

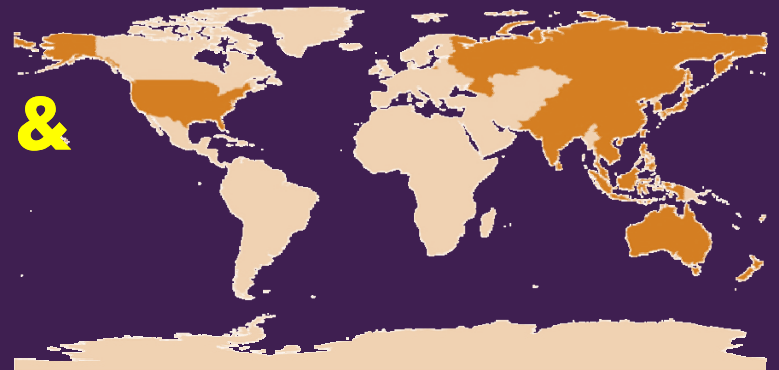
# Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

APN Southeast Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop  
25-26 October, Siem Reap, Cambodia

## The APN Proposals

### Process:

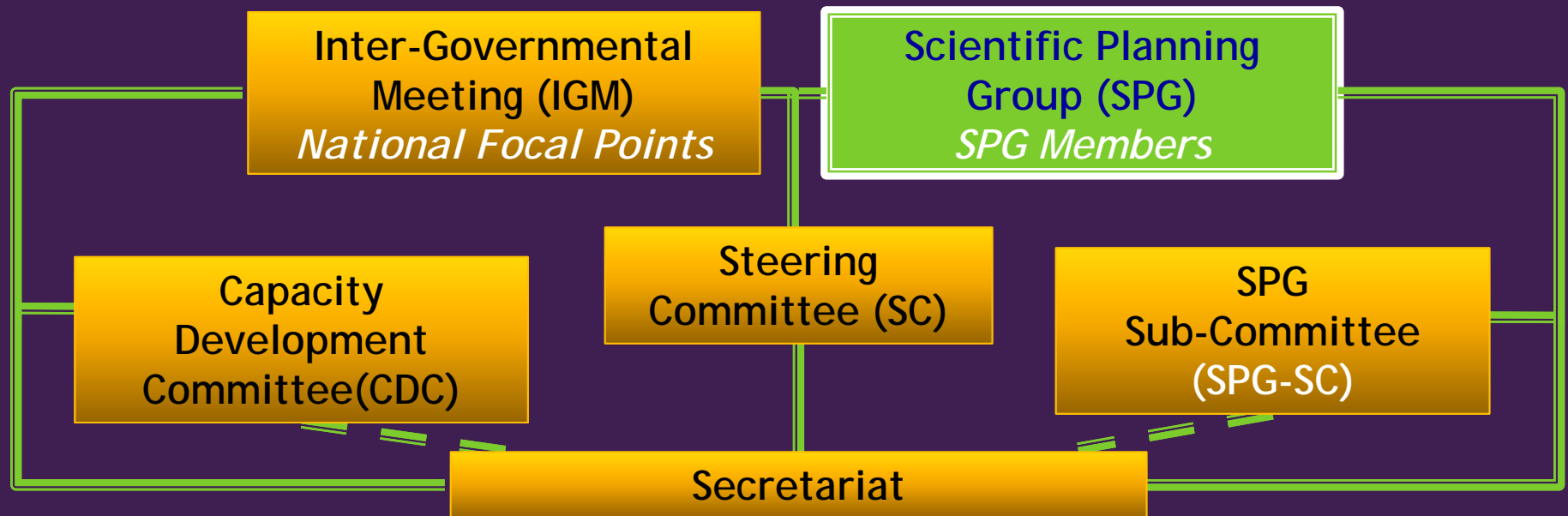
## The Role of SPG Members & nFPs in Reviewing APN Proposals



