

**APN/START Global Change Research Awareness Raising
Symposium in Northeast Asia (APN 2002-NCB01)**

Project Leader:

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APN funding

US\$ 20,500

Participating countries

Participants from the following countries were funded: Japan, P. R. China, Republic of Korea, Russia, and USA.

Brief introduction and background

The APN/START Symposium addressed the need to recognize key problems in local/regional global change studies, to focus on areas under impacts of climate change and sea-level rise, and to bring together relevant Russian researchers and policy-makers as well as scientists from neighbouring countries in Northeast Asia and international organizations in order to summarize and develop our present knowledge and ideas on coastal Northeast Asian changes, to present summaries on climatic and environmental assessments, to discuss ways of sustainable development and adaptation strategies, and to develop a research proposal. (This proposal was submitted to APN in the '2002 Call for Proposals'.) The Symposium was held as a part of the APN Networking and Capacity Building Programme.

Outline of activities conducted

The Symposium was held from 7-8 October 2002, in Vladivostok, Russia, with a day and a half of presentations (including a poster session), and a half day of working group discussions. The presentation sessions (*Climate Variability, Changes and Impacts in Northeast Asia and Northern Pacific; LOICZ- and GLOBEC-related research in Northeast Asia and Northern Pacific; PAGES-related research in Northeast Asia: Different aspects of Global Change Research*) with overview talks of LOICZ, GLOBEC, and PAGES research activities in Northeast Asia and with talks by representatives of those organizations were followed by presentations from APN Secretariat introducing the APN, current activities and funded projects, and the annual Call for Proposals Process. Major topics at the Symposium included regional climate model inter-comparison in Asia, climate change in northwest Pacific in the 20th century, recent environmental and coastal modifications, Tumen River area ecological assessment, quaternary paleo-environmental and climatic history in the Korean Peninsula, Northwestern Pacific Islands, Okhotsk and Bering Seas. The Symposium was held back to back with the 10th TEACOM meeting (held on October 6) which was attended by the START Deputy Director, TEACOM members, and relevant scientists.

Outcomes and products

- Submission of a Proposal in the APN '2002 Call for Proposals'
The present status of the Russian national research activity and projects on global change issues was well documented. It was identified that major progress was made in PAGES- and LOICZ-related research, and possible mutual cooperation with surrounding countries (P.R. China, ROK and Japan) was discussed. Through working group discussions, it was established that focus

would be placed on near-shore and riverine environments and ecosystems of the Tumen, Amur, Pearl, Huanghe and Han Rivers. A proposal to APN, 'Climate Variability and Human Activity in Relation to Northeast Asian Land-Ocean Interactions and their Implications for Coastal Zone Management,' was developed with the participation of Chinese, Korean and Russian expert research scientists; and

- Translation of the APN pamphlet into Russian for dissemination of the APN and its activities to the Russian community.

Future directions and follow-up work

A workshop on land-ocean interactions in the coastal zone of Northeast Asia and a training course for young scientists would be conducted as a part of the above-mentioned project proposal submitted to APN. A workshop on future cooperation of the Russian national research teams with the Asian global change research community is suggested to be held in one of the Asian countries in order to have greater involvement of Russian scientists with other Scientists in the AP region in conjunction with APN's Capacity Building activities. Another future direction of the research is targeted at past global/environmental changes in the last 100-500 years, i.e., on the 'one-hundred year' scale; in this case, rich experience of the Russian research teams in the field of the Pleistocene-Holocene studies in the Far East and Asian facilities and their experiences can be integrated. Three volumes of the proceedings of the Symposium are planned to be published in 2004.