

North Korea, Climate Change and Capacity-Building

RMIT Guest Lecture

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1. What do we know about North Korea?



This is *not*
North Korea



The Kim Dynasty





The Power of Ideology



State Coercion





1990s: Economic Collapse, Natural Disasters, Famine and State Failure

Energy Insecurity



China

Sea of Japan

North Korea

Pyongyang

Seoul

South Korea

Bo Hai Gulf

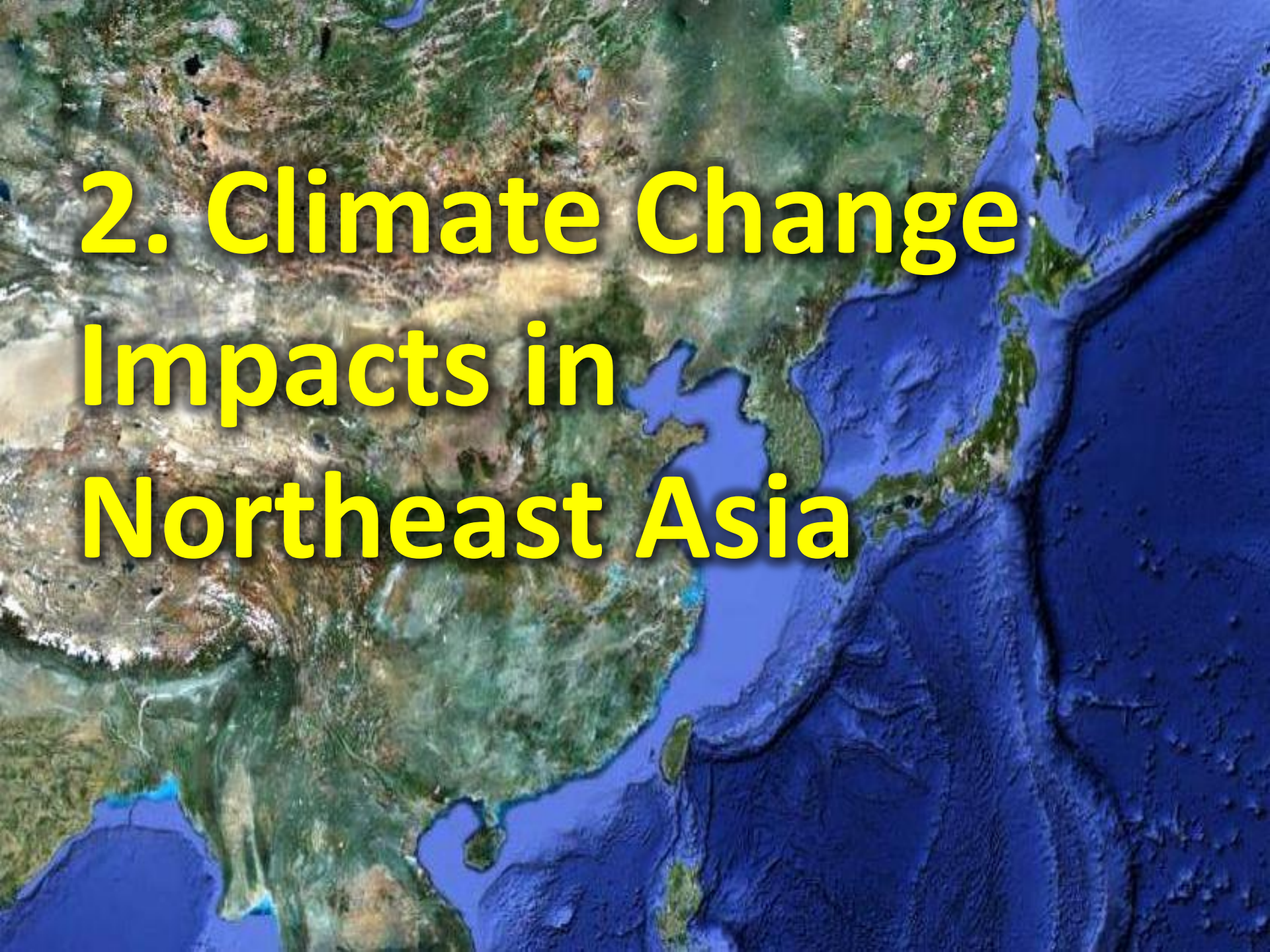
Yellow Sea

Gunsan

[illegible]

Attempted Recovery: *Songun Politics and the Pyongyang Line*



A satellite map of Northeast Asia, showing the Korean Peninsula, Japan, and the surrounding seas. The land is depicted in shades of green and brown, while the water is a deep blue. The text is overlaid on the left side of the map.

2. Climate Change Impacts in Northeast Asia



Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts





3. North Korea and the UNFCCC

united nations climate change conference

Nusa Dua - Bali, Indonesia, 3-14 December 2007



What is the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)?

