

**5th APN South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting & South Asia Proposal  
Development Training Workshop**

*Organized by*

Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy of Sri Lanka and Asia-Pacific  
Network for Global Change Research (APN)



**Meeting Proceedings**

*Prepared by:*

*Erandathie Lokupitiya*

*University of Colombo*

*October 1-5, 2013*

*Wattala, Sri Lanka*



Proceedings of the 5th APN South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting & South Asia  
Proposal Development Training Workshop

Published in January 2014

© Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

While the information and advice in this publication are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication, neither the authors nor the editors nor the APN can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may be made. APN makes no warranty, express or implied, with respect to the material contained herein.

APN Secretariat

East Building 4F, 1-5-2 Wakinohama Kaigan Dori

Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073 JAPAN

Tel: +81 78 230 8017; Fax: +81 78 230 8018

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

## PREFACE

The Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy of Sri Lanka and Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) organized the 5th APN South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation (SA-SRC) Meeting and South Asia Proposal development Training Workshop (SA-PDTW) held at Pegasus Reef Hotel, Wattala, Sri Lanka, during October 1-5, 2013. The workshop proceedings include an overall coverage of the meetings including the topics and matters discussed within each session of the 5<sup>th</sup> APN South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting and SA-PDTW.

The 5<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting provided the opportunity for the participating countries to share their views and experiences in relation to the APN Science-Policy Dialogue (SPD), future SA-SRC activities, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (CCA-DRR), etc. The SA-PDTW provided valuable training for young scientists in the region for developing proposals under APN Annual Regional Call for Research Proposals (ARCP).

APN representatives, resource persons, government representatives (i.e. national focal points (nFPs)), scientific planning group (SPG) members, and young scientists from the member countries contributed towards the success of the overall meeting. I would like to acknowledge the support given by Dr. Akio Takemoto (Director), Mr. Yukihiro Imanari (Head, Development and Institutional Affairs Division), Dr. Linda Stevenson (Head, Communication & Scientific Affairs division), Ms. Christmas de Guzman (Programme Fellow), and Ms. Taniya Koswatta (Coordinator) of APN Secretariat and Mr. BMUD Basnayake (Secretary), Mr. Ajith Silva (Director, Air Resource Management and International Relations), Mr. S.M. Werahera (Assistant Director, Air Resource Management and International Relations), Ms. Vindya Hewawasam and Ms. Ruchira Perera of Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy of Sri Lanka, and Mr. S.H. Kariyawasam (Director General) of the Department of Meteorology of Sri Lanka, in preparation of the Proceedings, supplementing their successful efforts in organization and conducting of the overall meeting.

Erandathie Lokupitiya

December 30, 2013

## ABBREVIATIONS

APN	Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research
ARCP	Annual Regional Call for Research Proposals
CAF	Climate Adaptation Framework
CAPaBLE	The Scientific Capacity Building/Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing countries
CCA-DRR	Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction
CCA-DRR-L+D	Climate change adaptation, disaster risk management, and loss and damage
CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
EOI	expressions of interest
GLOF	Glacial Lake Outburst Flood
IPCC	Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
IPBES	Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
LAPA	Local Adaptation Plan of Action
LCI	Low Carbon Initiatives
LEAD	Leadership for Environment and Development
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NDMA	National Disaster Management Authority
nFP	National Focal Point
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SACEP	South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme
SA-PDTW	South Asia South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop
SA-SRC	Sub regional cooperation
SA-SRCom	South Asia sub regional committee
SPD	Science - Policy Dialogue
SPG	Scientific planning group
SPG/IGM	Scientific planning group/Intergovernmental meeting
START	Global Change System for Analysis, Research, and Training
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE.....	ii
ABBREVIATIONS.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv
5 <sup>TH</sup> APN SOUTH ASIA SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION MEETING.....	1
Objectives of the workshop.....	1
OPENING SESSION.....	2
Welcome remarks.....	2
Opening remarks.....	2
SESSION 2: SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION UPDATE.....	3
Election of Officers and Adoption of the Draft Agenda.....	3
Background and objectives of the meeting by Dr. Linda Stevenson.....	3
Review of the 4 <sup>th</sup> APN SA-SRC meeting and 5 <sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub Regional Cooperation (SA-SRC) meeting.....	3
APN Science-Policy Dialogue in (SPD) South Asia.....	4
Partners’ visions of Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia.....	5
(Virtual meeting (Skype conference) with the partners of START and CDKN).....	5
An update on South Asian sub regional summary proposals.....	9
APN framework updates (by Dr. Linda Stevenson).....	11
SESSION 5: COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES ON CCA-DRR.....	13
Information sharing on country experience on addressing climate extreme events, drought and flood.....	13
Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia (Part II).....	15
SESSION 6: WAY FORWARD FOR SOUTH ASIA- SUB REGIONAL COMMITTEE (SA-SRCOM).....	17
Institutionalizing Sub-Regional committees in APN framework (by Ms. Taniya Koswatta).....	17
Sub regional committee membership.....	17
Role of committee members.....	18

