Synthesis of APN Adaptation Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region

The Challenge

Through government consultations with its members, APN recognises the challenges associated with **climate vulnerabilities**, **impacts** and **adaptation**. Particularly:

- **Vulnerability and impact assessments to plan and implement appropriate adaptation strategies are lacking in many areas**
- **Developing countries lack human and institutional capacity to plan and adopt such strategies**
- **Mechanisms to mainstream adaptation strategies into national policy and plans need to be established/strengthened and shared among nations and regions**

The IPCC AR4 notes that distribution of vulnerabilities vary across regions and those in the weakest economic positions are the most vulnerable to climate change – the **Asia-Pacific region** being highly vulnerable.

The APN which is a network of 22 member governments in the Asia-Pacific region supports research and capacity development activities that respond to the challenges of global environmental change.

APN's Response

Considering the urgent needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, the APN, with support from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, are conducting seven projects in developing nations in the region under the **Scientific Capacity Development for Climate Impact and Vulnerability Assessments (SCBCIA) of its Capacity Development Programme, CAPaBLE**. These projects focus on scientific capacity development in impact and vulnerability assessments at the scientific, user, policy and community levels.

- *Vulnerability Assessment and Urban Development for Asian Coastal Cities* ***(Thailand)***
- *Capacity Development on Integrating Science and Local Knowledge for Impact and Vulnerability Assessments* ***(Philippines)***
- *Advancing Community-Based Scientific Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation* ***(China)***
- *Capacity Development for Impact and Vulnerability Assessments: In-Situ/Satellite Measurements of Sea-Level Rise* ***(Indonesia)***
- *Developing Research Capacity on Assessing Community Livelihood Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts in Central Viet Nam and Mekong River Delta* ***(Thailand)***
- *Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Coastal Zones of Viet Nam* ***(Viet Nam)***
- *Developing Capacity of the Scientific Community for Assessing the Health Impacts of Climate Change in Pakistan* ***(Pakistan)***

Vulnerable Sectors

Agriculture

Coastal Zones

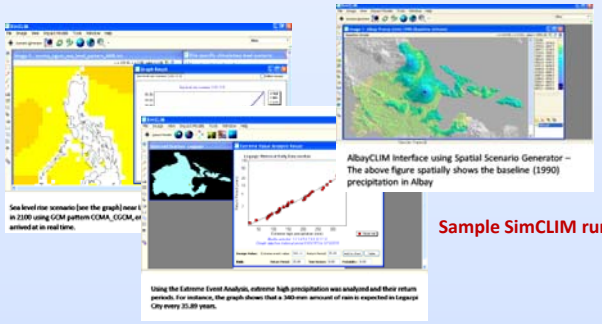
Fisheries

Water

Forestry

Health

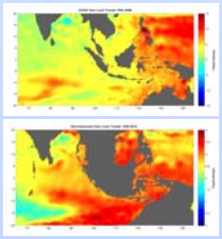
Project Highlights



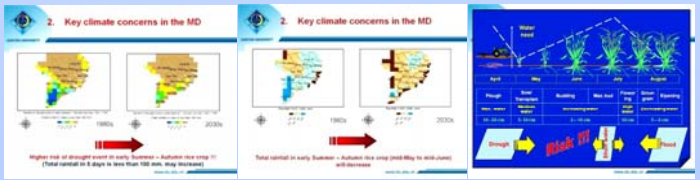
Sample SimCLIM runs

Hands-on training on the use of SimCLIM for government officials and scientists

Participants working to process sea level data and Coastal Vulnerability Index



Reconstructed sea level trends using tide gauges and satellite altimetry in Indonesia



Key concerns of climate change and threat on the Mekong River Delta in 2030s

Focus group discussion in the community in Mekong River Delta

New concrete dike as coastal management practice in the Red River Coast, Viet Nam

Key Partners

CIRCA · CLIMsystems · University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia · YASS · Southeast Asia START Regional Center · CTRSD · lead

Stakeholders

Ministry of the Environment · NSF · United States Global Change Research Program

The APN relies heavily on the generosity and commitment of all its member countries and whole range of institutions and partner organisations for financial and in-kind support.