Obligations Under UNFCCC, Article 4.1

4.1(a) National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

4.1(b) National Mitigation and Adaptation Policies

4.1(c) Technology and Knowledge Transfer

4.1(d) Carbon Sinks

4.1(e) International Adaptation

4.1(f) Incorporate Climate Change Adaptation into Policy-making

4.1(g) Scientific Cooperation

4.1(h) Cooperation on Implementation of Adaptative Responses

4.1(i) Education and Awareness

4.1(j) National Communication



North Korea and the UNFCCC

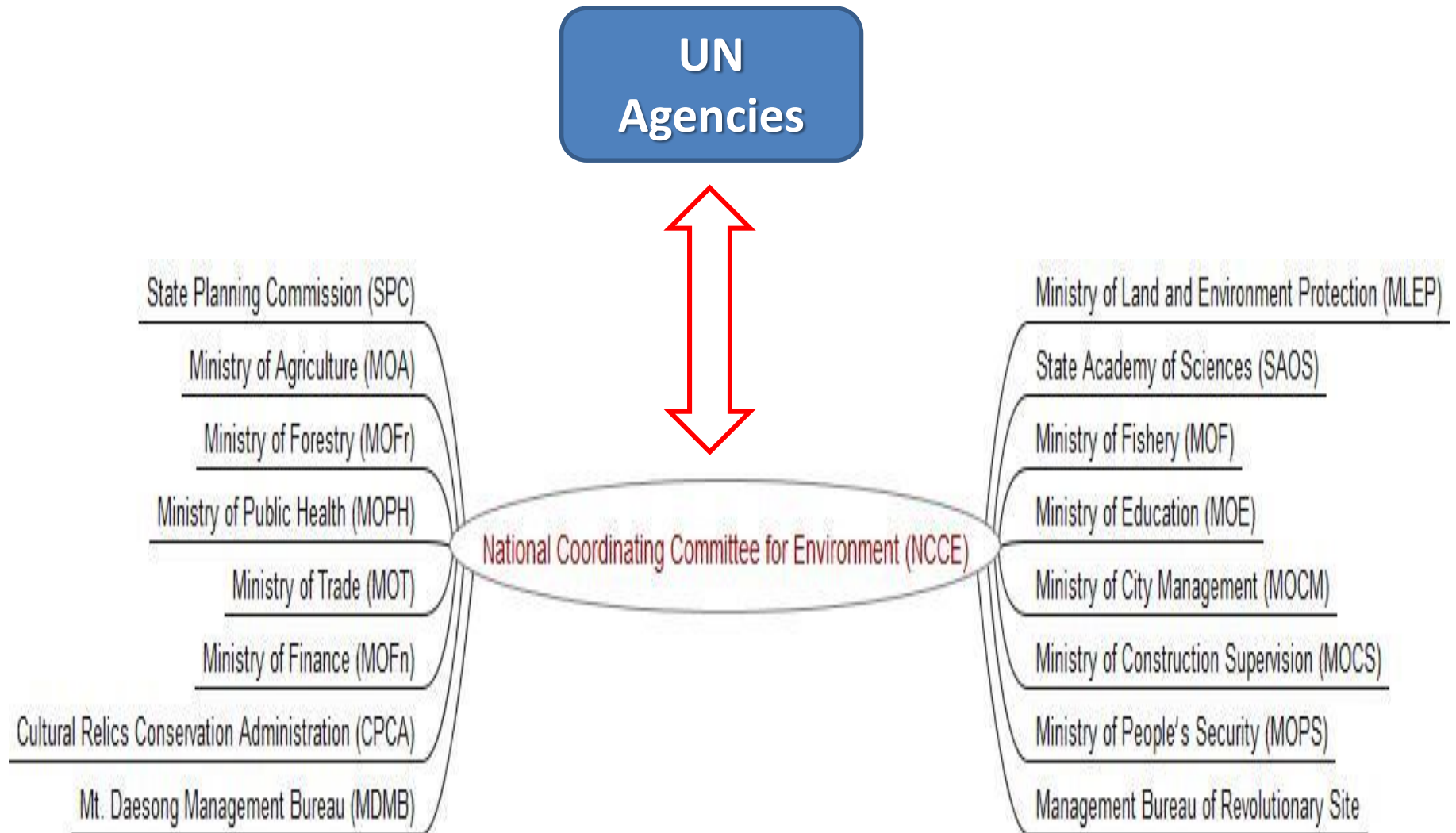
Disengaged from UNFCCC process...

- Non-Annex I party.
- Nominally part of G77 bloc.
- Sporadic attendee at COPs.

However, taking advantage of UNFCCC-related capacity building...

- Cooperation with UN agencies.
- Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

North Korea's Environmental Institutions



4. Why Does North Korea Interact with the UNFCCC?





Climate Vulnerability-related Capacity Building



Energy Sector Development





Foreign Currency Revenue

Total CERs	% Total Emissions Budget	EU Spot Price		Value of CERs	
		US\$/ton	€/ton	US\$/ton	€/ton
193,475	0.002%	\$5.66	€ 4.24	\$1,094,200.00	€ 820,334.00

***Statistics accurate as of July 2013.

Conclusion: UNFCCC as an *Engagement Vehicle?*

- Convergence of interests.
- Relatively de-politicised.
- Transparency mechanisms.
- Confidence-building.
- Institutional socialisation.

5. Questions?

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