

# APN

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

enhancing scientific capacity  
in developing countries to improve  
decision-making in focus areas of global  
change and sustainable development



## Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research



supporting regional  
global change research



Ministry for the  
Environment  
Manata Mo Te Taiao



US Climate Change  
Science Program  
[www.climatescience.gov](http://www.climatescience.gov)



## Mission

The mission of the APN is to enable investigation of change in the Earth’s life support systems as it occurs in the Asia-Pacific region to:

1. Identify, explain and predict changes in the context of both natural and anthropogenic forcing;
2. Assess potential regional and global vulnerability of natural and human systems; and
3. Contribute, from the science perspective, to the development of policy options for appropriate responses to global change that will also contribute to sustainable development.



## Core Strategies

The core strategies of the APN are to:

1. Encourage and promote research that has the potential, in addition to improving understanding of global change and its implications in the region, to contribute to the establishment of a sound scientific basis for policy-making with regard to issues for which global change is an important factor; and
2. Identify, in consultation with policy-makers and practitioners, present and future needs for such research.

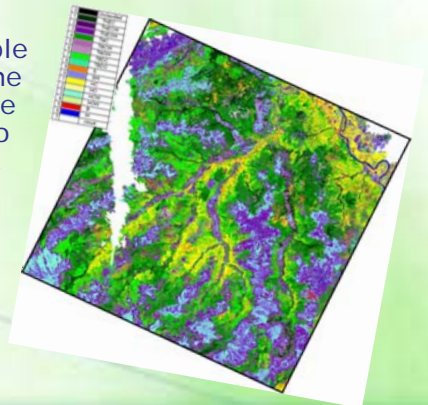


## Vision

Changes in the Earth system are clearly impacting the societies and economies of the countries within the Asia-Pacific region. These countries support more than half of the world’s population. Recent research and supporting observations have provided new insights into some of these changes and their impacts, but have at the same time opened a number of new and challenging scientific issues.

The APN seeks to identify such emerging issues and to promote and encourage regional cooperative research to address these. In doing so, the APN assures that the results of this research contribute to development of a sound scientific basis for policy- and decision-making related to issues for which global change is an important factor.

The APN strives to enable developing countries of the region to participate increasingly in, and to benefit fully from, cooperative research in the region. Finally, recognising the interactive role of regional processes in the overall Earth system, the APN also seeks to link the research it sponsors with research conducted in other regions and under the aegis of global-scale programmes.





## Goals

Each of the five (5) APN goals are achieved particularly through APN-funded activities; these activities are selected from the **Annual Regional Call for Research Proposals (ARCP)** process, as well as the APN's capacity development programme, **CAPaBLE**.

- Goal 1.** Supporting regional cooperation in global change research on issues particularly relevant to the region
- Goal 2.** Strengthening appropriate interactions among scientists and policy-makers, and providing scientific input to policy decision-making and scientific knowledge to the public
- Goal 3.** Improving the scientific and technical capabilities of nations in the region
- Goal 4.** Cooperating with other global change networks and organisations
- Goal 5.** Facilitating the development of research infrastructure and the transfer of know-how and technology

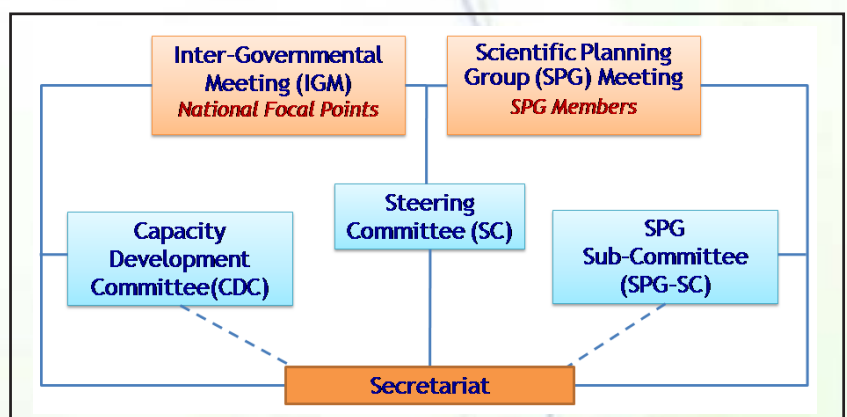
## Membership

The APN's membership has grown from 12 countries in 1996 to the current 21 member countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States of America, and Viet Nam.

