal, and food sanitation administration.

PEPAS staff visited a number of countries or areas to discuss potential future collaborative activities.

### Group educational activities

PEPAS collaborated in the organization and conducting of nine national group educational activities held in the People's Republic of China, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea. A list of these activities is included in Annex 2.

About 410 participants attended these group educational activities, the subjects of which covered drinking water quality surveillance, planning for control of motor vehicle emissions, rapid pollution assessment methodologies and applications, systems analysis and operations research applications to environmental health planning, and the development and preparation of a food inspector's manual.

In May, a regional workshop on appropriate technology for rural water supply and sanitation, attended by 13 participants from 11 countries or areas of the Region, was held at PEPAS. Among the topics of interest covered in the workshop was the application of ferrocement technology for construction of water tanks which was highlighted through a demonstration project.

A regional workshop on excreta and refuse disposal was held, also at PEPAS, in October to review problems related to excreta and refuse disposal in rural and depressed urban fringe areas and to discuss effective methods and approaches for achieving an adequate level of sanitation in these areas. Sixteen participants from 15 countries or areas of the Region attended the workshop.

#### Information services

PEPAS continued to provide technical information services either in response to requests from institutions or individuals or through the distribution of publications prepared by WHO.

PEPAS plans to implement an information network programme which is designed to achieve two major objectives: the first is to expand the PEPAS information base on subject areas requiring priority attention in the Region, and the second is to respond to information needs of the specified target audience in such a manner that the information may be directly translatable to an improvement in technical and managerial performance in the implementation of national programmes. Arrangements were made to engage persons to perform document consolidation activities through a contractual service agreement to assist in implementing this programme, called the Focalized Network Information Service Programme (FNP).

The International Reference Centre for Community Water Supply and Sanitation provided funds for partial defrayal of expenses to undertake the FNP project, which is a joint collaborative project carried out with the Library of the University of Agriculture, Malaysia on whose campus PEPAS is located.

#### Third meeting of the PEPAS Advisory Committee

The PEPAS Advisory Committee, comprising members from Australia, the People's Republic of China, Guam, Japan, Malaysia and the Philippines, met at PEPAS from 24 to 28 September 1985. The Committee, having reviewed the activities carried out by PEPAS over the period since the Second Meeting (i.e. 1983 - 1985), was in broad agreement with the trend of the past activities and the future plans proposed for 1986-1987. The Committee made several recommendations on future activities for implementation by PEPAS. The report of the meeting was printed and distributed in January 1986.

#### UNEP/WHO Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) projects

PEPAS coordinates the various GEMS projects at the regional level. During the year, national agencies continued to contribute data to the GEMS projects on air quality, water quality and food contamination monitoring.

As a further development of the UNEP/WHO health-related environmental monitoring programme, a number of Human Exposure Assessment Locations (HEALs) will be established globally. At these locations, comprehensive exposure monitoring for a number of environmental pollutants will be conducted in support of health risk assessments. In the Western Pacific Region, the Government of Japan has expressed interest in participating in the HEAL project and a PEPAS staff member, together with a staff member from WHO Headquarters, held a series of consultative meetings with concerned Japanese officials regarding their participation in the project.

### Other activities

In response to invitations extended by national and international institutions, PEPAS staff members contributed technical papers and presided over technical sessions of conferences and seminars, particularly those held in Malaysia where PEPAS is located.

During the year, PEPAS staff attended the following meetings: WHO Consultative Meeting on the HEAL project, Geneva, 24 April - 3 May 1985; WHO (South-East Asian Region) Intercountry Workshop on Methodology for Case Studies on Women's Participation in Community Water Supply and Sanitation, Bangkok, 26-31 May 1985; WHO Consultation on the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade Regional External Support, Manila, 21-25 October 1985; and the Second Meeting of WHO Staff Involved in the Food Safety Programme, Alexandria, 3-7 November 1985.

PEPAS recruited a consultant to visit several countries in the Region to gather information on chemical safety programmes. The information will be used for a regional workshop on chemical safety to be held at PEPAS in November 1986.

