

Proceedings of the APN Proposal Development Training Workshop

New York, USA
7 May 2009



APN
Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

APN Proposal Development Training Workshop

PROCEEDINGS



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PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

New York, United States of America
7 May 2009

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Having the capacity to conduct high quality research that provides underpinning scientific support for decision-makers and decision-making processes is vital for least-developed nations in the Asia-Pacific region and is recognised by the APN as crucial for improving the scientific and technical capabilities of these nations.

Under the Scientific Capacity Building and Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE) Programme, leading scientists of developing nations, young and aspiring scientists, and members of the policy and civil communities are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge and capabilities in global environmental change, including climate change, for sustainable development. One such opportunity is through the APN's Proposal Development Training Workshops, where participants are provided with the background knowledge and some of the skills required write a competitive proposal for APN funding.

With the great success of the APN Proposal Writing Training Workshop (PWTW) in 2008, the APN held the Proposal Development Training Workshop (PDTW) on 7 May 2009 in New York, U.S.A. The workshop was held as a side event of the 17th Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) which was held from 4-15 May 2009. The CAPaBLE Programme which was launched in April 2003, is an initiative to realise parts 107 to 114 of the Plan of Implementation for the WorldSummit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and is registered as a WSSD Type II Partnership initiative.

The workshop was structured with the goal of providing information on the Annual Calls for Proposals under the APN's regional research programme (ARCP) and its capacity development programme (CAPaBLE) and enhancing the capacity of young/early career scientists in writing proposals intended for submission to the APN to allow them to compete effectively in the proposals process. In addition, the workshop served as a perfect venue for participants from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss common global change issues and strengthen regional collaboration for global change research, capacity development and policy-relevancy. The workshop was intended for young and early career scientists, from the Asia-Pacific region who are attending CSD-17. A total of 32 participants from the Asia-Pacific countries and other countries attended the workshop.

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
www.apn-gcr.org

WORKSHOP REPORT

Workshop Overview

The Proposal Development Training Workshop was organised to provide information on the Annual Calls for Proposals under the APN's regional research programme (ARCP) and its capacity development programme (CAPaBLE) and enhancing the capacity of young/early career scientists in writing proposals intended for submission to the APN to allow them to compete effectively in the proposals process. In addition, the workshop served as a perfect venue for participants from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss common global change issues and strengthen regional collaboration for global change research, capacity development and policy-relevancy. The workshop was intended for young and early career scientists, from the Asia-Pacific region who are attending the 17th Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). In order to achieve these goals, the workshop was structured with the following presentations:

1. APN: Overview and Calls for Proposals Process
2. Writing a competitive proposal for the APN: A case from the Pacific Island Countries
3. Lessons Learned in Writing a Proposal for the APN
4. The APN Proposals Process: the role of SPG Members and nFPs in reviewing APN Proposals
5. Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing

1. APN: Overview and Calls for Proposals Process

Before the workshop was formally opened, Dr. Linda Stevenson solicited the willingness of the participants to attend the afternoon session of the workshop. Initially, the workshop was scheduled for a whole day but due to several commitments of the participants in the afternoon and other side-events that were also running, it was decided that the workshop will be held only for a half-day. Hence, there were several adjustments made specifically on time allotted for each presentation. The Secretariat distributed the training package containing the revised agenda, APN information materials in CD-ROM, proceedings of the first APN PWTW and other workshop documents to each participant.

To formally start the workshop, Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson, Scientific Officer of the APN Secretariat, welcomed the participants to the workshop. Since the invitation of participation was only done through APN electronic mailing list, APN website and UNCSD announcements and there was no personal invitation done, a number of non-APN member country participants were also present in the workshop. To avoid possible confusion and many questions, Dr. Stevenson noted that although the workshop was aimed for young/early career scientists in the Asia-Pacific Region, particularly APN member countries, other participants were also welcome to participate in the workshop. She also clarified that even if they attended the workshop, still they are not eligible to submit a proposal for funding to the APN. However, they were encouraged to disseminate the information to their colleagues who are eligible for APN funding. A detailed discussion with regards to this was discussed later during the workshop. Professors Kanayathu Koshy and Gregory De Costa, the two invited speakers, also made brief welcoming remarks and encouraged all participants to make a brief self-introduction before the training starts.

Dr. Stevenson discussed the workshop objectives giving more emphasis on the goal of providing information on the Annual Calls for Proposals under the APN's regional research programme (ARCP) and its capacity development programme (CAPaBLE) and enhancing the capacity of young/early career scientists in writing proposals intended for submission to the APN to allow them to compete effectively in the proposals process. She noted that the present workshop was a follow-up to the successful Proposal Writing Training Workshop held in 2008 in Shanghai, China.

After discussing the workshop objectives, Dr. Stevenson provided an overview of the APN noting in particular that the APN is an inter-governmental network of 21 member countries in the Asia-Pacific region. She highlighted the APN's history and background and its key scientific themes and activities, noting that the APN has two main pillars of activities vis-à-vis the ARCP programme and the CAPaBLE programme. Currently, these two pillars are the main mechanisms for receiving funding under the APN via the Annual Calls for Proposals. Dr. Stevenson gave a very detailed presentation on the set of guidelines and criteria for eligibility in submitting a proposal to the APN. (*Please see Annex 2.1 for the PowerPoint presentation*)

Dr. Stevenson also informed the participants that the CAPaBLE programme which was launched in April 2003, is an initiative to realise parts 107 to 114 of the Plan of Implementation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and is registered as a WSSD Type II Partnership initiative. This was the main reason why the APN was able to secure a side-event in the 17th UNCSO.

She highlighted the APN's activities in the area of capacity building and development noting, in particular the objectives and outputs to date of the APN's capacity development programme, CAPaBLE. She further emphasised the needs of member countries of the APN throughout the region noting in particular much needed assistance or training in writing research proposals.

2. Writing a competitive proposal for the APN: A case from the Pacific Island Countries

Prof. Kanayathu Koshy, former APN project leader and Professor, Centre for Global Sustainability Studies, Universiti Sains Malaysia, began his presentation by thanking first the APN for inviting and providing him a great opportunity to share his experience as a successful APN project leader on writing and developing a competitive proposal for the APN. Prof. Koshy's previous APN project, *Climate and Extreme Events Training Institute*, was considered as an outstanding project during the Phase 1 of the CAPaBLE programme. It was also highlighted on page 7 of CAPaBLE Phase 1 In-Review Brochure which can be downloaded at http://www.apn-gcr.org/en/products/capable/CAPaBLE_Phase_1_Evaluation.pdf. The project final report can be downloaded at http://www.apn-gcr.org/en/products/project_reports/2005/Final_Report/APN2005-CB04CMY-Koshy_FinalReport.pdf

Before proceeding to the main part of his presentation, Prof. Koshy made a short discussion on his previous APN project. He noted that the training institutes have been successful in building capacity in its broadest sense, at the individual, institutional and systemic levels. He further noted that the training participants gained insights into a number of critical aspects of managing climate risks, recognised connections among local, national, regional and global responses but focused on the understanding of local consequences and developing local and sectoral responses. There was a recognition that climate is in a multi-stress context and responses will be multidimensional, and then managing climate risks is an ongoing process and that partnerships are essential. He also highlighted that their project was successful because of several factors which include: excellent cooperation among the project members; timely implementation of project activities; good publicity through the use of various media; prudent financial management; and timely submission of project reporting requirements.

From a successful project leader perspective, Prof. Koshy explained to the participants the APN proposal processes. He said that it is extremely important to be familiarised first with the APN guidelines before writing the proposal. It is also advisable to know first the stages of the APN proposal process so as not waste the proponent's time in writing the full proposal. Regarding the review process, he also noted that it is very important to read in advance the reviewer's mind as the reviewers are also guided by the APN guidelines and by their experiences in project implementation. The proponent must also assume that the reviewer does not know anything about the proposal so he must keep in mind avoiding vague and too technical words. He emphasized that the reviewers do not consider only the clarity of project objectives but also the level of preparedness of the team and their attention to even the smallest detail of the

proposal. He stressed that it is also crucial to look into the team strength as regional cooperation is one of the main criteria of the APN for the proposal to be eligible. Lastly, he added that the proponent should also have the budgetary skills to write a competitive proposal. As the APN funding is very limited, the reviewers also consider the budgetary requirements of the proposal without sacrificing the quality of the project outcomes.

As closing remarks, he added that although their previous APN project is very successful in terms of building capacity in its broadest sense, at the individual, institutional and systemic levels and also several useful project outcomes, there was also some drawback. So far they have been able to reach out to only two of the many Pacific island countries. It is important that these trainings be given to as many of the countries as possible in the near future. He explained that this drawback was due to that they have no formal mechanism to keep the group engaged. *(Please see Annex 2.2 for the PowerPoint presentation)*

3. Lessons Learned in Writing an APN Proposal

This presentation focused on the lessons learned by Prof. Gregory De Costa, Professor, Department of Engineering and Construction Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, and the project team in writing a proposal for the APN. Prof. De Costa started his presentation by providing first brief information on his previous projects with the APN. He told that he was very fortunate to be awarded of the APN funding. The first award was a seed grant for the project *“Optimization strategies for the management of change in coastal zones and inland waters caused by Salinity Intrusion”*. This seed grant award was used to further enhance and develop the scope of his project. As he was successful in his seed grant project, he was then awarded his second APN grant which was for the project *“Assessment and Management of Change in Coastal Zone Caused by Salinity Intrusion”*. Final project report can be downloaded at http://www.apn-gcr.org/en/products/project_reports/2007/ARCP2007-08CMY-Costa-Final%20Report.pdf

Prof. De Costa explained to the participants that the most important lesson that he learned in writing a proposal for APN was getting into the race first by meeting the APN basic criteria for eligibility as outlined below:

- a. Relate to an area of scientific interest within the APN Science Agenda
 - i. Climate
 - ii. Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Land Use
 - iii. Change in Atmospheric, Terrestrial and Marine Domains
 - iv. Use of resources (Food, water, energy, materials) and pathways for sustainable development
 - v. Cross cuttings and science policy linkages.
- b. Be an approved activity of interest to the APN
 - i. Synthesis and analysis of existing and new research that addresses knowledge gaps
 - ii. Capacity building for Global Change Research
 - iii. The development of policy products such as integrated assessments,
 - iv. Impact Assessments, climate models, etc.
 - v. Planning and scoping workshops
- c. Established good links in the Asia Pacific region
 - i. APN member or approved country
 - ii. At least 3 APN member or approved countries and 2 from developing countries
- d. Methodical and systematic
 - i. Following approved formats
 - ii. Keeping to deadlines

Prof. De Costa stressed that the APN Secretariat is also very particular to following the approved formats for proposal and meeting the deadlines. As the APN Secretariat is always engaged with various activities and tight deadlines, it is very important for the proponent to be cooperative with the submission deadlines, he also said.