Evaluation of South Asia sub-regional committee (Dr. Linda Stevenson) .....	19
Enhancing Communication with other regional networks .....	20
Future plans/activities and the 6th APN SA-SRCom Meeting .....	21
Concluding remarks .....	22
<b>SOUTH ASIA PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP (SA-PDTW) .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Opening Remarks and overview of the APN .....	24
Task One: Completing Summary Proposal Writing Assignment .....	27
Group oral presentations .....	27
Experience sharing on proposal writing .....	28
Revising Summary Proposals .....	28
Overview of the Review Process .....	29
Review Process .....	29
Group oral presentations and discussion session .....	29
Questionnaire: Review of the training workshop and suggestions for improvement .....	30
Concluding remarks and Group photograph .....	30
<b>ANNEX 1- PARTICIPANTS OF 5<sup>TH</sup> SA-SRC MEETING .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>ANNEX II- PARTICIPANTS OF THE SA-PDTW .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>ANNEX III- MEETING AGENDA .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>ANNEX IV- SOME PICTURES FROM THE FIELD EXCURSION TO YAPAHUWA, SRI LANKA .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>ANNEX V- SOME SELECTED PRESENTATIONS .....</b>	<b>48</b>

## 5<sup>TH</sup> APN SOUTH ASIA SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION MEETING



### 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
1-2 Oct 2013



This meeting was attended by the national focal points (nFP) and scientific planning group (SPG) members.

#### **Objectives of the workshop**

- Discuss the main action points from the 4th SA-SRC Meeting held in Nepal in January 2013 and SA-SRCom Ad Hoc Meeting during the 18th SPG/IGM, held in Kobe, Japan, on April 2013;
- Assess the current status of SA-SRC proposals for submission to the APN;
- Discuss the plan to design and organise Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia;
- Share updates on the APN frameworks;
- Share key information and country experience on addressing climate extreme events, drought and flood;
- Institutionalize Sub-Regional Committees in the APN Frame work;
- Discuss plans on Enhancing Communication with other regional network; and
- Carry out the 5th SA-SRC Meeting back-to-back Proposal Development Training Workshop.

**October 01, 2013**

## **OPENING SESSION**

### **Welcome remarks**

Mr. BMUD Basnayake, the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy welcomed all the participants on behalf of Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy and the Government of Sri Lanka to the first APN South Asia sub regional meeting held in Wattala, Sri Lanka.

### **Opening remarks**

Dr. Linda Stevenson welcomed all, gave a self-introduction, and acknowledged the Ministry of Environment of Sri Lanka for organizing the meeting. She mentioned about the previous meetings held in different countries briefly and mentioned that it is a challenging goal to promote a science policy dialogue in the region. Talking about the issues in South Asia, she mentioned that climate change and disaster risk management is a key issue highlighted by South Asia.

She mentioned that APN has been promoting science-policy linkage through a variety of approaches, and talked about the South East Asia Science Policy Dialogue held in Bangkok in July 2012 in collaboration with Global Change System for Analysis, Research, and Training (START) South East Asia regional office. She mentioned that she looks forward to having discussions in the present meeting on plans for a South Asia Science-Policy Dialogue to be held next year.

Dr. Stevenson pointed out that APN has launched special call for Expressions of Interest for Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Loss & Damage with ear-marked finance by Ministry of the Environment of Japan. APN received more than 85 Expressions of Interest from Asia Pacific region and international organizations located in other regions in the world. This implies the need for research and capacity development studies in the climate adaptation by way of disaster risk management and reduction of loss and damage.



## **SESSION 2: SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION UPDATE**

### **Election of Officers and Adoption of the Draft Agenda**

Mr. Faiz Ahmed, Bangladesh nFP was appointed to Chair the meeting while Dr. Hemant Borgaonkar of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, SPG member from India was appointed as the First Co-Chair. Next the draft Agenda was adopted,

Ms. Taniya Koswatta, APN coordinator, briefed on the overall the background of Sub Regional Cooperation at the APN at the beginning, and further details on the background and objectives were given by Dr. Linda Stevenson, Head, Division of Communication and Scientific Affairs, APN Secretariat.

### **Background and objectives of the meeting by Dr. Linda Stevenson**

In her presentation on the background and objectives, Dr. Stevenson went through the background and objectives of the meeting, talking briefly on the past meetings held in other countries in the region. She stressed on the importance of the Science Policy Dialogue, and added that US \$ 50,000 from APN opportunity fund has been allocated for the science and policy dialog for South Asia.

