APN Framework on Climate Change Adaptation

1. As a result of the discussions at the *APN-ICAS Scoping Workshop to Enhance the Climate Adaptation Actions of APN Developing Countries*, it is suggested that the APN establishes a multi-year strategic framework focusing on climate adaptation from FY2013 (April 2013), pending resource availability.

2. The framework aims to enhance science-based adaptation activities of APN developing countries and comprises the following components:
   i. regional research programme that has a capacity building element
   ii. capacity building programme (including projects at national and sub-national scales)
   iii. activities jointly conducted with other organizations and networks

3. Themes of activities under the framework include a range of climate adaptation areas prioritized in the decisions at Conference of the Parties of Unite Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change including COP16 related to *"Enhanced action on adaptation"* (1/CP.16, para.14.(a)-(i), FCCC/CP/2010/Add.1) and COP18 related to *"Approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to enhance adaptive capacity"* (3/CP.18, para.7(a)-(f), FCCC/CP/2012/Add.1).

4. Based on needs, gaps and lessons for climate adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region (as described in the Appendix), regional research and capacity building projects should contribute to improving applicability by users, focusing on the following themes:
   i. Development of high-resolution observational, model and downscaled datasetsthat can contribute to filling data gaps
   ii. Sharing of needs-oriented data
   iii. Calibration and validation of regional climate models; and analysis of projections and assessment of uncertainties
   iv. Development and utilization of impact, vulnerability, risk and economic assessments

v. Improvement of communication skills of scientists and practitioners with stakeholders including local government, community, private sector and civil society, for encouraging policy-makers to formulate and implement adaptation plans based on the latest scientific knowledge
vi. Utilization of available information including climate data in applications for adaptation

5. It is recommended that the APN enhance its partnerships with local, national, regional and international organizations and networks under the new program, which include (but are not limited to) the following[1]:

i. ADB

a. Collaboration on a regional climate scenarios consortium and library in the areas of coordination of data collection, rescue, mining and calibration
b. Collaboration on needs assessment of users at national and local levels

ii. APAN

a. Multi-year collaboration on capacity development for scientists and practitioners on climate adaptation including themes onadaptation plans and "train the trainers" activities
b. Organization of a follow-up meeting for recommendations to strengthen partnerships at the 2013 Adaptation Forum

iii. ICAS

a. Involvement of Japanese scientists for adaptation activities implemented by APN and its partners
b. Organization of follow-up events with APN

iv. Ministry of Interior, Thailand

a. Cooperation with the APN national Focal Point for Thailand on the development of community-based adaptation activities that involves local governments and communities in Thailand

[1]*The institutions and organizations listed expressed interest in partnering with the APN and attended the scoping workshop.*

v. UNU (UN-CECAR)

a. Training activities for scientists and practitioners on climate adaptation including modeling, downscaling, resilience, etc

vi. WCRP

a. Collaboration with CORDEX-Asia on capacity development in climate downscaling

vii. International Center for Climate Change and Development ICCCAD:

a. Collaboration on activities on loss and damage associate with climate change impacts including Asia Pacific Forum on Loss and Damage

viii. Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS)

a. Collaboration on activities related to science and security associated with climate change impacts

ix. Climate Change Institute of Australia National University (CCI-ANU)

a. Collaboration on scientific activities on climate adaptation

6. It is recommended that APN further develops its climate adaptation programme and expand its partnerships with organizations and networks through relevant platforms. This should be considered in accordance with the APN work programme and budget, and the APN Strategic Plan and Framework Document.

Appendix

Needs, gaps and lessons for climate adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region

- **Data, Modeling, Downscaling**
  - Objective of downscaling
    - ✧ Huge spectrum, variety of purposes
    - ✧ Dynamic or statistically downscaling can be selected depending on the purposes
  - Data observation, collection and mining
    - ✧ In particular, the lack of capacity to collect and mine data
    - ✧ Development of common data formats
  - Calibration of RCMs
    - ✧ How to combine downscaled data with local data
  - Development of high resolution downscaling that is suitable to users' needs (sector-specific)
  - Time scale
    - ✧ Ranging from seasonal to decadal predictions, medium term(about 5 years) to long-term predictions; and long-term climate projections
  - Data distribution/interface with users
    - ✧ Capacity development to be a good user (individual and institution)

- **Impact and vulnerability assessment**
  - Development of assessment models
    - ✧ Different types of assessment models (impact assessment, risk assessment, and vulnerability assessment)
    - ✧ Cost analysis
    - ✧ Current/ future impacts
  - Compound impacts (integrated assessment of climate and non-climate impacts)
  - Capacity building for both modelers and users

- **Adaptation planning and implementation**
  - Scientific capacity of practitioners/decision-makers to formulate national adaptation plans
  - Development of a screening tool on climate risk assessment for infrastructure

- Development of approach to encourage policy makers to adopt scientific knowledge
  - ✧ Present response which is favored by practitioners
  - ✧ Consideration of policy priorities other than climate policies such as development policy
  - ✧ Consideration of economic aspects
- Role of public and private sector
- Range of capacity building
  - ✧ Individual, institution, governance
- Consideration of uncertainty
- Consideration of politics, governance, and culture
- Enhancement of communication skills for both scientists and policy makers
  - ✧ Scientists' capacity to communicate with society (i.e., mass-media)
  - ✧ Risk perception
  - ✧ People's acceptance