It was also highlighted that the proposal should not only meet the basic criteria for eligibility but should be also competitive as Prof. Koshy explained in the earlier presentation. Prof. Costa added that in order for the proposal to be competitive, the proponent should be able to clearly show in his proposal the objectives that he wants to achieve and how he plans to do it. Not only this, but what the APN wants to achieve should be also taken into consideration. Because the APN wants to further develop/strengthen relations with regional and international global change programmes and inter-governmental bodies and mechanisms, involving international agencies like DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP, and environmental research networks, such as START is also a must. Technical soundness and relevancy to global change research of the proposal are necessary. It is suggested that initial communications should be established and this should be demonstrated in the proposal.

As the APN also aims to improve informed decision-making in developing countries by dissemination of the outcomes of research activities to policy-makers and civil society, Prof. Costa also advised that a strategic and defined plan of disseminating project outcomes should be included also in the proposal. Engaging policy-makers and establishing links with government policy and programmes in writing the proposal are highly recommended.

Prof. Koshy said earlier in his presentation, reasonable budgetary requirement of the proposals is also a key to success in getting an APN award. This was further emphasized by Prof. Costa. He said that it is necessary to know first how much funding does a proponent need and how much funding is available. Other funding support and leverage will also increase the chance of the proposal being funded. In this case, it is essential to know in advance the commitment of the proponent's institutions and other collaborating institutions on how far they can support the proponent in the project implementation. *(Please see Annex 2.3 for the PowerPoint presentation)*

4. The APN Proposals Process: the role of SPG Members in reviewing APN Proposals

This presentation focussed on the roles of SPG Member in reviewing the proposals submitted to the APN and prepared by Prof. Kanayathu Koshy, invited expert to the Scientific Planning Group (SPG). *(Please see Annex 2.4 for the PowerPoint presentation)*

5. Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing

This presentation explained the Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing and discussed the basic characteristics of a good proposal. It was prepared by Dr. Linda Stevenson of the APN Secretariat. *(Please see Annex 2.5 for the PowerPoint presentation)*

Due to overwhelming response of the participants during the first three presentations, there was inadequate time for the succeeding presentations, hence it was decided that the above two presentations will not be presented. Instead, the remaining time was allotted for interactive discussions between the participants and the resource persons. The participants were told to simply have a look at the presentation during the first APN PWTW for their reference. Several questions were raised during the discussion in addition to the questions raised for the first three presentations. *(Please refer to Annex 4 for the questions raised by the participants)*

Although the actual proposal writing was not performed, the Proposal Development Training Workshop as a whole was very successful in providing sufficient information on the APN's Calls for Proposals. The workshop was also effective in providing a platform on discussing common issues regarding global

change and sustainable development. It is very interesting to note that different regions are facing common environmental issues. The participants exchanged ideas on current initiatives that are being implemented in their respective regions. The participants also identified some priority areas for research, capacity building and awareness raising that they think maybe of interest to the APN.

The aim of raising awareness of the APN among workshop participants from the Asia-Pacific who are attending the CSD-17 was also realised. On top of this, the workshop also stirred the interest of participants from other countries to the APN as many of them expressed strong interests in knowing more about APN's activities. Although some of the participants are not eligible to submit a proposal to the APN, it was suggested that they can contact the global Change System for Analysis, Research, and Training (START) which has regional networks in other regions. START and APN has very strong collaborations. The workshop also provided an opportunity for APN to set up new links and network with representatives of various organisations.

With the success of both the Proposal Writing Training Workshop and Proposal Development Workshop, a follow-up workshop is planned next year.

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

Proposal Development Training Workshop
Thursday 7th May 2009: United Nations CSD-17 Partnerships Fair, New York

Objectives

1. Raise awareness of the APN among workshop participants from the Asia-Pacific region who are attending CSD-17.
2. Provide detailed information on the APN's CAPaBLE Partnership Initiative.
3. Provide information on the APN's Calls for Proposals:
 - a. Annual Regional Research Programme (ARCP)
 - b. Capacity Development Programme (CAPaBLE)
4. Enhance the capacity of workshop participants to write proposals intended for submission to the APN to allow them to compete effectively in the APN Calls for Proposals Process
5. Provide a forum to discuss common issues for sustainable development

Agenda

TIME	ITEM	SPEAKER
10:00-10:30	APN: Overview and Calls for Proposals Process	<i>Dr. L. Stevenson</i>
10:30-10:45	Writing a competitive proposal for the APN: A case from the Pacific Island Countries	<i>Prof. K. Koshy</i>
10:45-11:00	Lessons Learned in Writing an APN Proposal	<i>Dr. G. DeCosta</i>
11:00-11:10	The APN Proposals Process: the role of SPG Members in reviewing APN Proposals	<i>Prof. K. Koshy</i>
11:10-11:15	Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing	<i>Dr. L. Stevenson</i>
11:15-12:05	<i>Proposal Writing: Participants form working groups and write a 4-page summary proposal using the APN guidelines.</i>	
12:05-12:55	<i>Interactive Discussion</i> → Group Feedback: Challenges (5 minutes) → Interactive Discussion → <i>What Next?</i>	<i>All</i>
12:55-13:00	Group Photo and Closing	

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Appendix 2: Workshop Presentations

2. 1 APN: Overview and Calls for Proposals Process

Promoting Research and Capacity Building in Global Change:
An Introduction to the APN & its Calls for Proposals

Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson
 Scientific Officer
 APN Secretariat

Proposal Development Training Workshop
 CSD-17, New York
 7th May 2009

OUTLINE

- 1 Introduction to the APN
- 2 Past and Current Projects
- 3 The Calls for Proposals
- 4 ARCP CAPaBLE SCBIA

What is the APN?

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

- Inter-governmental Network to foster global change research in the Asia-Pacific region
- Established in '96 as a result of the '90 White House Conference on Science & Economics Research Related to Global Change
- 21 member countries
- Full time Secretariat in Kobe, Japan since '99
- Major activities
 - Funding research projects (ARCP)
 - Funding capacity building projects (CAPaBLE)
 - Promoting Science-policy Interactions
 - Raising Awareness on Global Change issues for Sustainable Development

APN Member Countries

† Australia	† New Zealand
† Bangladesh	† Pakistan
† Cambodia	† Philippines
† China	† Republic of Korea
† Fiji	† Russian Federation
† India	† Sri Lanka
† Indonesia	† Thailand
† Japan	† United States of America
† Lao PDR	† Viet Nam
† Malaysia	
† Mongolia	
† Nepal	

† Pacific Island Countries and Singapore are approved countries whose scientists are eligible to receive funding under APN awards.
 † Financial contributors

Financial Sponsors

APN is financially supported by the Governments of:

- Japan**
Ministry of the Environment, Hyogo Prefecture
- New Zealand**
Ministry for the Environment
- Republic of Korea**
Ministry of Environment
- United States of America**
National Science Foundation/ US Climate Change Science Program

APN's 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:

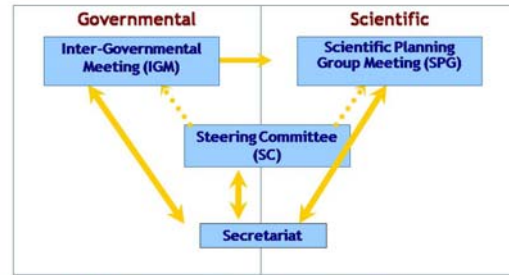
- Identify, explain and predict changes in the context of both natural and anthropogenic forcing,
- Assess potential regional and global vulnerability of natural and human systems, and
- Contribute, from the science perspective, to the development of policy options for appropriate responses to global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

APN's Goals

- **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



APN's Unique Structure

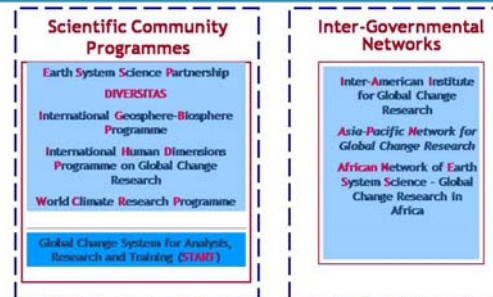


Uniqueness of the APN

- Network consisting of both policy-makers and scientists to enhance research
- APN decision-making always after thorough discussion among/with scientists
- Collective decision-making by all member countries, developed and developing
- Collaborative research projects **by or with** the participation of **developing countries**
- **Therefore** Enable and encourage research and capacity building/enhancement projects based on both policy needs and scientific gaps



Global Change Research Community



Science Agenda

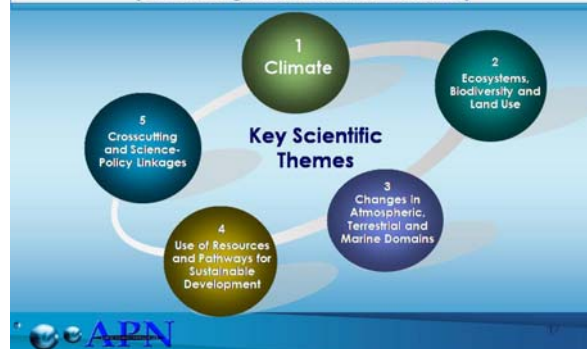
(APN Strategic Plan 2005/06 – 2009/10)

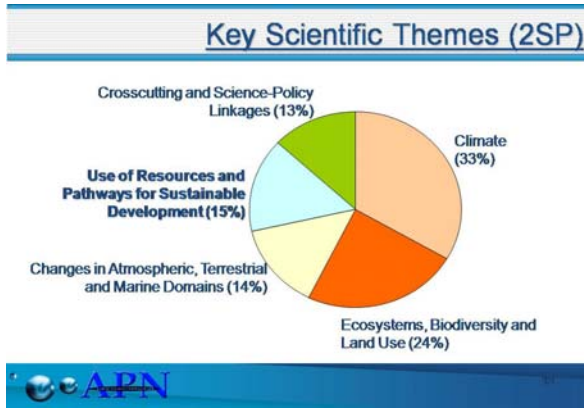
What do we mean by "Global Change"?

