



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS



Charting a New Decade of Healthy Ocean, People and Economies

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Collab 16

Making Asia-Pacific Resilient to Climate Change: The Effort and Perspective of the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT)

15 November 2021, 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM (GMT+7)

Online via Zoom

ORGANIZERS:

IGES

Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

Institute for Global Environmental
Strategies (IGES)



環境省

Ministry of the Environment

Ministry of Environment Japan (MOEJ)



Center for Climate Change Adaptation

Center for Climate Change
Adaptation (CCCA), National
Institute for Environmental
Studies (NIES), Japan



PEMSEA

Partnerships in Environmental
Management for the Seas of East Asia
(PEMSEA) Resource Facility

Collab 16: “Making Asia-Pacific Resilient to Climate Change: The Effort and Perspective of the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT)”

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PROCEEDINGS

1.0 Introduction

The risk of extreme climate-related disasters is expected to increase further due to climate change. Severe impacts of climate change on our nature and society have already been observed globally and locally. Thus, taking steps toward adaptation is crucial to mitigate and avoid such impacts.

The Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) was established at the G20 summit in 2018 in Japan with the vision of nurturing countries in the Asia-Pacific Region to build climate-resilient and sustainable society through science-based climate adaptation strategies and measures, risk-informed decision making, and pragmatic capacity building. The mission of AP-PLAT is to provide an enabling environment for climate-risk informed decision making and bankable adaptation actions through synchronizing and harnessing best available existing efforts on climate adaptation among partner countries and organizations.

This session will present the latest scientific findings and capacity building contents provided by AP-PLAT, which will be useful for making the region more resilient to climate change, especially in the Asian basins and coastal areas covered by PEMSEA. It will also discuss how synergies can be created through the partnership between AP-PLAT and PEMSEA, as well as the role of IGES as the PEMSEA Regional Center of Excellence (RCoE) in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction and the promoter of capacity building activities in APPLAT.

In the session, introduction of useful scientific tools and online capacity building services available in AP-PLAT will be presented. Finally, the discussion on the future possible collaborations between AP-PLAT and PEMSEA among all the panels and audiences will be conducted.

The event aimed to:

- a. To understand the current and future challenges caused by climate change in the Asia-Pacific.
- b. To introduce useful scientific tools available in AP-PLAT website and how those tools are used for the development of adaptation measures in the region.
- c. To introduce some of the latest online capacity development contents available in APPLAT, such as encountering compound risks, and understanding ISO standard related to climate change adaptation.
- d. To discuss the opportunities of building partnership between AP-PLAT and PEMSEA, as well as the role of IGES as the RCoE and the promoter of capacity building activities in AP-PLAT.

2.0 Opening Remarks

On behalf of the Ministry of Environment in Japan, Mr. Gen'ichiro Tsukada made an opening remark. He stressed that the impacts of climate change are an evident threat to coastal areas and islands, and the Asia-Pacific region is at the forefront of tackling the climate crisis. In this context, he expressed his respect to PEMSEA for addressing various environmental issues, including climate change, from the perspective of integrated coastal zone management, emphasizing the importance of this partnership as we continue to promote climate change adaptation in the ocean and coastal areas. In addition, he introduced the AP-PLAT, which is an initiative based on three pillars: 1) enhancing scientific knowledge, 2) providing support tools, and 3) capacity building. Lastly he expressed his expectation for this event to serve as the first step toward further collaboration between AP-PLAT, PEMSEA and other regional networks to accelerate capacity development in the Asia-Pacific.

3.0 Introducing Scientific Tools to Understand the Impact of Climate Change (AP-PLAT)

Dr. Yuji Masutomi, Head, Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Research Section, Center for Climate Change Adaptation first announced the renewal of AP-PLAT website where the design was improved and also added some new database and scientific tools named Climo-KIT. As one of the featured tools available the Climo-KIT, he introduced ClimoCast which aims to deliver the latest future climate projection with easy access for anyone who need scientific information at the regional scale. ClimoCast has two modes: map mode and time series mode. In map mode, a user can geographically compare different climate scenarios, including 10 global climate model and the low emission scenarios. And in time series mode, they can compare future climate change over time, across future climate scenarios, including transition and also image CO emission scenarios. As the most important function of ClimoCast, a user can easily download

data in CSV format which means everybody can easily access to these huge the latest future climate projection