**Dr. Subra Moten and Dr. Jariya Boonjawat**

APN SPG Member for Malaysia and Thailand

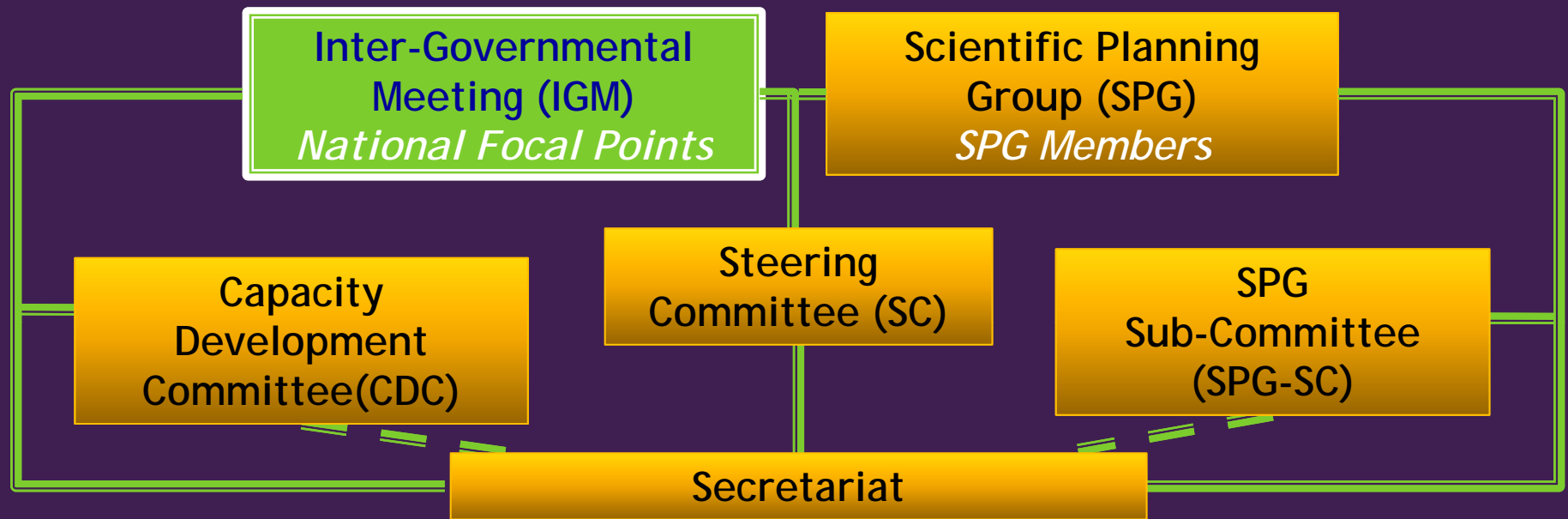
# APN's Organs



Scientific Planning Group (SPG) members are the Scientific Personnel usually Academicians or Researchers in the field of global change research nominated by the member countries (one member from each country)

## Main responsibilities of the SPG members

- ❑ Review research proposals (ARCP and CAPaBLE) received by the APN
- ❑ Recommend prioritized proposals (through SPG meeting) to the IGM for funding approval
- ❑ Give scientific advice to the IGM



national Focal Points (nFPs) are the decision makers usually involve in coordinating national activities nominated by member countries like SPG member. They making up the Inter-Governmental Meeting (IGM) which is the policy and decision making body.

## Main responsibility of the nFPs

- ❑ Approve policies, rules and procedures for the APN.
- ❑ Approve projects and activities based on recommendation made by the SPG.
- ❑ Review and approve annual financial report and budget.
- ❑ Review and update research themes based on national reports.

# Role of SPG members in proposal review process

---

**SPG members as per their areas of interest or expertise, receive proposals from APN those passed the Stage one review process scrutinized by the SPG Sub-Committee.**

# Role of SPG members in review process

**In reviewing the proposals,  
reviewers (SPG member)  
try to focus on the  
following types of  
questions:**



# Role of SPG members in review process

## Initial Considerations (ARCP & CAPaBLE):

- ✓ Does the proposal duplicate past or current efforts?
- ✓ Does it contribute towards any/some/all of the 4 goals of the APN?
- ✓ Is the proposal scientifically/methodologically sound?
- ✓ Does the proposal meet any/some/all of the eleven weighted criteria?
- ✓ Are the proposed project activities realistic and achievable within the timeframe and funding requested?



# Role of SPG members in review process

## Initial Considerations (ARCP & CAPaBLE):

- ✓ Has co-funding and/or in-kind contributions been secured?
- ✓ Does it represent good value for money?
- ✓ What are the proposed outputs?
- ✓ Will publications in peer-reviewed journals be considered?
- ✓ Does the proposed study really involve regional collaboration by 3 (or more) countries?

# Role of SPG members in review process

## For ARCP

Is the proposed study really *on global change research* as defined by APN in its Third Strategic Plan?