- The set of **natural and human-induced changes in the Earth, in its physical and biological systems** that, when aggregated, are significant at a global scale.....
- **Global Change Research** is research regarding global change and its implications for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region



Science Agenda (APN Strategic Plan 2005/06 – 2009/10)





Research Projects (ARCP)

ARCP2008-09CMY-Espaldon:
Assessing the Vulnerability of Communities and Understanding Policy Implications of Adaptation Responses to Flood-Related Landslides in Asia

ARCP2008-05CMY-Adrianov:
Marine Biodiversity of the Coastal Zones in the NW Pacific: Status, Regional Threats, Expected Changes and Conservation

Research Projects (ARCP)

ARCP2007-15NSY:
Assessment, synthesis and promotion/policy guidance related to integrated management of Tropical Peatlands to Reduce GHG Emissions and Increase Resilience to Climate Change:
Faizal Parish & Pep Canadell

PEATLAND DEGRADATION IS CLIMATE CHANGE A BURNING ISSUE!

CO₂ CO₂

PEATLAND

We'll get back to this in 2012.

CSO CCD CBO INFOCC

References: Parish, F., Sirin, A., Charman, D., Joosten, H., Minayeva, T., Silvius, M. and Stringer, L. (Eds.) 2008. *Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change: Main Report*. Global Environment Centre, Kuala Lumpur and Wetlands International, Wageningen.

Capacity Building Activities

APN2004-CB02-CHINVANNO
Building Capacity of Mekong River Countries to Assess Impacts of Climate Change - Case Study Approach on Assessment of Community Vulnerability and Adaptation to Impacts of Climate Change on Water Resources and Food Production

APN2004-CB06-NSY-RHAMAN:
Vulnerabilities Training Seminars on Methodological Issues Related to the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change

Capacity Building Activities



CBA2008-01CMY-Boer:
Increasing Adaptive Capacity of Farmers to Extreme Climate Change through Policy-Science-Community Networking



CBA2007-02CMY-AALBERSBERG
Climate Change and Variability Implications on Biodiversity - Youth Scenario Simulations and Adaptations



Research Projects on Adaptation (CRP)

Climate Change in Southeast Asia and An Assessment on the Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation on Rice Production and Water Resources

Project Leader: Dr. Attachai Jintrawet, Multiple Cropping Centre, Thailand

Objectives, among others:

To understand vulnerability and adaptation options on impact of climate change of selected systems and sectors in the pilot study site (s)



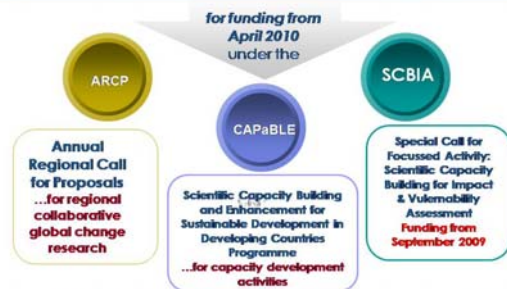
APN Products

The APN produces publications in order to help achieve its goal of "providing scientific input to policy decision-making and scientific knowledge to the public."

- Annual Report 2007/2008
- Project Bulletin, Vol. 4
- APN General Brochure (English) and translated into native languages of APN member countries (11 translations)
- Proceedings of the IGM/SPG Meeting
- Scientific Capacity Building and Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE) Programme of the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) is currently undergoing a review of its First Phase, which ran from April 2003 to March 2006.



The APN 2009 Calls for Proposals



Annual Regional Call for Proposals (ARCP)

- One of the scientific pillars of the APN to support **global change research** in the Asia-Pacific region
- Competitive process launched in 1998 to select projects for funding under the Science Agenda of the APN



ARCP

Types of Activities Eligible for Funding:

- New research which addresses knowledge gaps in key areas
- **Synthesis and analysis of existing research**
- **Research planning/scoping activities**
- The development of policy products such as integrated assessments, impact assessments, climate models, etc.



ARCP

Basic Eligibility:

1. Relate to an area of interest within the APN Science Agenda
2. Be an approved activity of interest to the APN
3. Involve action or contributions from at least three APN member or approved countries, at least two of which must be developing countries
4. Provide a clear indication of how the results of the project activities might be mainstreamed into national and regional level policy-making processes



ARCP

Basic Eligibility (cont'd):

5. Proponent's institutions must be based in an APN Member or Approved country
6. Be written in the format of the template provided
7. Arrive at the APN Secretariat by the deadline
8. The proposal must also be carbon copied to the proponent's nFP and SPG member



ARCP

Evaluation of ARCP Proposals:

1. Extent and quality of regional collaboration
2. Technical soundness
3. Building regional and national capacity for global change research
4. Policy-relevancy, mainstreaming results into policy-processes, developing/strengthening links with government policy and programmes, and contributing to sustainable development
5. Adequate administrative and salary support
6. Consideration of funding options



ARCP

Evaluation of 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 the general public
10. Meeting standardised data collection and user needs, and open access to data and research sites
11. Increasing communications through networking and publications



ARCP

Project Duration and Funding:

- The **average grant awarded for 2009/10** (April 2009 – March 2010) projects was approximately **US\$ 40,000**. While APN may consider multi-year projects (maximum of 3 years), only a limited number may be funded
- If a multi-year proposal is approved, continued funding for year one is not guaranteed and the project will be subject to rigorous review after year one



CAPaBLE

Scientific Capacity Building and Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE) Programme

- The second pillar of APN supporting **capacity development projects/ activities**
- Registered as a World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Type II Partnership/Initiative
- Launched in 2003 as a concrete initiative to realize part 107 to 114 of the Plan of Implementation for the WSSD



CAPaBLE

Of particular relevance is part 111:

“Establish regular channels between policy-makers and the scientific community for requesting and receiving science and technology advice for the implementation of Agenda 21, and create and strengthen networks for science and education for sustainable development, at all levels, with the aim of sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices, and building scientific capacities, particularly in developing countries.”



CAPaBLE

Three main objectives of CAPaBLE:

1. Capacity building of aspiring scientists through sharing of knowledge, experience, scientific information and data collection on climate change impacts, vulnerabilities, adaptation and mitigation
2. Capacity enhancement of leading researchers in developing countries to produce comprehensive scientific results on climate change impacts, vulnerabilities, adaptation and mitigation
3. Improvement of informed decision-making in developing countries by dissemination of the outcomes of research activities to policy-makers and civil society



CAPaBLE

Types of Activities Eligible for Funding:

- Scientific capacity development for sustainable development
- Scientific policy interfacing
- Awareness raising activities
- Dissemination activities



CAPaBLE

Basic Eligibility:

1. Proponent's institution must be based in an APN member or approved country
- * A potential proponent holding a position of International Project Officer (IPO) or Executive Director of an international global change research programme (DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP, ESSP and START) whose institution is **outside the APN region** may submit a proposal to APN but **ONLY** for travel support proposals under the CAPaBLE Programme.



CAPaBLE

Basic Eligibility:

2. The main activity in the proposal must be relevant to global change and sustainable development, with emphasis on a topic or topics from the APN's Science and Policy Agendas with (a), (b) and/or (c) below as the main activity:
 - (a) Scientific capacity development for sustainable development in at least one developing country of the Asia-Pacific
 - (b) Science-policy interfacing
 - (c) Awareness raising and/or dissemination activities in at least one developing country of the Asia-Pacific



CAPaBLE

Basic Eligibility:

3. The proposal must arrive at the APN Secretariat by the deadline, and must be carbon copied to the proponent's nFP and SPG Member
4. Be written in the format of the template provided
5. Proposed activities must not duplicate any previous or currently implemented APN activities
6. The proposal must clearly outline policy-relevant questions to be addressed and answered, organisational arrangements of the proposed activity and a publication and dissemination plan
7. High potential to provide outcomes for developing countries that could be appreciated by the international community



CAPaBLE

Evaluation of CAPaBLE Proposals:

1. Extent and quality of collaboration at the local, national or regional levels
2. Enhancing local, national or regional capacity for global change research and sustainable development, and problem solving in developing countries
3. Raising awareness of global change issues among policy-makers and civil society of developing countries and improving communications, publications and dissemination



CAPaBLE

Evaluation of CAPaBLE Proposals:

4. Policy-relevancy and developing and strengthening links with government policy and programmes
5. Support from APN Scientific Planning Group Member and/or national Focal Point
6. Adequate consideration of funding options
7. Developing and strengthening partnerships with regional and international global change programmes, institutions, and other inter-governmental bodies and mechanisms



CAPaBLE

Evaluation of CAPaBLE Proposals:

8. Technical soundness and degree of consistency and sustainability
9. Adequate administrative and salary support

* APN funding is not available for administrative staff payments, or to supplement the pay of researchers who receive or are to receive full-time salary support



CAPaBLE

Project Duration and Funding:

•While it is expected that capacity building projects will have a one-year duration, each proposal will be considered on a case by case basis

•The average grant awarded for 2009 projects with a duration of 12 months was US\$ 30,000



Proposals Process

ADVISORY SERVICE (Voluntary)

A potential proponent can consult with the APN Secretariat by sending a **Letter of Intent...**

*The APN has also developed a comprehensive list of **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** to assist proponents in developing a proposal for submission to the APN.*

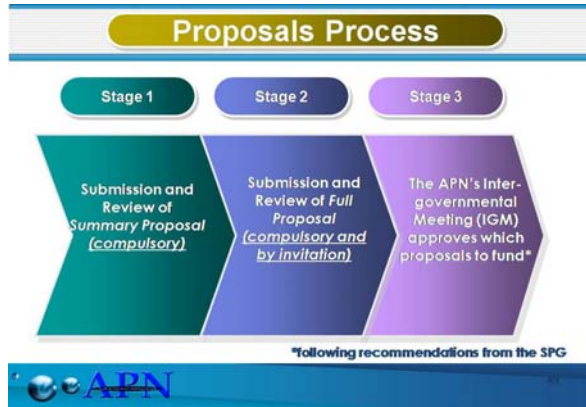


Proposals Process

Following the APN's 12th IGM/SPG Meetings in March 2007, a more streamlined process was implemented.