He demonstrated another tool amongst Climo-KIT, called the Climate Impact View, a map database based on latest climate scientific results. Two figures show the future changes in inundation areas: the inundation area in 2010 and at the end of this century with different colors that indicate the area higher and lower indentation area. Climate Impact View is providing not only coastal area impact but also wide range of sector including extreme weather, sea level life, health, agriculture, water resources and ecosystems. He concluded this presentation by stressing that Climo-KIT is a global database on scientific data and tools for adaptation planning and action.

4.0 Introducing Online Capacity Development Tools on Adaptation

Dr. Binaya Shivakoti, Senior Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) presented the two E-learning courses available at AP-PLAT. One is on compound and cascading disaster risks, and second one is Nature based Solution, launched at COP 26 Japan pavilion on the third of November 2021.

Regarding building resilience to compound and cascading disaster risks, he stressed that it a now becoming a very hot topic, especially after this COVID-19 pandemic which created a complex scenario for disaster risk management. Climate change is responsible for extreme hydrometric and metrological disasters and most of them involves compound and cascading effects. He introduced that this E-Learning material addresses how to enhance understanding about this compound and cascading disasters and how this disaster is different from the normal disasters that occurred in the past, and what additional steps governments, communities and individuals need to take. For developing this E-Learning material, recent scientific literature and assessment report was utilized, providing real cases that involved compound and cascading disaster from Japan, Asia and Europe as well as interaction and interview with leading experts in the field.

It considers all combination of hard and soft measures to minimize loss and damage, and most importantly, break the chain of impacts and then build back better our adequate recovery by considering systemic impact. And in the lesson four Dr. Shivakoti explained about adaptive implementation framework based on three mutually reinforcing pillar based on policy, legal and institutional setup action planning, monitoring and evaluation. He emphasized the need to have a systemic and transformative thinking with the by using the concept of adaptive governance, which requires multi-level coordination, meaningful participation and effective decision making.

Lastly, he also demonstrated the E-learning course on Nature based Solutions, which has received a significant attention at different level. This course explains about what is NBS what are the good practices and why and also provide the video as well as the useful links.

5.0 Panel Discussion

Mr. Osamu Mizuno moderated the panel discussion, stating that the its purpose was to explore the possibilities of building partnerships between AP-PLAT and PEMSEA, especially in capacity building for climate change adaptation. The four PEMSEA panelists then began by providing feedback on the value and potential applications of AP-PLAT.

Ms. Nancy BERMAS, a Senior Programme Manager of PEMSEA Resource Facility, firstly introduced the three priority management programs and three governance programs of SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022. It includes “Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction” and “Knowledge management and Capacity Building” which are relevant to the capacity development programs of AP-PLAT. She also identified common elements that can be discerned from both frameworks, which include capacity development, knowledge management and collaboration & networking. To mainstream AP-PLAT into SDS-SEA and PEMSEA’s 2030 Roadmap, she highlighted PNLG-PNLC Joint Learning Events, Specialized skills training on applicable CCA tools, and Policy/leadership forums as examples of capacity building activities, as well as exploring linkages with SEAKB for CCA-specific section. There is also a scope of utilizing AP-PLAT in current and upcoming PEMSEA projects.

Dr. Wansuk SENANAN, a President of PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC), shared some success stories of local level ICM implementation with PEMSEA’s involvements. PNLC consists of research institutions and universities in nine countries and has important roles in providing technical support to the local ICM implementation in the region. The good practices includes trainings on ICM related tools such as vulnerability assessment, state of the coast reporting, coastal zone management. PNLC also helps local governments to troubleshoot some issues such as development of baseline information for ICM site development management plans based on scientific methodologies and implementation of pilot projects. She pointed out two aspects as possible collaboration with AP-PLAT: 1) The use of climate forecasting tools for early warning and monitoring of the impact of climate change, 2) Localization of web-based capacity development programs into field level.