Consultants were also recruited to work at PEPAS to perform the following activities: develop a systematic methodology for environmental information evaluation and consolidation; prepare a proposed framework for the development of a national programme for excreta and refuse disposal in squatter and slum areas; and prepare prototype documentation on the development of a national drinking water quality surveillance programme. Reports on these activities have been prepared.

### PEPAS documents and reports

A comprehensive list of technical documents and reports produced by PEPAS is available on request.

A list of selected PEPAS technical reference documents is given in Annex 3.

PEPAS STAFFING DURING 1985

Mr Somnuek Unakul <sup>1</sup>	Director
<u>Technical staff</u> (in alphabetical order)	
Mr B. Fisher	Decade Engineer
Dr P. Guo <sup>2</sup>	Water Quality Management Adviser
Dr W. Kreisel	Air Quality Management Adviser
Dr M. Nakamura	Environmental Systems Engineer
Dr K. M. Yao <sup>3</sup>	Officer-in-charge and Water Quality Management Adviser
Mr S. Yoshimoto <sup>4</sup>	Food Hygiene and Safety Officer
(under recruitment)	Environmental Planner
<u>Administrative staff</u>	
Ms V. Hay	Administrative Officer
<u>Programme support staff</u>	
Ms Y. M. Tan	Special Assistant

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1 From August 1985

2 From January 1985

3 Until end-February 1985

4 Presently based in the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, Manila, Philippines

ANNEX 2

LIST OF PEPAS TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES AT  
NATIONAL LEVEL IN 1985

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Technical visit to discuss possible technical collaboration between PEPAS and concerned Government agencies, Singapore	16-17 January
2. Staff assignment on development and training of manpower for environmental pollution control (Phase 2), Republic of Korea	26 January - 19 March
3. STC <sup>1</sup> assignment on establishment of a milk sanitation programme, Guam	7-27 January
4. Staff assignment on planning of the details of bilateral technical cooperation for construction and equipping of food and drug laboratories, Philippines	29 January - 5 February
5. Staff assignment on sanitation and water quality control programme, Philippines	6 February - 7 March
6. STC assignment on a review of food sanitation administration and laboratories, Macao	7 February - 1 March
7. Staff assignment on review of food sanitation, administration, legislation and laboratories, Viet Nam	5-21 March
8. STC assignment on marine pollution control legislation and coastal zone management, Malaysia	20 March - 26 April
9. Attendance at a tripartite country programme review meeting to review water supply and sanitation components of the programme, Viet Nam	21-22 March
10. Staff assignment on air quality management, Philippines	10 April - 17 May
11. Pre-workshop visit for national workshop on the food inspector's manual, China	23-28 April
12. Staff assignment on preparation of a draft food inspector's manual and participation in a national seminar on food hygiene, Papua New Guinea	7-27 May

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<sup>1</sup>STC : Short-term consultant



13. Staff assignment on water quality management, Philippines 13 May - 21 June
14. STC assignment on development of a field chemical water test kit for Malaysia 31 May - 2 July
15. STC assignment on toxic and hazardous waste disposal, Philippines 8-20 June
16. Staff assignment on the problem of contamination of drinking water, Kiribati 17 June - 10 July
17. STC assignment on wastewater management, water pollution control and related technology, China 21 June - 8 July
18. Staff assignment on development of an information management and data processing system for the national drinking water quality surveillance system, Malaysia 16 July - 31 January 1986 (intermittently)
19. Staff assignment on water quality monitoring of mining activities, Papua New Guinea 8 July - 16 August
20. National seminar on drinking water quality surveillance, Johor Baru, Malaysia 12-14 July
21. STC assignment on food safety (preparation of draft food inspection manual), Malaysia 12 July - 1 October
22. STC assignment on presentation of lectures on air quality control and management, China 24 July - 3 September
23. National workshop on planning for control of motor vehicle emissions, China 26 - 30 August
24. Staff assignment to participate in joint UNDP/WHO/Government mission to evaluate drinking water and sanitation project, Laos 29 August - 17 September
25. National workshop on rapid pollution assessment methodologies and applications, China 2-6 September
26. National training course on drinking water quality surveillance, Alor Setar, Malaysia 6-8 September
27. STC assignment on analytical quality control in water quality monitoring, China 17 September - 3 October
28. National seminar on drinking water quality surveillance, Malacca, Malaysia 1-2 October
29. Staff assignment on a field visit to Pulau Bidong, Trengganu, Malaysia (to advise on aspects of the water and sanitation services on the island) 4-5 October