### **Review of the 4<sup>th</sup> APN SA-SRC meeting and 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub Regional Cooperation (SA-SRC) meeting**

This was presented by Dr. Madan Lal Shresthra, in the absence of Mr. Gokarna Mani Duwadee, the National Focal Point of Nepal. He briefed on the meetings held in Nepal in January 2013, and especially mentioned about the field trip which involved the adaptation strategies at the grass root level- their response/adaptive activities related to climate change. He went through the objectives and outputs of the meeting held in Nepal in great detail. He concluded his talk by summarizing the regional issues discussed at the meeting- Science -policy dialogue in south Asia, Disaster Risk

Reduction and Management, Biodiversity and eco system services in south Asia, Climate change and Adaptation, and Low carbon development.

### **SESSION 3: SCIENCE-POLICY DIALOGUE IN SOUTH ASIA**

#### **APN Science-Policy Dialogue in (SPD) South Asia**

Dr. Linda Stevenson presented the issues related to APN science-policy dialogue (SPD). She mentioned that the objective of this strategic session was to 'discuss science-policy dialogues with a view to carrying out the plans presented to and endorsed by the 18<sup>th</sup> IGM'. She mentioned about the available funds for a SPD in South Asia, and the possibility of leverage funding from START and Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN).

Talking about Sub regional Science-Policy Dialogues, Dr. Stevenson mentioned that each sub region has its own problems, and objective is having a dialogue between scientists and policy makers, and there is a need to target the right people, given the difficulty in communicating science to non-scientist communities. The objective is to have a dialogue, and in order to get sound outputs, there is a need to improve communication and collaboration between different stakeholders. Mentioning about possible other funding sources, she mentioned about the funding currently available from CDKN, and the need for increasing the funds from START. She suggested the appointment of an organizing committee along with a timeline for a SPD in South Asia.

During the discussion session after the presentation by Dr. Linda Stevenson, Dr. Amir Muhammed, Pakistan nFP, mentioned that a science-policy dialogue has already been occurring between policymakers and scientists. Therefore, a description on the objective of this SPD is needed.

Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that the objective is to have a dialogue between the policy makers and scientists, and there is a need to create partnerships (e.g. with private sector) in achieving that. She mentioned that APN is promoting that only because South Asia mentioned that it needs a SPD. She added that Prof. Giasshuddin Miah might have a better view since he already attended one SPD meeting.

Prof. Giasshuddin Miah, talked about setting the objectives for the SPD and mentioned that Dr. Madan Lal Shresthra might be able to facilitate it, as he attended the last meeting. He mentioned that based on the opportunity and freedom given by APN, South Asian membership should be able to get a good output from a SPD.

Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that she completely agrees with prof Miah, and the objectives and output of the SPD are completely up to the group to decide. Dr. Amir mentioned that the Green Revolution was adopted by policy makers based on the recommendations by the scientists. He stressed on having a proper objective and better recommendations.

Dr, Shresthra mentioned that he agrees with Prof. Miah, and what happened in Southeast Asia SPD is a lesson, and S Asia does not have to start from there. How much information can be conveyed to the policy makers is a concern, and he mentioned that the development of salinity resistant crop varieties in Bangladesh, and subsequent, further changes in salinity. He mentioned that it might help, if the uncertainty of climate change projections, etc., could also be conveyed.

Dr. Linda Stevenson brought about some notes from Steering Committee meeting and mentioned about the lack of private sector representation, and presented some short notes on Steering Committee Meeting. She mentioned that CDKN and START will participate in the discussion on South Asia Science-Policy Dialogue via Skype during late afternoon.

## **Partners' visions of Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia**

### **(Virtual meeting (Skype conference) with the partners of START and CDKN)**

Dr. Anand Patwardhan (from START), who got connected through Skype, mentioned that SPD in SA is not a one-time effort, and it is a long-term process, involving global change community and policy community in the region. He mentioned that there has been a science-policy dialog, for instance, the IPCC 5<sup>th</sup> report summary for policymakers. There is a need to pass the information to policy makers for decision making, mostly with Implications in relation to adaptation.

Dr. Patwardhan mentioned about possible structure and thematic areas, including food and energy, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. He added saying that multiple objectives need to be addressed. Issues such as the socioeconomic contexts associated with urbanization, food security, etc. need to be discussed and it would be important to structure a dialog based on the ongoing processes, while addressing gaps in the existing scene in policies, etc. Facilitating the 2-way communication and directing some science research in a more focused manner is needed. Dialog involving thematic areas and cross cutting issues, with the participation of disaster management specialists and those deal with resilience, both from policymakers and scientists are needed. Scientists in economics and social sciences need to interact to lead to a positive outcome.