This new procedure includes a **voluntary Advisory Service** and a **compulsory Proposals Submission and Review Process**.





Proposals Process

PROPOSALS SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS (Compulsory)

Stage 1. Submission and Review of **Summary Proposal (compulsory)**. The summary proposals will undergo a screening process performed by the SPG Sub-Committee, who will select proposals that will proceed to Stage 2.

All proponents will be notified of the results of the preliminary screening by mid-September.

Proposals Process

PROPOSALS SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS (Compulsory)

Stage 2. Submission and Review of **Full Proposal (compulsory and by invitation)**. Successful proponents from Stage 1 are invited to submit their full proposals.

Two-Step Review Process
Review by the APN internal reviewers (SPG members) and external reviewers from the international global change community.

Stage 3. The APN's 15th Inter-governmental Meeting (IGM), to be held in March 2010, approves which proposals to fund, following recommendations from the SPG. The Secretariat informs proponents of the final decision in April 2010

Financial Guidelines

Items NOT supported by the APN:

1. The running costs of institutions
2. The salaries of administration staffs or researchers who receive or are to receive full-time salary support
3. The salaries of consultants (project leaders and collaborators should have the expertise to conduct the activities)
4. The maintenance of long-term observation and monitoring systems

Please refer to the **APN 2009 Financial Guidelines** to see what costs will and will not be covered by the APN funding and to what extent.

Special Call for a Focussed Activity

Launched 30th April 2009 for funding from September 2010

Scientific Capacity Building for Climate Change Impact & Vulnerability Assessments

Note: This Call is also under the CAPaBLE Programme but it is not launched annually.

Full Details are available in your training packages

Contact the APN

For more information, please visit:
www.apn-gcr.org

IHD Centre Bldg, 5F
1-5-1 Wakinohama Katgan Dori
Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073, Japan
Tel: +81-78-230-8017
Fax: +81-78-230-8018

Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson
Scientific Officer
l Stevenson@apn-gcr.org

Ms. Peryn Pulhin
Coordinator
ppulhin@apn-gcr.org

2.2 Writing a competitive proposal for the APN: A case from the Pacific Island Countries



Overview

- The three Training Institutes
- The Training as a Project
- The Proposal Process
- Reading the reviewer's mind
- Award and Implementation
- Follow-up

The Training Institutes 1/6

Partners and resource persons

- APN, \$50K/yrx3, NOAA \$25K
- East West Centre, Hawaii, Eileen Shea
- NIWA, NZ, James Salinger
- USP, Fiji, Kanayathu Koshy (PI)
- IGCI, Univ Waikato, TV NZI, CSIRO Melb, BOM Melb, IRI NY, SPREP, SOPAC, Met Service Fiji, Samoa etc

The Training Institutes 2/6

Syllabus

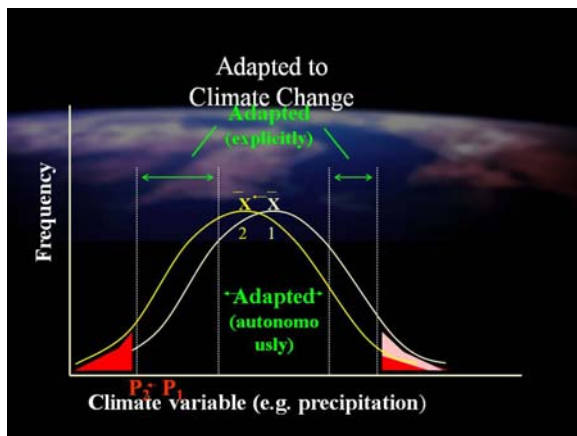
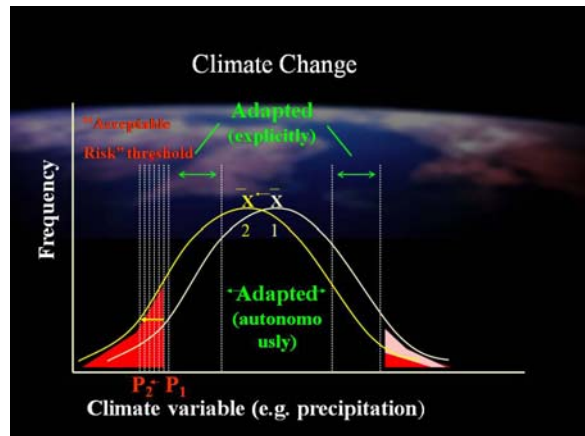
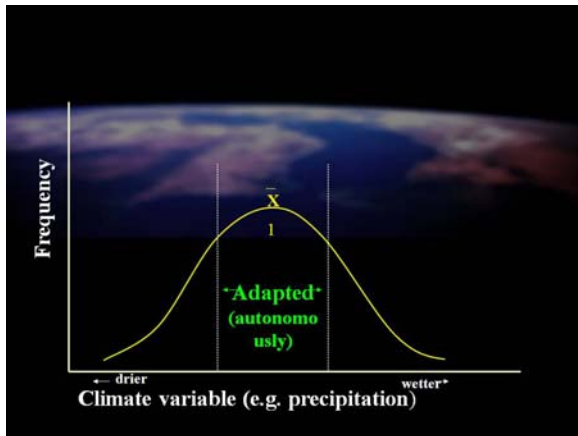
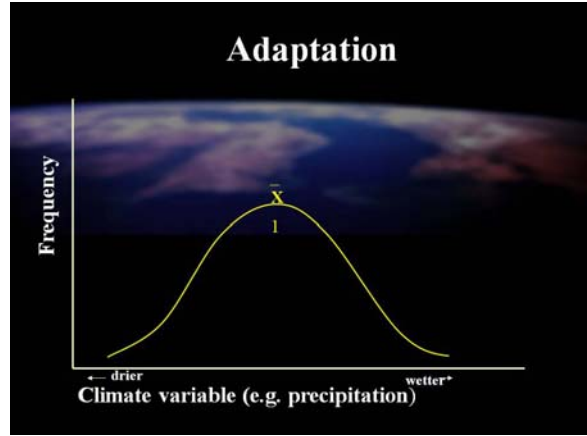
“To understand to anticipate and to respond”

- Science of climate change and variability
- Forecasting climate
- Climate vulnerabilities and assessment
- Adaptation mainstreaming
- Role of media
- Role playing – “the Rains of tomorrow”

The Training Institutes 3/6

The hands ons – the interactives:

- The expectations
- The scenario generators
- The field trip
- The group discussions
- The media exercise
- The role play



Risk Management 1/2

Risk Equation:

Hazard + Vulnerability = Risk

Realised Risk is Disaster

Reading the reviewers mind

- **Reviewer guided by:**
 - APN guidelines
 - Own Project level experiences
- **Looks for:**
 - Clarity of project objectives
 - Level of preparedness
 - Attention to details
 - Team strength
 - Budget skills



Follow-up

- **By the organisers**
 - The USP climate change course
 - The AusAID Community based CC Adaptation implementation project
 - PACC
- **By the participants**
 - Trainees as trainers
 - Trainees as national climate team members
 - No formal mechanism to keep the group engaged



2.3 Lessons Learned in Writing an APN Proposal

Writing a successful proposal to APN

Dr. Gregory De Costa,

Open Polytechnic of New Zealand.

To get in to the race- Meet basic criteria

1. Relate to an area of scientific interest within the Science Agenda,
 - Climate
 - Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Land Use
 - Change in Atmospheric, Terrestrial and Marine Domains
 - Use of resources (Food, water, energy, materials) and pathways for sustainable development
 - Cross cuttings and science policy linkages.

Key words - Global change and sustainability
 Assessment and management of change in coastal zones subject to salinity intrusion. — Them 4, 2 and 5

2. Be an approved activity of interest to the APN

- Synthesis & analysis of existing & new research that addresses knowledge gaps
- Capacity building for Global Change Research
- The development of policy products such as integrated assessments,
- impact Assessments, climate models, etc.
- Planning and scoping workshops

Key word - Global change research, Decision support
 Identified knowledge gap, development of research capabilities in many countries, development of management model, input to policy makers.

Planning /Scoping workshop

3. Established good links in the Asia Pacific region.

- APN member or approved country.
- At least 3 APN member or approved countries and 2 from developing countries

Key word – regional collaboration
 New Zealand, Australia, Japan, India, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan

4. Methodical and systematic

- Following approved formats
- Keeping to dead lines.

Detail Time charts,
 Budgets as per the format,
 1 page CV, 2 pages CV, check list, full proposal cover page 1 page, project summary sheet 2 pages, main body 4 Pages.
 Fonts, size etc.
 Submit on schedule

2. Being competitive in the race

A. General aspects

Have a very good fit between,

- What you want to achieve,
- What APN wants to achieve
- What APN could support.

