

**Joint Support for Symposium on Adaptation of Asia and
Pacific to Global Change in the 20th Pacific Science Congress
(APN 2002-11)**

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Joint Support for Symposium on Adaptation of Asia and Pacific to Global Change in the 20th Pacific Science Congress (APN 2002-11)

APN funding

US\$ 30,000

Participating countries

Participants from the following countries were funded: Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, P. R. China, Russia, Thailand and USA.

The project has also received funding from sources other than APN: Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Chinese Association for Science and Technology (CAST), and the Ministry of Science and Technology of People's Republic of China (MOST).

Brief introduction and background

In recent years, the Asia-Pacific region has made rapid progress in the field of Global Change. With studies of influence evaluations, the problems of adaptability have been placed on the agenda. Scientists need to exchange their recent research results and discuss common important issues and develop new research agendas and methodology for future studies. Scientists also need to improve their research methodology in order to carry out further studies.

With joint support from the APN and other funding sources, Symposium 2.1 entitled "Adaptation of Asia and Pacific to Global Change" of the 20th Pacific Science Congress is scheduled to be held from 17-21 March 2003, in Bangkok, Thailand. Symposium 2.1 aims to discuss the adaptation of the Asia-Pacific region to Global Change in order to produce important preliminary projects for continuing and future studies. The main objectives of the Symposium are:

- To exchange research results of regional adaptation and influence Global Change evaluations;
- To discuss processes and countermeasures for adaptation; and
- To produce preliminary projects for further study in the Asia-Pacific region.

Outline of activities conducted

The preliminary preparation work of the meeting has been carried out by the Symposium secretariat since the project was approved by APN. The work included the following aspects:

- The spread and announcement of a 'Call for Papers';
- Decision-making for main topics of the symposium; and
- Selection of keynote speakers, symposium chairs, etc.

Following the submission of abstracts, the Symposium secretariat liaised with the Pacific Science Congress secretariat to arrange and organise Symposium 2.1:

Adaptation of Asia and Pacific to Global Change. The symposium has received about 50 abstracts from Asia and Pacific countries, and participants mainly from developing countries in the region will be financially supported.

The draft programme of the symposium has been drawn up under the following main themes:

- Regional aspects of Global Change in the Asia-Pacific region;
- Impact Assessment of Global Change on the social-economic development of the Asia-Pacific region; and
- Strategic adaptation to Global Change.

The symposium will be held from 17-21 March 2003. Details of this meeting will be reported in the Project Final Activity Report to APN in April 2003.

Expected outcomes and products

Expected outcomes and products will include:

- Proceedings of Symposium 2.1 on the Adaptation of Asia and the Pacific to Global Change; and
- Preparation for further adaptation studies in the Asia-Pacific region.

Future directions and follow-up work

To introduce preliminary projects of further study in the Asia-Pacific region (details will be reported in the Final Activity Report of this project in April 2003).