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| 30. National workshops on drinking water quality monitoring and surveillance, Papua New Guinea                                       | 14-25 October                                    |
| 31. National workshops on the food inspector's manual, China   | 11-27 October                                    |
| 32. Staff assignment on water quality management of Jung-Rang stream, Republic of Korea  | 12 October -<br>7 December                       |
| 33. STC assignment on air quality management of the Laguna Lake Region, Philippines  | 16 October -<br>17 December                      |
| 34. STC assignment on development of specifications for a telemetered air monitoring network, Republic of Korea                      | 20 October -<br>18 December                      |
| 35. National workshop on systems analysis and operations research applications to environmental health planning, China               | 4-15 November                                    |
| 36. Staff assignment on a field visit to Viet Nam (to follow up on a Tripartite Country Programme Review Meeting held in March 1985) | 20 - 27 November                                 |
| 37. Staff assignment on environmental information system development, Malaysia   | Intermittently<br>from July 1984<br>to June 1985 |

LIST OF SELECTED PEPAS TECHNICAL REFERENCE DOCUMENTS<sup>1</sup>

1. PEPAS INFORMATION DOCUMENT. Document describing various UNEP/WHO projects within the framework of the global environmental monitoring system (GEMS), 1980.
2. A REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT METHODS FOR ESTIMATING DIESEL SMOKE EMISSIONS FROM MOTOR VEHICLES, 1981.
3. PLANNING FOR CONTROL OF EMISSIONS FROM MOTOR VEHICLES, 1981. A collection of papers presented at the WHO(PEPAS)/UNEP Bi-regional Workshop on Planning for Control of Emissions from Motor Vehicles held in Kuala Lumpur from 10 to 14 November 1980.
4. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF LAND-BASED SOURCES OF POLLUTION IN EAST ASIAN SEAS. Full report. Prepared by PEPAS for UNEP Regional Seas Programme, 1981.
5. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF LAND-BASED SOURCES OF POLLUTION IN EAST ASIAN SEAS. Summary Report. Prepared by PEPAS for UNEP Regional Seas Programme, 1981.
6. MANUAL ON AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND CONTROL, 1981.
7. INDUSTRIAL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTROL, 1983. A collection of selected papers presented at the WHO Regional Seminar on Industrial and Hazardous Waste Control held in Kuala Lumpur from 4 to 8 October 1982.
8. FOOD SAFETY ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES IN THE WHO WESTERN PACIFIC REGION, AUGUST 1983. (INFORMATION PAPER)
9. PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY LEAKAGE AND WASTAGE CONTROL. A collection of papers presented at the WHO Regional Workshop on Public Water Supply Leakage and Wastage Control held in Singapore from 12 to 17 December 1983.
10. NOISE CONTROL LEGISLATION AND POLICY IN COUNTRIES AND AREAS OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC, December 1984.
11. APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION. A collection of papers presented at the WHO Regional Workshop on Appropriate Technology for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation held in Kuala Lumpur from 6 to 10 May 1985.
12. USE OF ASCARIS OVA AS AN INDICATOR FOR MONITORING NIGHTSOIL. Booklet prepared by N. Kagei (WHO Consultant), C. Y. Yen and C. C. Pan (both of the Institute of Health, People's Republic of China), February 1986.

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<sup>1</sup> Documents specially prepared for reference purposes or representing a collection of selected technical papers presented at regional/interregional group training activities.