- We needed about 60,000\$ and it was also taking some time so we went for 2 years

1. Possess good background knowledge

- APN Science agenda,
- APN Policy agenda,
- APN Institutional agenda

Your research background and requirements

2. Funding limits

- Check how much you will need.
- Look at the average given per year.
- Marry the two.

If yours is high see if it could be done in two years.

3. Time limits

- Fitting into APN funding dates and APN financial year.

April 1st to March 31st

4. Methodical and systematic

- Following approved formats.
- Keeping to dead lines.
- Answering all questions clearly, precisely and concise manner

Keep to page limits

B. Specific aspects

1. Technical Soundness.

- Global change research,
- Science agenda and Area of interest.
- Clearly identify current knowledge levels and knowledge gaps.
- Clearly indicate how your research will bridge this gap.
- Relevant and accurate data collection methods
- Good strong research methodology
- Step by step indicate how you intend to get to the above.
- Research excellence, data quality, capacity for programme management, and willingness and ability to pursue activities from a multidisciplinary perspective.

2. Relationship to the Human Dimensions of Global Change

- Human Dimensions of Global Change into project.

3. Quality of Regional collaboration

- Mix of scientist and policy makers.
- Social, applied scientist with Managers
- University and industry from each collaborating country.

4. Building regional and national capacity for global change research

- Including policymakers, increasing awareness, establishing links,

5. Developing and strengthening links with government policy and programmes

- Include policy makers, check current government policy and programmes.
- for example, APEC, ASEAN, UNEP, ESCAP, SPREP

6. Administrative support.

- Ensure that your organization is behind it. Get your superior to sign contract. Identify clearly in the proposal how they will support

7. Increasing synthesis & analysis work at national & regional level

- If possible get industry and policy makers involved.

8. Developing / strengthening relations with regional and international global change programmes and inter-governmental bodies and mechanisms.

- Involve other international agencies.
- Demonstrate in your proposal contact with them.
- DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP, and other environmental research networks, such as START,

9. Raising awareness of global change issues with the general public

- Add in workshops / seminars to disseminate information.
- Add in News paper articles etc.

Thank You

I wish to thank APN for funding the research and the presentations.

2.4 The APN Proposals Process: the role of SPG Members in reviewing APN Proposals

**The Proposal Review Process:
Role of SPG & nFPs**

**CSD-17 Partnership Fair
APN Training Workshop**


7 May 2009

**Prof. Kanayathu C Koshy
Centre for Global Sustainability Studies
Universiti Sains Malaysia**




SPG and nFP

- SPG: Scientific Planning Group – Gives scientific advice and assists in proposal reviews.
- nFP: National Focal Point - Responsible for policies, budget and approval of proposals.




Proposal Rating: 1-10

- **9-10 (excellent):** An excellent proposal that will make a significant contribution to the APN's goals. Little or no modification is 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.




Contd..

- **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.




CAPaBLE Review Guidelines

- 1 Extent and quality of collaboration (at the local, national or regional level),
- 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,



Contd..

- 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 – ESSP etc.),
- 8 Technical soundness and degree of consistency and sustainability,
- 9 Adequate administrative support.



ARCP review Criteria

1. Technical soundness and degree of consistency,
2. Extent and quality of regional collaboration 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,
7. Increasing synthesis and analysis work at national and regional levels,



Contd..

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 High Weight, 5 to 6 as Medium Weight and 7 to 11 as Lower Weight)



The Approval Process

- After receiving the SPG review, the Secretariat compiles the comments/questions and makes average score from 1 to 10.
- Then the comments/questions are sent to the proponents for their response .
- The revised proposals are then sent back to the reviewers, via APN, for reconsideration of earlier ratings if needed.

Contd..

- Based on the response from the reviewers, the Secretariat compiles the final scores and the SPG Sub-Committee prioritises and recommends them to the next SPG meeting.
- The recommendations are revised as necessary and submitted to the IGM for approval.



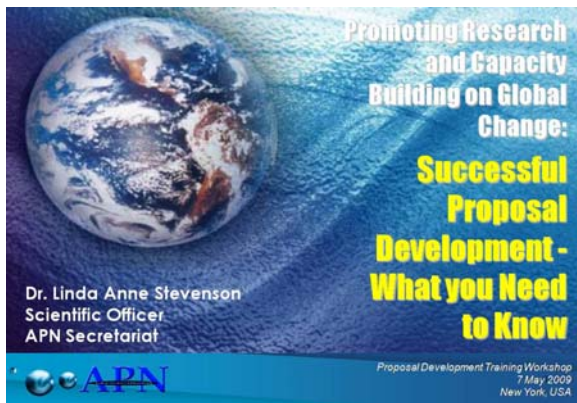
Role of nFP in the Review

- The potential proposals recommended by the SPG meeting are critically discussed by the nFP in the IGM, where SPG members are present as observers, and a decision made unanimously.
- The Secretariat communicates this decision to the PI soon after the IGM.


Thanks




2.5 Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing



A Good Proposal is a Good Idea, Well Expressed, With a Clear Indication of Methods for Pursuing the Idea, Evaluating the Findings, and Making Them Known to All Who Need to Know.

Key questions to ask yourself: 


- What do I intend to do?
- Why is the work important?
- What has already been done?
- How am I going to do the work?
- Who am I going to involve?

Determine Your Long-Term Research Aims 

- Develop Your Bright Idea
- Survey the Literature & the APN Website
- Contact Investigators Working on Topic
- Prepare a Brief Concept Paper & Discuss with Colleagues/Mentors
- Submit a Letter of Intent outlining the concept to the APN Advisory Service

Prepare to do the Research 


- Determine Available Resources
- Realistically Assess Needs
- Develop Preliminary Data
- Share with interested regional partners and assess their willingness to collaborate
- Continue your self-assessment by discussing with colleagues/mentors

Determine Possible Funding Sources 

- How much will you need to request?
- What co-funding options do you have?
- Consider in-kind contribution options
- Remember simple rule of thumb:
 - Matching funds = stronger proposal
 - APN funds only = weaker proposal
- Exhaust all possible funding options

APN

Are you ready now to write the Proposal?



- Don't assume your reader knows
- "Sell" your proposal by addressing the evaluation criteria
- Show the work is relevant to policy by clearly addressing the relevant literature
- Engage policy/decision-makers as early as possible

7

APN

Reasons for Declining Proposals

- ✗ Improper submission format/missed deadline
- ✗ lack of new or original ideas
- ✗ diffuse, superficial, or unfocused research plan
- ✗ lack of knowledge or published, relevant work
- ✗ lack of experience in essential methodology
- ✗ uncertainty concerning future direction

8

APN


Reasons for Declining Proposals

- ✗ Questionable reasoning in experimental approach
- ✗ Absence of acceptable scientific rationale
- ✗ Unrealistically large amount of work
- ✗ Lack of sufficient detail
- ✗ Uncritical approach
- ✗ Lack of funds/no support from institution
- ✗ No real regional collaboration

9

APN

!!Don't Despair!!



Perseverance pays off

APN awards are highly competitive

Declination may be because of budgetary Limitations

Resubmit - try, try again

10

Appendix 3: List of Questions Raised by the Workshop Participants

Question: I am from Iran, am I eligible to submit a proposal to the APN?

Response: Only members of non-profit making institutions based in APN member and/or approved countries can submit proposals to the APN.

Member countries are: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam and United States of America.

Approved Countries are: Pacific Island Countries and Singapore.

Question: Why is the number of developing countries involved in the proposal should be more than developed countries?

Response: The APN believes that there is a greater need for capacity enhancement of leading researchers in developing countries to produce comprehensive scientific results than the developed countries. The roles of the developed countries are to contribute knowledge, share experience and provide scientific information and data available.

Question: What would be the implication if there is no developing country involved in the proposal?

Response: The proposal will not be eligible to submit a proposal to the APN. The APN requires either under the ARCP or CAPaBLE Programme that the proposal must involve or for one or more developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Question: Does the APN have any priority areas for funding or any activities can be submitted?

Response: The APN makes decisions on priority global change-related topics based on information it receives from its own member countries, its Scientific Planning Group and other information available. You can check for the list of topics/priority areas in the Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) available for download at the APN website.

Question: Does the APN involve its national Focal Points (nFPs) in the review process?

Response: The APN national Focal Points are not involve in the review process per se but they are keep-informed on any developments during the review process. One of the roles of the nFPs is to provide guidance to proponents whether their research area is of priority to the region and to the APN.

Question: Can a proponent working in a developed country submit a proposal to the APN?

Response: Depending on which of the two Programmes of the APN you are going to submit the proposal. Under the ARCP Programme, it is necessary that the proposal involve action or contributions from at least three APN Member or Approved Countries, **at least two of which must be developing countries**. For the CAPaBLE programme, a developed country proponent must demonstrate that his capacity development activities in the proposal are for one or more developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Question: I am not based in an APN Member country but I am working for an international organisation. Am I eligible to submit a proposal to APN?

Response: A potential proponent holding a position of International Project Officer or Executive Director of an international global change research programme* whose institution is outside the APN region may submit a proposal to APN but **ONLY** for travel support proposals under the CAPaBLE Programme, for the participation of scientists from the APN region to a regional or international meeting/workshop/conference that they are organising. The proposal must demonstrate that the activity

will develop the capacity of scientists from the Asia-Pacific region, particularly those from developing countries. It must be noted, however, that because capacity building activities are usually managed by people from the APN region, your proposal is expected to explain why the proposed activity is reasonably managed by your office which is outside the APN region.

*Please note that an “international global change research programme” is defined here as a research programme under DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP, ESSP and START.

Question: Is there a funding limit for each theme in the APN Science Agenda?

Response: No, there is no specific funding limit for each theme in the APN Science Agenda. The APN considers all proposals received of equal importance until the review process.

Question: In the case of multiple projects from the same institution but has different regional offices how does the APN manage it?

Response: Technically this is eligible but the APN also considers the regional balance of its funding allocation and the relevance of the submitted proposal in the region.