Dr. Fang QINHUA, a Deputy Secretary General of PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Secretariat, firstly introduced PNLG’s objectives in the contexts of achieving global goals such as Paris Agreement and SDGs. The main objective of the network is to promote the application of

the ICM approach through implementing innovation, financing mechanism in partnership, strengthening multiple stakeholder involvement, and enhancing the local coastal governance where adaptation to climate change is one of the key aspects. As feedback to AP-PLAT, he reminded that the adaptive capacity of local governance is highly context sensitive, making a “one-size fits all” approach inappropriate. He also added notion of the need to strengthen linkage between scientific technical institutions and local governments, in order to provide capacity building and scientific input to local government decision-making, policies and programs.

Ms. Casandra TANIA, a Regional Biodiversity Specialist from the ATSEA-2 Regional Project Management Unit, introduced the project outline of the Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase 2 (2019-2024) or ATSEA-2. Some of the research results from the project address transboundary environmental issues such as exploitation of marine resources, and loss and degradation of habitats and biodiversity. Her impression of AP-PLAT is “One-stop shop for climate change adaptation” meaning the climate forecast tools and other resources in the platform are good resources for technical specialists. To further make AP-PLAT useful for wide range of audience, she recommended providing skills/assistance to find and access the relevant data and interpret or select the adaptations needed. In addition, she suggested to combine the use of online resources and local data to make resources of AP-PLAT more useful for developing local adaptation strategies.

6.0 CONCLUSION

Mr. Mizuno summarized the session, highlighting insightful comments from speakers. First of all, that it is important to secure the complementarity of the efforts of under AP-PLAT, and the first step might be to start have good understanding on exactly what most frameworks are doing right now. Avoiding the whole overlap or duplication and try to identify the real area where we need the collaboration is critical. That must be the key step in order to translate that the identified area of collaboration to real actions. He stated that co-learning and co-developing approach might be helpful and capacity building needs to be tailored or fine-tuned to address the real needs of the local community. Mr. Mizuno also pointed out it is important to consider how to strategically promote capacity building knowing this diverse needs of the needs and the diverse communities’ circumstances. In the future, the collaborative efforts by IGES and PEMSEA may explore the importance for the whole package approach of the capacity building.

ANNEX 1. PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA.

Time(GMT+7)	Duration	Agenda	Speaker
8:00-8:05	5'	Opening and Introduction to agenda and speakers	Osamu Mizuno Principal Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
8:05-8:10	5'	Opening remarks (video message) highlighting current situation of climate change impacts and measures	Mr. Gen'ichiro TSUKADA Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office, Ministry of the Environment Japan
8:10-8:20	10'	Presentation 1:	Dr. Yuji MASUTOMI
		Introducing scientific tools to understand the impacts of climate change (AP-PLAT)	Head, Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Research Section, Center for Climate Change Adaptation
8:20-8:30	10'	Presentation 2:	Dr. Binaya Raj SHIVAKOTI
		Introducing online capacity development tools on adaptation (NbS, Compound Risk)	Senior Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
		Panel discussion:	All the presenters and audience.
8:30-8:35	5'	Short statement or presentation that provide the panel with feedback on the value and potential applications of AP-	Ms. Nancy Bermas Senior Programme Manager, PEMSEA Resource Facility
8:35-8:40	5'	PLAT or additional insights/inputs by ATSEA-2, PEMSEA and PNLC	Dr. Wansuk Senanan President, PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers(PNLC)
8:40-8:45	5'		Dr. Fang Qinghua Deputy Secretary General, PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Secretariat

Time(GMT+7)	Duration	Agenda	Speaker
8:45-8:50	5'		Ms. Casandra TANIA Regional Biodiversity Specialist, ATSEA-2 Regional Project Management Unit
8:50-9:25	35'	<p>Open Discussion (35 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience sharing in the application of the scientific tools, online capacity development tools, and capacity development programs under AP-PLAT. ▪ Discussion on the future collaboration between PEMSEA and AP-PLAT. ▪ Q and A from audience 	Modrator Osamu MIZUNO Principal Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
9:25-9:30		Conclusions	Osamu MIZUNO Principal Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

ANNEX 2. LINK TO THE RECORDING AND PRESENTATIONS.

Recording - https://youtu.be/Y2Dul_JkjbU

Presentations - <https://tinyurl.com/AP-PLATcollab-PPTs>