Individuals and organisations in Pacific Island States and Singapore are able to participate in all APN programme activities and are considered to be from an APN Approved Country under the programme membership participation criterion.

## Unique Structure

The structure of the APN is built around a joint annual meeting of policy-makers (Inter-Governmental Meeting, IGM) and scientists (Scientific Planning Group, SPG). The IGM is the main decision-making body of the APN and approves the APN's programmes of work and budget for the next year, including the research programmes and related activities to be funded, based largely on recommendations from the SPG.



To implement the IGM decisions, particularly on the capacity development programme, APN is guided by the Capacity Development Committee (CDC). On the other hand, the SPG Sub-Committee (SPG-SC) reviews and prioritises proposals received for APN funding, for consideration by the SPG. The Steering Committee and the APN Secretariat support the IGM, SPG, CDC, and SPG-SC.

The APN funds its activities based on an annual open call for proposals under its regional research and capacity development (ARCP and CAPaBLE) programmes.





## Policy Agenda

### *The Challenge*

One important role of science is to provide underpinning information and respond to the needs of policy-makers and decision-makers. It is also important that those stakeholders indicate what their needs are. However, it is always difficult to achieve appropriate linkages and interactions between science and policy processes.

### *APN's Response to the Challenge*

The APN is committed to "strengthening appropriate interactions among scientists and policy-makers, and providing scientific input to policy decision-making and scientific knowledge to the public". The network endeavours to develop effective methodologies and procedures in the areas under its Science Agenda, and transfer this knowledge and information to the scientific and decision-making communities. It also cooperates with many science-based bodies facing the same challenges in science-policy interactions.

## Institutional Agenda

The APN's Institutional Agenda includes: 1) active involvement of member countries; 2) financial resources; and 3) alignment with the global change community.

### *Active Involvement of Member Countries*

The APN find ways to strengthen member governments' sense of ownership, including more effective efforts to determine their policy needs and priorities relating to global change. Member governments, particularly the APN national Focal Points (nFPs), are encouraged to play an active role in promoting the APN programme of action in their countries. The APN is continuously enhancing year-round communications between APN members, Project Leaders, the Secretariat and the global change community in general.

### *Financial Resources*

Diversifying the funding sources is APN's high priority task including not only financial contributions, but also all other kinds of resources from countries and institutions involved in APN activities such as equipment, facilities, and human resources and other forms of in-kind contributions. The APN looks broadly at the entire issue of resources and ways to: 1) raise more funds directly from members; 2) leverage the impact of APN funds through matching and in-kind contributions; 3) mobilise more funds for the APN's scientific and capacity building activities from new sources inside and outside the APN region who have an interest in this region; 4) strategically allocate available resources among the APN's administrative and various programme activities; and 5) introduce cost effective measures to achieve its mission.

### *Alignment with Programmes of the Global Change Community*

The APN works in partnership with other organisations involved in global change research and policy development to maximise available resources and to deliver the best possible results. Opportunities are constantly emerging for the APN to find new synergies (for funding, research, and network-building, etc.).



## Major Activities

- Supporting/managing 20 projects (9 new and 11 continuing) from funded activities budget under the ARCP process
- Supporting/managing 12 new and 1 continuing capacity building (CBs) projects and 3 continuing comprehensive research projects (CRPs) from the funded activities budget under CAPaBLE
- Launching of the 2008 APN Annual Calls for Proposals under ARCP and CAPaBLE Programmes - Received 58 letters of intent; 37 summary proposals for the ARCP and 37 summary proposals for CAPaBLE; 18 full proposals for the ARCP and 19 full proposals for CAPaBLE
- Launching a special Call for Comprehensive Research Proposals and managing the proposal submission and review process – received 11 summary proposals and 8 full proposals
- CAPaBLE Phase I Evaluation – completed the draft evaluation report (summary for stakeholders) for Phase I of the CAPaBLE Programme



GEOS APN  
The First Joint GEOS/AWCI/APN Scoping Workshop  
(The Second AWCI International Coordination Group (ICG) Meeting)  
16<sup>th</sup> Afternoon – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Tokyo, Japan