Question: Is there any available funding for dissertation either fully or partially?

Response: No. Currently the APN does not have a mechanism to fund dissertation but there are many cases that the Project Leaders involve graduate students in the research team if their study is highly relevant and will be useful in the project implementation.

Annex 4: List of Participants

	Name	Country	Profession	Affiliation	Email Address
APN Member and Approved Countries					
1.	Dr. Jun YANG	China	Senior Scientist	College of Global Change and Earth System, Beijing Normal University	LARIX001@gmail.com
2.	Ms. Sreeja NAIR	India	Research Associate	The Energy Resources Institute (TERI)	sreejan@teri.res.in ; sn2297@columbia.edu
3.	Mr. Kartikeya SARABHAI	India	Director	Centre for Environment Education	kartikeya.sarabhai@ceeiindia.org
4.	Mr. Dana KARTAKUSAMA	Indonesia	Government Official	State Ministry for Environment	DANA@MENLH.GO.ID
5.	Ms. Kristine GARCIA	Japan	Coordinator	APN	kgarcia@apn-gcr.org
6.	Dr. Alan IMAI	Japan	Executive Director	Shumei International	alanimai@shumei.org
7.	Mr. Eric OHATA	Japan	Representative	Shumei International	ohataeri@shumei.or.jp
8.	Dr. Linda Anne STEVENSON	Japan	Scientific Officer	APN	lstevenson@apn-gcr.org
9.	Dr. Kanayathu KOSHY	Malaysia	Professor	Universiti Sains, Malaysia	kanayathu.koshy@gmail.com
10.	Prof. Gregory DE COSTA	New Zealand	Professor	Open Polytechnic of New Zealand	Gregory.DeCosta@openpolytechnic.ac.nz
11.	Ms. Teofila CAPING	Philippines	Agriculturist II	Department of Agriculture, Regional Field Unit XI	tscapirig-da@yahoo.com
12.	Ms. Silveria RAVELO	Philippines	Senior Forest Management Specialist	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	silveria.ravelo@yahoo.com
13.	Mr. Asuao Kirifi POUNO	Samoa	Chief Executive Officer	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	kpouno@lesamoa.net
14.	Mr. Poontare CHIVANCHUEU	Thailand		Government of Thailand	chawisa26@hotmail.com
15.	Dr. Ayad ALTAAI	U.S.A.	Principal and Co-Founder	Global Consortium for Sustainable Solutions (GCSS)	admin@globalconsortiummss.com
16.	Dr. Beth CANIGLIA	U.S.A.	Professor	Oklahoma State University	beth.caniglia@ok.state.edu

	Name	Country	Profession	Affiliation	Email Address
17.	Mr. Fructuoso CAPIRIGAR	U.S.A.	Terminal Supervisor	NGO (CFC)	
18.	Ms. Zelia CORDEIRO	U.S.A.	NGO Representative	VIVAT International	viny@vivatinternational.org
19.	Mr. Felix JONES	U.S.A.	NGO Representative	VIVAT International	viny@vivatinternational.org
20.	Ms. Helen OJARIO	U.S.A.	NGO Representative	Carmelite	hojario@carmelitengo.org
21.	Ms. Anne PARK	U.S.A.	Graduate Student	Cornell University	AMP292@cornell.eon
22.	Dr. Linda PARKER	U.S.A.		USDA Forest Service	leparker@fs.fed.org
23.	Dr. Lareef ZUBAIR	U.S.A.	Associate Research Scientist	The International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)	lareef@iri.columbia.edu
24.	Did not sign the participants list				
25.	Did not sign the participants list				
APN Non-Non Member Countries					
26.	Dr. Menberu LULU	Ethiopia	Agriculture	Action Aid-Ethiopia	Menberu.lulu@actionaid.org MenberuL@yahoo.com
27.	Mr. Abdolali	Iran	Director General	Dryland Agriculture Research Institute	ghaffari_aa@yahoo.com
28.	Mr. M. KHEIR KHA	Iran	Director	Ministry of Agriculture	kheirkhah@itc.nl
29.	Mr. Rajab ZADEH	Iran	Deputy of Environment	Ministry of Environment	saeidzahedi@yahoo.com
30.	Mr. Younuussa SEYBOU	Nigeria	Senior Advisor	Ministry of Environment	younouusaseybou@yahoo.com
31.	Mr. Richard MUKASA	Zimbabwe	Coordinator/Community Educator	Horizon AIDS Awareness and Support Organisation-South Africa	rmukasa@uwc.ac.za
32.	Mr. K.P. VILNAN			Youth Caucus Trimtabs	pvicnan@gmail.com

Appendix 5: Workshop Flyer

The 17th Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
New York, USA, 4-15 May, 2009



CSD-17 PARTNERSHIPS FAIR

APN CAPaBLE

Scientific Capacity Building & Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries
(CAPaBLE)
Proposal Development Training Workshop
7th May 2009 (Thursday)
10:00-13:00 and 15:00-18:00; Conference Room 6

CAPaBLE Proposal Development Training Workshop

Having the capacity to conduct high quality research that provides *underpinning scientific support* for decision-makers and decision-making processes is vital for least-developed nations in the Asia-Pacific region and is recognised by the APN as crucial for improving the scientific and technical capabilities of these nations.

Under the CAPaBLE Programme, leading scientists of developing nations, young and aspiring scientists, and members of the policy and civil communities are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge and capabilities in global environmental change, including climate change, for sustainable development.

One such opportunity is through the APN Proposal Development Training Workshops, where participants are provided with the background knowledge and some of the skills required to write a competitive proposal for APN funding.



The APN Proposal Development Training Workshops also provide a perfect forum for participants from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss and exchange common global change issues and strengthen regional collaboration for global change research, capacity development and policy-relevancy.

For more details on eligibility & to register your participation, please contact *Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson* at l Stevenson@apn-gcr.org or come to the APN Exhibition Booth in the basement of the UN building on Tuesday 5th May. Pre-registration is essential.

Participation at the Workshop & Reception is limited to 25 people

Since its launch in 2003, the WSSD Type II Partnership, CAPaBLE, has funded, through an annual call for proposals, over 50 projects throughout the Asia-Pacific Region through monetary (over US\$4.0M) and in-kind contributions from APN member countries.

AGENDA at a GLANCE

Morning Session: 10:00-13:00

- Overview of APN & its Calls for Proposals Process
- Writing a Competitive Proposal: Project Leaders' Perspective
- Guidelines and Advice for Writing a Proposal to the APN
- Q&A Session

Afternoon Session: 15:00-18:00

- Overview of the Hands-On-Training
- Break-Out Session: Proposal Writing
- Group Presentations: Challenges
- Q & A Session

Evening Reception: 19:00-20:30

- Participants *must* pre-register on 5th May at the APN exhibition booth
- First come, first served basis

www.apn-gcr.org

>> CSD-17 Partnerships Fair

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

The 17th UN Commission on Sustainable Development
 New York, USA, 4-15 May, 2009
CSD-17 PARTNERSHIPS FAIR

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

Changes in the Earth system are clearly impacting the societies and economies of countries in the Asia-Pacific region; a region that supports more than half 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. Observation, monitoring, and research on global environmental change in the Asia-Pacific region are indispensable to our understanding of the environmental changes taking place on a global scale.

Recognizing this, the APN was established in 1996 as a network of member governments in the Asia-Pacific region to foster global change research in the region, increase developing country participation in that research, and strengthen interactions between the science community and policy-makers. The APN promotes, encourages and supports research activities on long-term global change in climate, ocean and terrestrial systems, and on related physical, biogeochemical and socio-economic processes. In so doing, the APN contributes, from the science perspective, to the development of policy options for appropriate responses to global change that will also contribute to sustainable development.



To date, 21 countries have joined the network.

**The 17th UN Commission on Sustainable Development
 New York, USA, 4-15 May, 2009**



**CAPaBLE
 has three main
 objectives**

In its first 3 years the CAPaBLE Programme has:

- Published over 50 peer-reviewed papers in national and international peer-reviewed journals
- Raised the awareness of more than 4000 people on climate and global change issues
- Trained over 300 scientists in climate and global change issues



www.apn-gcr.org

-> CSD-17 Partnerships Fair

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Prof. Kanayathu C. Koshy

*Corporate & Sustainable Development Division
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia*

Professor Koshy has joined the new Centre for Global Sustainability Studies at the Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, in March 2009. He was the Professor of Environmental Chemistry at the University of the South Pacific (USP), Fiji and the Foundation Director of the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable development (PACE-SD). Before joining USP he was a Faculty member at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica, and the State University of New York at Buffalo, New York. His major research interests include Climate change, Ozone and Greenhouse gas studies, Aerosol and Rain chemistry, Coastal pollution and integrated waste management. Education for Sustainable Development with special emphasis on science & technology applications and Networking are integral parts of his current work and he has published extensively in these areas. As the Foundation Director of the Oceania Centre of the international global change network called START (System for the Analysis, Research and Training) he was actively involved in school/community outreaches, Youth and SD initiatives and a variety of capacity building activities in the Pacific Island region. He has been a member of the Scientific Planning Group of the Asia Pacific Network (APN) for global change research, START Steering Committee and also a number of other regional, international and UN system committees.

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Assoc. Prof. Gregory S. DeCosta

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Dr. Gregory Shahane De Costa graduated from the University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka and went on to do an MSc in environmental engineering and PhD in Hydraulics & Hydrology. He subsequently did an MBA as well. He is a recipient of many research fellowships including JSPS fellowship to Kyoto University, British Government fellowship to OU, UK and Irish Government fellowship to University College Galway and an Open Polytechnic of New Zealand fellowship to conduct research and further studies. He has published and presented many research papers in local as well as international conferences and journals. He counts many years of teaching and

research both face to face and extra mural. Currently he is a Chartered Professional Engineer New Zealand, Member of Institute of Engineers New Zealand, Member of the register of International Professional Engineers, Fellow of the Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka, and an co-opted member of the executive committee of the International Association of Hydraulic Research – Asia Pacific Division. He is also Associate Professor in the Department of Engineering at the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, co-chairman of the local organizing committee of the 17th Congress of the International Association for Hydraulic Research Asia Pacific Division to be held at Auckland University in February 2010.