Is the proposed study related to one or more of the 4 themes outlined in the Science Agenda? See APN 3rd Strategic Plan document (Endnotes for details)



*APN defines Global Change Research as “research regarding global change (the set of natural and human-induced changes in the Earth's physical and biological systems that, when aggregated, are significant at a global scale) and its implications for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.”]*

# Role of SPG members in review process

## For CAPaBLE:

- ✓ Is the proposed project REALLY a capacity building activity in global change issues?
- ✓ Does the proposed project contribute towards the goals of the CAPaBLE Programme?
- ✓ Is it scientifically and/or methodologically sound?
- ✓ Does it meet the “**basic eligibility**” criteria (proposal must meet the four basic criteria)
- ✓ Are the objectives of the project realistic and achievable?
- ✓ Does the project represent good value for money?



# Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation of proposal is performed against the following criteria:

# ARCP Proposals

ARCP proposals are judged against 11 criteria:

1. Extent and quality of regional collaboration
2. Technical soundness and degree of consistency and sustainability
3. Building regional and national capacity for global change research and problem solving
4. Developing and strengthening links with government policy and programmes
5. Adequate administrative support
6. Adequate consideration of funding options .....

(Criteria 1 to 4 are considered as **High Weight**, 5 to 6 as **Medium Weight** and 7 to 11 as **Lower Weight**)

# ARCP Proposals

7. Increasing synthesis and analysis work at national and regional levels
8. Developing and strengthening relations with regional and international global change programmes and inter-governmental bodies and mechanisms
9. Raising awareness of global change issues with civil society
10. Meeting standardized data collection and user needs, and open access to research sites
11. Improving communications.

(Criteria 1 to 4 are considered as **High Weight**, 5 to 6 as **Medium Weight** and 7 to 11 as **Lower Weight**)

# CAPaBLE Proposals

CAPaBLE proposals each have 9 criteria in which they are to be judged. These are:

1. **Extent and quality of collaboration** (at the local, national or regional level. Note: One-country projects are acceptable under the CAPaBLE programme, as long as the country is considered a developing nation)
2. **Enhancing local, national and/or regional scientific capacity** for global change research and problem solving in developing countries
3. **Raising awareness of global change issues** among policy-makers and civil society; and improving communications, publications and dissemination
4. Developing and strengthening **links with government policy** and programmes .....

# CAPaBLE Proposals

5. Support from APN Scientific Planning Group Member and/or national Focal Point
6. Adequate consideration of funding options
7. Developing and strengthening relations with national, regional and international global change programmes and inter-governmental bodies (such as DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP etc.)
8. Technical soundness and degree of consistency and sustainability
9. Adequate administrative support



# Rating Scale (Both ARCP and CAPaBLE)

Proposals are rated from 1 to 10 (no zero scores)

## **9-10 (excellent):**

An excellent proposal that will make a significant contribution to the APN's goals. Little or no modification are needed.

## **7-8 (very good):**

A proposal fundamentally sound but may require a few modifications.

## **5-6 (good):**

A proposal that is/could be sound but which requires important modifications and further negotiation with the APN.

## **3-4 (fair):**

A proposal that is not yet sound and does not meet most of the criteria but show signs of future potential. The proposal may be suitable for seed money.

## **1-2 (poor):**

A proposal that does not meet the criteria, has fundamental flaws, and does not display any possibility for future consideration by the APN.

# Approval Processes

- ✓ After receiving the evaluation sheets from the all reviewers (SPG members), the Secretariat compiles the comments/questions of the reviewers and makes average score from 1 to 10.
- ✓ Then the comments/questions are sent to the proponents and asked them to respond.
- ✓ The revised proposals/modifications provided by the proponents are sent back to the reviewers for their information and re-scoring of earlier ratings if needed.

# Approval Processes

- ✓ SPG (reviewer) re-assesses the proposals/ modifications and re-scoring the rating if modifications/answers are satisfactory.
- ✓ After that, the Secretariat compiles the final ratings/scores and discuss the results among the SPG Sub-Committee for prioritizing and recommending to the next SPG meeting (APN funding resource availability is also considered).
- ✓ The recommendations are then placed and discussed at the SPG meeting, revised as necessary and then submitted to the IGM for approval.

## Role of nFPs in Review Process:

- ✓ nFPs do not normally play a role in reviewing process unless they have a scientific background in one of the thematic areas.
- ✓ nFPs, in the Inter Governmental Meeting, are the final authority for funding approval.
- ✓ The potential proposals recommended by the SPG meeting are critically discussed by the nFPs in the IGM where SPG members present as observers and then approved the potential proposals unanimously.



# THANK YOU

Questions or Comments?