- Organised the 1<sup>st</sup> APN and GEOS/AWCI Joint Scoping Workshop in Tokyo, Japan on 16-17 April 2008
- Organised an exhibit on the occasion of the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting in Kobe, Japan on 23-26 May 2008
- Organised a Joint Side Event (*Building Joint Capacities in Science and Policy Sectors for Environmental Decision Making*) with IAI at SBSTA 28 in Germany on 3 June 2008
- 10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting in Manila, Philippines on 6-7 October 2008
- Organised the first APN Proposals-Writing Training Workshop in Shanghai, China on 28 October 2008
- Organised the APN International Seminar on Biodiversity and Human Dimensions: Promoting Harmonious Coexistence in Kobe, Japan, on 1 February 2009
- Completed preparatory stage of the evaluation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Strategic Phase and Formulation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Strategic Plan
- Devised a communications strategy
- APN members and secretariat participated at various national and international fora





## Communications and Outreach

### Publications and other Communication Tools

- 13<sup>th</sup> IGM/SPG Meeting Proceedings
- Khaskura (Nepal) version of the APN General Brochure
- APN 2008 Flyer (English) and translated into native languages of APN member countries:
  - Japanese
  - Khmer (Cambodia)
  - Korean
- Proceedings of the APN International Seminar on Global Warming and Ecosystem/Biodiversity Changes: Facing the Challenges of Changing Ecosystems
- Proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> APN and GEOSS/AWCI Joint Scoping Workshop
- Proceedings of the APN Proposals-Writing Training Workshop
- Annual Report 2007/2008, December 2008
- Project Bulletin, Volume 4, March 2009
- Quarterly Newsletters (electronic copy only)
- Regular updating and maintenance of the APN website and the electronic mailing list (EML)

### Representation at National and International Events

2<sup>nd</sup> GEOSS Symposium on Integrated Observation for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region

*International Workshop on Open Data and Knowledge Environments for Innovative Research and Development*

G8 Environment Ministers Meeting and related events

*APN/IAI Side Event at the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of SBSTA*

Informal Session on Developments in Research Activities with the parties at SBSTA28

*15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the IAI CoP*

IGES 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium – Symposium on “Strategy to Combat Climate Change in Asia and the Pacific”

*IGES in-House Seminar*

Proposal Development Meeting (APN Seed Grant)

*16<sup>th</sup> Environment Congress Meeting for Asia and the Pacific – ECO Asia 2008*

IGFA Annual Meeting

*EMECS 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference*

Global Environmental Change and Food Systems (GECAFS) “Environmental Change and Food Security in the Indo-Gangetic Plains: A Briefing and Agenda-Setting Discussion”

*Third GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium: Data Sharing for a Transverse GEOSS*

4<sup>th</sup> AWCI International Coordination Group Meeting

*International Symposium on “Realising Low Carbon Cities: Bridging Science and Policy”*

Synthesis Workshop for the Project “Regional Collaborative Research on Climate Change Impacts on Surface Water Quality in Eastern Monsoon Asia: Towards Sound Management of Climate Risks”

*Workshop on Cities at Risk: Building Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change in Asia’s Coastal Megacities*

11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Science Inter-Congress: Pacific Countries and their Ocean, Facing Local and Global Changes

## APN Approved Continuing and New Projects for 2009/2010

**ARCP2009-01CMY:** Flood Risk Management Demonstration Project under the Asian Water Cycle Initiative for the GEOSS

**ARCP2009-02CMY:** Human Impact on Land-cover Changes in the Heart of Asia

**ARCP2009-03CMY:** Reducing Water Insecurity through Stakeholder Participation in River Basin Management in the Asia-Pacific

**ARCP2009-04CMY:** Impacts of Global Change on the Dynamics of Snow, Glaciers and Runoff over the Himalayan Mountains and their Consequences for Highland and Downstream Regions

**ARCP2009-05CMY:** Peri-Urban Development and Environmental Sustainability (Examples from China and India)

**ARCP2009-06CMY:** Managing Ecosystems Services in Asia - A Critical Review of Experiences in Montane Upper Tributary Watersheds