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Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson

*Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
APN Secretariat Kobe, Japan*

Dr. Linda Stevenson graduated from Glasgow University (UK) with an Honours Degree in Chemistry; Jordanhill College of Education, with a PGCE in Chemistry/Biology; and from Strathclyde University with a PhD in Pure & Applied Chemistry. Her research focused on synthesizing hollow-fibre membranes from polymer complexes with superior separation properties. Dr. Stevenson worked as a QA engineer for numerous clients including British Nuclear Fuels, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Sumitomo Corporation, and for four years as a technical and scientific writer at Kobe University and National Panasonic. Dr. Stevenson joined the inter-governmental network *Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research* (www.apn-gcr.org) in 2002 as Scientific Officer and manages the APN's scientific activities as well as the science and policy agendas identified in its Strategic Plan. These include the Annual Regional Call for Research Proposals in global and climate change research; and the WSSD initiative for Scientific Capacity Building for Sustainable Development - the CAPaBLE Programme. Most recently Dr. Stevenson planned/conducted a regional-level proposals-writing training workshop for APN funding and is working closely with UNFCCC & GEOSS for policy outputs and open access to scientific data, respectively. Dr. Stevenson's main interests are education and training for sustainable development and science-policy inter-linkages for informed decision-making.

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Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

2009 PROJECTS

2009/10 Projects Awarded Funding under the 2008 Annual Call for Capacity Building Programme

Project Reference: CBA2009-01CMY-Ailikun

Project Title: The Capacity Building for Drought Monitoring and Studying in Monsoon Asia under the Framework of Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI)

Project Reference: CBA2009-02CMY-Ishida

Project Title: The Global Earth Observation System of Systems Asian Water Cycle Initiative Observation Convergence and Data Integration (GEOSS/AWCI/OCDI)

Project Reference: CBA2009-03NSY-Bishry

Project Title: Project Scoping and Training Workshop for REDD in Indonesia, Cambodia, and Lao PDR

Project Reference: CBA2009-04NSY-Visarto

Project Title: Workshop on Climate and Agricultural Risk Management,

Project Reference: CBA2009-05NSY-Salinger

Project Title: International Workshop on the Content, Communication and Use of Weather and Climate Products and Services for Sustainable Agriculture

Project Reference: CBA2009-06NSY-Trieu/Huy

Project Title: Capacity Building for Mainstreaming Climate Change Issues into Socio-Economic Development Planning in Viet Nam

Project Reference: CBA2009-07NSY-Larigauderie

Project Title: Second DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference: "Biodiversity and Society: Understanding Connections, Adapting to Change": Ensuring a Strong Scientific Contribution from the Asia-Pacific Region

Project Reference: CBA2009-08NSY-Almoite

Project Title: Scaling-Up Agroforestry Promotion towards Mitigating Climate Change in Southeast Asia

Project Reference: CBA2009-09NSY-Walland

Project Title: Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum (PICOF): A Network Approach for Regional Climate Change Assessments

Project Reference: CBA2009-10NSY-Li

Project Title: Inter-Agency Collaborative Technologies in Earth Observations (EO) for Global Change Research in the Asia-Pacific Region: Full Proposal submitted following conditions of APN Seed Grant CBA2008-13NSG-Li

Project Reference: CBA2009-11NMY-Sang-arun

Project Title: Promoting Sustainable Use of Waste Biomass in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand: Combining Food Security, Bio-energy and Climate Protection Benefits

Project Reference: CBA2009-12NMY-Togtohyn

Project Title: Dryland Development Paradigm (DDP) Application for the Most Vulnerable

Project Reference: CRP2009-01NMY-Weber

Project Title: Vulnerability Mapping as Policy Tool in Developing Countries

Project Reference: CRP2009-02NMY-Pereira

Project Title: Strengthening Capacity for Policy Research on Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change in Agriculture and Water Sectors

EXHIBITION BOOTH

The APN will launch its Annual Calls for Proposals under the ARCP and CAPaBLE Programmes in June 2009 for funding from April 2010.

Visit the APN Exhibition Booth on Tuesday 5th May 2009 where all of APN's information materials will be on display.

Would you like to know more about the APN?

Anyone interested in establishing closer contact with the APN or who would like more information on the activities of the APN, please visit the APN website (<http://www.apn-gcr.org>) or contact the APN Secretariat: (Tel) +81-78-230-8017, (Fax) +81-78-230-8018, (Email) info@apn-gcr.org.



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Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research


Appendix 6: Proposal Development Guidelines I and II**Proposal Development Training Workshop: Guiding Documents (I)****Advice for Developing a Proposal for the APN**

One of the APN's objectives is to strengthen proponents' capacity to write good proposals that will fair well in the highly competitive review process. As such, this information is provided to assist proponents in preparing a proposal for submission to the APN under its annual calls for proposals




What is a good proposal?

A good proposal is one which is well expressed, states a clear indication of methods for conducting the proposed research activities, evaluates the findings, and makes the findings known to all interested parties.


What should you look for in the APN Calls for Proposals?**1. Goal of Programme:**

-  Will your work advance the goals and the objectives of the APN? In particular, how will it satisfy the aims outlined in the science and policy agendas of the APN's strategic plan (2SP: 2005-2010)?


2. Eligibility:

-  As a proponent, are you eligible to submit a proposal to the APN?
-  Is the country of your home institution a member or an approved country?
-  A current list of countries is available in the Calls for Proposals guidelines.



3. Specific Requirements:

-  Please note that the opportunities for the Calls for Proposals under the APN's capacity building (CAPaBLE) programme and its research (ARCP) programme are different, and each should be checked for specific requirements and evaluation criteria.





4. Submission Deadlines:

-  Please carefully note deadlines for proposal submission. This is very important as review timelines are tight. Proposals that arrive after the deadline stated in APN Calls for Proposals will not be considered.

What research development strategies are you implementing?**1. Determine your long-term research goals or plan:**

-  How does this fit with the APN's goals and objectives?
-  How can aspects of your research be formulated to both advance your research and advance the APN's Science and Policy Agendas?

2. Develop your Idea:

-  Research the literature (you must ensure that your idea is relevant and that it is not currently being undertaken, i.e. that it is not a duplication of the efforts of other).
-  Contact investigators working on the research topic in your home institution, in others institutions in your country or in institutions in other countries. Strong regional collaboration is CRUCIAL for research proposals.
-  Prepare a brief concept paper and discuss it with colleagues/mentors.
-  Submit a Letter of intent to the APN under its ADVISORY SERVICE.

3. *Prepare to do the Research:*

- 🌐 Determine the available resources (equipment, supplies, lab time, computer time, ship time, etc.) which are available to you and the equipment you will need to obtain in order to conduct the proposed research.
- 🌐 Realistically assess needs (avoid requesting too much and seek in-kind contributions from your home institution or institutions of your collaborators). On the funding front THE HIGHER THE LEVERAGING OF FUNDS (both monetary and in-kind), THE STRONGER THE PROPOSAL
- 🌐 Develop preliminary data.
- 🌐 Present ideas to colleagues/mentors/students.

4. *Determine Possible Funding Sources:*

- 🌐 How much will you need to request to conduct the research?
- 🌐 Will you need to seek sources of funding in addition to the APN (check budget maximums in proposals guidelines)?

5. *Understand the Ground Rules:*

- 🌐 Ascertain the overall scope and mission of your proposed research and the APN's calls for proposals.
- 🌐 Read the APN's guidelines very carefully and contact the APN Secretariat if you need to clarify anything.
- 🌐 Determine and understand the evaluation procedures and criteria and contact the APN Secretariat if you need to clarify anything.

6. *Coordinate with your Institution/Research Office:*

- 🌐 This is necessary to ensure that infrastructure is available to you to perform the work indicated in the proposal, to clarify all in-kind contributions, and to check with the administration of your institution that it can accept and manage an APN grant without charging OVERHEADS (administrative overheads are not allowable).
- 🌐 APN remits its grants in two installments
 - 80% at the beginning of the project
 - Up to 20% of the grant, according to actual expenditure, at the end of the project activities and when all reporting requirements are completed.

Finally: IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED TRY AND TRY AGAIN



Proposal Development Training Workshop: Guiding Documents (II)

Guidelines for Project Development

1. Key questions to ask yourself:

- 🌐 What do you intend to do?
- 🌐 Why is the work important?
- 🌐 What has already been done?
- 🌐 How are you going to do the work?
- 🌐 Who are you going to involve?

