

FOCUSED CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Under this framework, the APN has a number of new and exciting opportunities for scientists, decision makers and practitioners that will aim to address the status quo, gaps and future directions for bringing together **Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Loss & Damage (L+D)**.

A **focused call for proposals** on Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Loss & Damage was announced in September 2013. The response to the call was unprecedented and the APN received **85 Expressions of Interest**. Twenty-five were invited to submit proposals.

Activities of interest, among others, include:

- Assessment of the impacts of climate change and adaptation limits — what is Loss & Damage? What are the linkages with disaster management and disaster reduction?
- Gap analysis on regional needs and status quo in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Approaches to address Loss & Damage associated with adverse impacts of climate change.
- What kind of underpinning scientific and policy-relevant planning and methodology is needed in response to Loss & Damage?

With full funding from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, new projects are expected to **start in Spring 2014**.

The APN Climate Adaptation Framework is a multi-year strategic framework which aims to enhance science-based adaptation activities of APN developing countries. Learn more about the Climate Adaptation Framework at: <http://www.apn-gcr.org/caf>.

For a list of climate adaptation related projects of the APN, please visit: <http://www.apn-gcr.org/caf-all>.

GET INVOLVED

The Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) is a network of 22 member country governments that promotes global change research in the region, increases developing country involvement in that research, and strengthens interactions between the science community and policy makers.

For further information about the APN and to get involved in our activities, please visit www.apn-gcr.org.

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CLIMATE ADAPTATION FRAMEWORK



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



United States
Global Change
Research Program

APN

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORK FOR
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

BACKGROUND

Climate change adaptation is receiving increasing attention particularly among developing country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). At the COP17 Conference in Durban, South Africa in 2011, parties reaffirmed the Cancun Adaptation Framework and decided on modalities and procedures for the Adaptation Committee.

With support from Hyogo Prefectural Government, and in collaboration with the Institute for Global Change Adaptation Science (ICAS), the APN conducted a scoping workshop in August 2012 to explore opportunities to enhance action and develop the capacity of APN developing country members on adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region. The scoping workshop **identified needs, gaps and lessons for climate adaptation in Asia and the Pacific**. Based on such recognition, a needs-oriented and user-centred approach emerged as a key message.

It is with this background that the APN 18th Inter-Governmental Meeting, held in April 2013, fully endorsed and launched its **Climate Adaptation Framework (CAF)**. With funding from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, CAF aims to enhance science-based adaptation activities of APN developing countries, comprising:

1. *Regional research activities with a capacity building element;*
2. *Capacity building activities at regional, national and local scales; and*
3. *Joint activities with partner organisations and networks.*

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

CAF places importance on **partnership approaches with local, national, regional and international organisations and networks**.

The APN believes partnerships for climate adaptation should be strengthened and extended to a variety of stakeholders beyond research institutions, including development agencies, regional networks, governmental agencies, universities, and other user communities. Organisations such as the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), ICAS, International Centre for Climate Change and Development

(ICCAD), United Nations University (UNU), and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) have shown keen interest in enhancing collaboration under CAF.

KEY THEMATIC AREAS

Based on needs, gaps and lessons for climate adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region, regional research and capacity building projects should contribute to improving user applications by focusing on the following themes:

- » Development of high-resolution observational, model and downscaled data sets that can contribute to filling data gaps;
 - » Sharing of needs-oriented data;
 - » Calibration and validation of regional climate models, and analysis of projections and assessment of uncertainties;
 - » Development and utilisation of impact, vulnerability, risk and economic assessments;
 - » Improvement of communication skills of scientists and practitioners with stakeholders including local government, the private sector and civil society communities, to encourage policy makers to formulate and implement adaptation plans based on the latest scientific knowledge; and
 - » Utilisation of available information including climate data in applications for adaptation.
- ▼ *Series of expert scoping and training workshops conducted in 2012 and 2013 that has helped shape the Climate Adaptation Framework.*



ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Climate Change Downscaling Approaches

In partnership with the University Network for Climate and Ecosystems Change Adaptation Research (UN-CECAR), APN supported and engaged in a **training programme on climate change downscaling approaches and applications** in November 2012 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, Thailand, with joint support from the Asian Development Bank and Chulalongkorn University. Over 50 participants joined the training programme and included both scientists and practitioners.

Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Loss & Damage

A **workshop on linking climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and loss & damage (CCA-DRR-L+D)** was conducted in Kobe, Japan, from 21-23 August 2013 and focused on the linkages, priorities and limitations, and the challenges and opportunities presented, in the three areas.

Clear to the participants from all four sub-regions of the Asia-Pacific, including South Asia, Southeast Asia, Temperate East Asia, and Oceania & the Pacific, was the manifestation of extreme and slow onset events in the face of disasters, and disaster risk management, and the climate adaptation practices being planned and/or incorporated at local, national, sub-regional and regional levels in Asia and the Pacific.

Challenges and Opportunities

Discussions at the recent workshop were cultural practices and traditional knowledge; disaster amnesia; lack of financial capacity; lack of availability of information/data; lack of consultation in project designing (leading to maladaptation); and insufficient education to deal with adverse impacts of weather events, among others.