**ARCP2009-07CMY:** Temperature Sensitivity of Soil CO<sub>2</sub> Efflux as Altered by Rubber Tree Plantations in Southeast Asia

**ARCP2009-08CMY:** Assessment of Food and Water Security in South Asia under Changing Climate Scenario Using Crop Simulation and Water Management Models, and Identification of Appropriate Strategies to Meet Future Demands

**ARCP2009-09NSY:** Developing Smallholder Agroforestry Carbon Offset Protocols for Carbon Financial Markets – Twinning Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Mitigation

**ARCP2009-10NSY:** Assessment of Role of Community Forests (CFs) in CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration, Biodiversity and Land Use Change

**ARCP2009-11NSY:** Role of Experiments in Sustainability Transitions in Asia

**ARCP2009-12NSY:** Biochar for Carbon Reduction, Sustainable Agriculture and Soil Management (BIOCHARM)

**ARCP2009-13NMY:** Collaborative Research on Sustainable Urban Water Quality Management in Southeast Asian Countries: Analysis of Current Status (comparative study) and Development of a Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development

**ARCP2009-14NMY:** Integrated Prediction of Dipterocarp Species Distribution in Borneo for Supporting Sustainable Use and Conservation Policy Adaptation

**ARCP2009-15NMY:** Vulnerability of Home Garden Systems to Climate Change and its Impacts on Food Security in South Asia

**ARCP2009-16NMY:** Building Asian Climate Change Scenarios by Multi-Regional Climate Models Ensemble

**ARCP2009-17NMY:** The Effects of Climate Change on Pests and Diseases of Major Food Crops in the Asia Pacific Region

**ARCP2009-18NMY:** Quantifying the Role of Dead Wood in Carbon Sequestration

**ARCP2009-19NMY:** Asian Coastal Ecosystems: An Integrated Database and Information Management System for Assessing Impact of Climate Change and its Appraisal

**CBA2009-01CMY:** Capacity Building for Drought Monitoring and Studying in Monsoon Asia under the Framework of Asian Water Cycle Initiative

**CBA2009-02CMY:** The Global Earth Observation System of Systems Asian Water Cycle Initiative Observation Convergence and Data Integration

**CBA2009-03NSY:** Project Scoping and Training Workshop for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Indonesia, Cambodia, and Lao PDR

**CBA2009-04NSY:** Workshop on Climate and Agricultural Risk Management

**CBA2009-05NSY:** International Workshop on the Content, Communication and Use of Weather and Climate Products and Services for Sustainable Agriculture

**CBA2009-06NSY:** Capacity Building for Mainstreaming Climate Change Issues into Socio-Economic Development Planning in Viet Nam

**CBA2009-07NSY:** Second DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference – Biodiversity and Society: Understanding Connections, Adapting to Change (Ensuring a Strong Scientific Contribution from the Asia-Pacific Region)

**CBA2009-08NSY:** Scaling-Up Agroforestry Promotion towards Mitigating Climate Change in Southeast Asia

**CBA2009-09NSY:** Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum – A Network Approach for Regional Climate Change Assessments

**CBA2009-10NSY:** Inter-Agency Collaborative Technologies in Earth Observations for Global Change Research in the Asia-Pacific Region – Full Proposal submitted following conditions of APN Seed Grant CBA2008-13NSG-Li

**CBA2009-11NMY:** Promoting Sustainable Use of Waste Biomass in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand: Combining Food Security, Bio-energy and Climate Protection Benefits

**CBA2009-12NMY:** Dryland Development Paradigm Application for the Most Vulnerable to Climate and Land Use Change of Pastoral Systems in the Southern Khangai Mountains of Mongolia

**CRP2009-01NMY:** Vulnerability Mapping as a Policy Tool in Developing Countries

**CRP2009-02NMY:** Strengthening Capacity for Policy Research on Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change in Agriculture and Water Sectors



### APN Secretariat

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, IHD Centre Building, 1-5-1 Wakinohama Kaigan Dori, Chuo-Ku, Kobe 651-0073, JAPAN

Tel: +81-78-230-8017, Fax: +81-78-230-8018

Email: [info@apn-gcr.org](mailto:info@apn-gcr.org); Website: <http://www.apn-gcr.org>