2. Guidelines to follow for project development:

- 🌐 **Sell** your project by addressing the evaluation criteria in the proposal guidelines, addressing special requirements listed in the announcement, and by conveying a sense of enthusiasm for your work from the scientific community, institution directors **and** decision/policy-makers
- 🌐 Make a clear statement of the problem(s) to be addressed in your proposal (needs to be met; problems to be solved; what you want to and can accomplish)
- 🌐 State the significance of the proposed work: the background (cite relevant literature and identify gaps to be filled) and its importance/justification (discipline; fields outside of discipline; future or long-term context)
- 🌐 State the feasibility of the proposed research (valid, testable hypothesis; qualifications of investigators; available resources; and preliminary data)
- 🌐 State the experimental plan: project design; methodology (*feasible? adequate? appropriate?*) and its innovations, limitations, and difficulties (anticipated/alternative approaches); sequence of activities and timelines;
- 🌐 State the outcome and assessment (data analysis; interpretation of anticipated results; and evaluation of activities and check points to chart progress);
- 🌐 State the plans for continuation of the research beyond the period of APN support within your long-term research plan
- 🌐 Utilise available expertise: peer/mentor input; previous submission input received from the APN and reviewers
- 🌐 Develop your ideas clearly and logically: put the essence of work at beginning of the proposal; ensure coherent outline of proposal in your introduction; organize your proposal to permit skim-reading; and never assume that the reader will know what you mean

- 🌐 Use concise scientific writing style: use simple sentence structure; spell out acronyms and avoid use of jargon; and make sure do not exceed the page limitation
- 🌐 Allow time for thorough editing and proofing and check proposal for completeness

3. Sections to include in your proposal:

Following success at the advisory and summary-proposal stages, proponents are invited to submit a full proposal to the APN for further consideration. Full proposals have a **50% chance of success**. The Full Proposal contains the following sections:

SUMMARY PAGES OF THE PROPOSAL

- Part One: Project Summary Sheet (2 pages/14 columns): includes the title of proposal; name, position, address, phone and fax numbers of institution; e-mail address; date, program duration, and amount of funding requested.
- Part Two: Proposed budget, timeline and support leveraged (1 page / 3 columns)
- Part Three: Proponent CV/Resume (1 page; please follow template format)

MAIN BODY OF THE PROPOSAL

- Part Four: As outlined below
 1. *Project Title*
Full title of the proposed project.
 2. *Fully Detailed Proposal*
By expanding on the information provided in the summary proposal submitted to the APN, your full proposal needs additional information on the following points:
 - (a) Description of the entire proposed project
 - (b) Detailed work plan
 - (c) Relationship to the APN's Second Strategic Plan (2005-2010). Describe how your proposed project can give valuable input to APN's three Agendas of: Science Agenda (p8 2SP); Policy Agenda (p10 2SP); Institutional Agenda (p11 2SP)
 3. *Scientific Contribution of each Participating Country*
Provide an explanation of the scientific contribution of each participating country, for example, in writing the proposal, in the activities to be conducted, report writing and other relevant information.
 4. *Capacity Building for Global Change Research*
Provide an explanation of how the proposed project will help build national/regional capacity to conduct Global Change Research.
 5. *Relevance to Policy Processes and Sustainable Development*
Provide an explanation of how your proposed project is policy-relevant and what mechanisms you propose for mainstreaming the results of your proposed project into policy processes. Describe how your proposed project tackles the issue of sustainable development and how these are integrated into your proposed project.
 6. *Administrative support, in-kind contributions and co-funding consideration*
As the APN **does not** support the running costs of institutions or the salaries of administration staff or researchers who receive or are to receive full time salary support, provide details on the support that will be provided by the lead and/or collaborating institutions. As the APN **strongly**

encourages co-financing arrangements, please provide details of co-funding and/or in-kind contributions.

7. *Relationship between Global Change Research Programmes and Networks*

Describe any interactions with the core and joint projects of DIVERSITAS, ESSP, IGBP, IHDP, START and WCRP; as well as any other global change research programmes and networks. The information should include previous relationships and specific collaboration, if any, in the proposed project.

8. *Related Research Work*

Gap-filling studies are very important in global change research given its vast expansion and lack of data. Details of existing research work on the proposed topic in your proposal must not duplicate the work of others. As such, a fully detailed background literature review is required to verify that the proposed project is new and relevant; and that it relates to, but not duplicates, ongoing research in your region.

9. *Communications, Publications and Open Access to Data*

The proponent should provide a communications and networking plan to disseminate the results to the stakeholder community at scientific, policy and public level. The APN also strongly encourages proponents to publish peer-reviewed papers and provide open access to data.

Appendix 1: Timeline and Budget

A full month-by-month timeline and detailed budget estimate for the project in US dollars, including a year-by-year breakdown of the costs and a clear indication of any co funding, in-kind and other contributions. Proponents should refer to the APN Financial Regulations. Templates are provided to guide you in formulating your project timeline and budget.

Appendix 2: Proponent & Major Collaborators


List of the proponent and major collaborators (*names, organizations, contact details*). This should also include the contribution, if any, of developed country expertise.

Appendix 3: CVs of Proponent & Major Collaborators

CVs of the proponent and major collaborators (*Maximum two pages each*).f Contents should use the exact wording of your major sections and subsections of the proposal for clarity.

4. Criteria for evaluation of a proposal

When writing the proposal, the proponent should observe the criteria that will be used during the evaluation by expert reviewers and try to address the criteria when writing the proposal. Proposals are judged primarily against criteria #1 to #4 reflecting the highest priorities of the APN. Criteria #5 and #6 are used to assess the proper administrative and financial arrangements required for conducting the project. The remaining criteria will be used to judge how thoroughly a proposal meets the wider aims of the APN.

 **Criterion #1. Extent and quality of regional collaboration:** Proposals **must** involve action or contributions by **three or more APN Member and/or Approved Countries, at least two of which are developing countries**, or promote the basis for initiating such collaboration, for example, through a workshop or similar activity. Due regard should be given to proposals from or involving less developed countries. The overall goal should be the generation of long-term sustained regional collaboration, not just a one-time event or project. In addition, the scientific contribution of **each**

participating country should be explained in detail (for example this may include the extent of participation in the writing of the proposal, the scientific contribution and activities to be undertaken, data-collection, report writing, etc.). **The APN Member and Approved Countries are:** 1. *APN Member Countries:* Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam. 2. *APN Approved Countries:* Pacific Island Countries, Singapore (Countries underlined are considered by APN as developed.)

-  **Criterion #2. Technical soundness and degree of consistency and sustainability:** Proposals should generate confidence about research excellence, data quality, capacity for programme management, and willingness and ability to pursue activities from a multidisciplinary perspective, as appropriate. It should be made clear in the proposal the extent to which it is based on, or part of, a planning and scoping activity in or about the region, as activities based on adequate planning and scoping processes are more likely to lead to successful long-term outcomes.
-  **Criterion #3. Building regional and national capacity for global change research and problem solving:** It is expected that proposals will contribute to the fundamental APN goal of building regional and national capacity (technical expertise) for researching global change issues. The result should be a long-term gain, for example, by increasing local skills and knowledge, improving decision making processes or increasing or improving national involvement in international processes. Proposals should also show how existing resources (buildings, laboratories, research sites, equipment, libraries, data sets, communication facilities, travel budgets, etc.) can be used more efficiently or how their potential value can be better realized as a result of the proposed activity.
-  **Criterion #4. Policy-relevancy, mainstreaming results into policy processes, developing/strengthening links with government policy and programmes, and contributing to sustainable development:** The APN is committed to improving science-policy links and fostering harmony between its activities and policy issues, which concern most governments in the region. Proposals should demonstrate relevancy to decision and policy-making processes and include an indication of how the activities are brought to policy- or decision-makers, how the activity might assist with national government and business decision-making processes, or support national, regional or global scale programmes aimed at dealing with global change problems that will also contribute to sustainable development. Harmonisation with the work of other bodies active in the region (for example, APEC, ASEAN, UNEP, ESCAP, SPREP) is desirable. The APN emphasises the need to contribute to solving ecological, social and economic problems associated with global change impacts, such as those identified by processes such as the IPCC and the UNFCCC.
-  **Criterion #5. Adequate administrative and salary support:** Proponents should indicate how necessary administrative support will be provided for the proposed activity. Ideally, administrative support would be provided by one of the parties involved in the project, freeing any APN funding for the proposed core activity. *APN funding is not available for administrative staff payments, or to supplement the pay of researchers who receive or are to receive full-time salary support (see the APN Financial Guidelines for more information).*
-  **Criterion #6. Adequate consideration of funding options:** The APN strongly encourages co-financing arrangements. In addition, it is the APN's concern that funding from other sources should be secured. The APN strongly encourages in-kind contributions from proponents and collaborators' institutions. Where additional funding is secured from sources other than the APN, evidence of the funding may be required.
-  **Criterion #7. Increasing synthesis and analysis work at national and regional levels:** The APN believes that more attention needs to be paid to synthesis and analysis work derived from the many

research outcomes already available. This will require the development and use of appropriate integrative techniques, and will often involve research teams drawn from several disciplines and from policy- and decision-making interests.

-  **Criterion #8. Developing and strengthening relations with regional and international global change programmes and inter-governmental bodies and mechanisms:** A key goal of the APN is to strengthen cooperative relations amongst the global change research community. Accordingly, proposals should specify how the activity will incorporate cooperation with the global change programmes of ESSP, DIVERSITAS, IGBP, IHDP, WCRP, and other environmental research networks, such as START, with global change components. The existing or proposed extent of the project's involvement with START and the global change research programmes, if any, should be clearly stated. Other proposals related to regional networks such as the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) can be considered within APN procedures provided that they comply with the APN requirements. The APN encourages regional initiatives to be seen as part of a global effort.
-  **Criterion #9. Raising awareness of global change issues with civil society:** APN members consistently stress the importance of good public knowledge of global change issues, to help ensure the successful development and implementation of response strategies to these issues. Proposals should indicate how the proposed activity could lead to better public knowledge. Any proposed consultation processes should be indicated, and information provided about how results will be disseminated.
-  **Criterion #10. Meeting standardised data collection and user needs, and open access to data and research sites:** In the interests of the greatest benefit in the shortest time for the greatest number of countries in the region, the best proposals will promote *better data collection, analysis and dissemination, open access to existing and new datasets, and access to research material and sites.*
-  **Criterion #11. Increasing communications through networking and publications:** The proponent should provide a communications and networking plan, including both the enhancement and use of communications and networks and open access to data, to disseminate the results of project activities to the stakeholder community at scientific, policy and public levels. The best proposals will also contribute to lasting improvement in communications among APN members. The APN also strongly encourages the publication of peer-reviewed scientific research.

Workshop Photos



Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson (right) and Ms. Kristine Garcia (left) at the APN display booth during the Partnerships Fair of 17th Session of the UNCSD



Venue of the Proposal Development Training Workshop



Participants of the Proposal Development Training Workshop



Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson presenting on the APN Overview and Its Calls for Proposals



Prof. Kanayathu Koshy delivering his presentation on Writing a competitive proposal for the APN: A case from the Pacific Island Countries



Prof. De Costa sharing the lessons he learned in writing a proposal for the APN

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