Mr. Ali Tauqueer Sheikh, is CEO and National Program Director, Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Pakistan and Director Asia CDKN, also joined in the virtual meeting. He mentioned that good research not necessarily is geared towards policy making. Billions of dollars are spent on Climate change research and one concern is how to get the private sector, research community, and policy makers are involved. LEAD believe that its capacity has grown; it did some work with APN and some projects on knowledge networks allowed it to be working with the governments of Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and some other countries in South Asia. Most decisions made at sub-national level are specially important, and many states of India have their own climate change action plans.

Dr. Sheikh added the need for working closely with Finance and Industrial ministries, etc., and mentioned that communicating science is another part of it. Contribution to the regional reports has been very important and effective. LEAD produced reports on ecosystems, agriculture, etc., and in 2013, it has agreed with IPCC and will produce 2-3 reports, as more regional data are available now. He mentioned about the organizations in different countries who work with LEAD to learn to communicate the IPCC report related matters to policy makers. LEAD works together with START, and he added that the APN, START etc., need to play and active role, so that the next special report of IPCC could have some important information from SA. LEAD hopes to engage the National Institute of Disaster Management of India in this, and he mentioned that LEAD Looks forward to

working with any/all of the participating countries at this meeting, as it would like to develop links with governments, private sector, media, academia, etc., and he thanked for the opportunity given.

### **Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia**

Prof. Giasshuddin Miah, SPG from Bangladesh mentioned that there are several issues in South Asia to be discussed in a SPD.

Dr. Patwardhan mentioned that regional aspects have values, as every country has their own problems. Sharing experiences, lessons learned, etc., are important across the region. A regional approach is needed to address some challenges, as well. For instance, how to deal with climate change issues in urban areas (e.g. urban flooding) is a similar challenge across the region, and if water issues across the region is concerned, it also needs to consider risks and response options.

Dr. Ali stressed the importance on having consensus on what can be done. Water transboundary issue is very important and problems pertaining to island nations and those associated with urban areas are also important. Climate change deals with uncertainty, and when different scenarios are constructed, and policy makers consider them. According to him, land use systems, agricultural management practices, issue of poverty and equity, and how to mainstream their vulnerabilities and concerns are important issues that need to be addressed.

Mr. Amir Muhammad from Pakistan added that since there had been regional dialogs even before, the SPD of South Asia needs to be stimulated more effectively. Involvement of sociologists and economists with other scientists is important, and transfer of mechanisms developed and overall outcome to the policy makers are important for a better SPD.

Dr. Patwardhan mentioned that bridges with policymakers at different levels are important and involvement of media is very important in getting the people on board, along with policy makers.

Dr. Sheikh spoke about the climate change scenarios, and added that scenarios had scared people including private sector and media away. Involving economists is important with regard to climate change induced vulnerability. In 2014, LEAD/CDKN plans to have two legal frameworks to achieve

sustainable development goals, and the goals of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In doing this, reaching out to economists, social scientists, and media is quite important.

Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha commended the useful conversation. He mentioned the differences in the values found in different IPCC reports, and it is important that the policy makers are updated on those, and the region can work together for a better SPD. Dr. Sheikh mentioned that Working Group 2 report has tried to bring about climate change adaptation. It requires institutional strengthening and overall management; resilience and adaptation have to be mainstreamed into the ongoing development activities, as it cannot stand alone. Ability to capture climate risks is important in developing long-term resilience.

According to Dr. Patwardhan, START will be happy to work together and it has enough resources to work towards an effective SPD, and having media, academics and private sector in concurrent sessions, will be important. Dr. Sheikh mentioned that he has already spoken to prof. Hassan and SPD might be piggy backed to them. He stressed on doing the SPD more creatively (not like a conference), and in some cases university academics can interact with policy makers and private sector and others. When Ms. Taniya inquired Dr. Sheikh how the LEAD can contribute towards the SPD, he mentioned that he has talked with prof. Hasan, and gave the details on the possible funding availability with START and CDKN.

Regarding the time frame of organizing SPD, Dr. Linda Stevenson clarified that it is not possible for South Asia to have a SPD before March. The group needs more time to organize it, and at least 10 months is needed, as it also has to identify correct policy makers and resource persons to be involved. Dr. Patwardhan mentioned about the upcoming Working group 3 meeting in Japan, and asked if the SPD could be held before March, as the output could contribute to IPCC report. Dr. Stevenson mentioned about the upcoming intergovernmental meeting in Cambodia in March, and told that the SPD cannot be done before March. She concluded that the committee needs to have more discussion based on what was discussed at the virtual meeting; she thanked the remote participants, agreeing to send a summary of the whole discussion.

## **Conclusion day 1**

The Chair adjourned the meeting for the day and informed that the session will be continued on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October.

## **SESSION 4: FUTURE SA-SRC ACTIVITIES**

**October 02, 2013**

### **An update on South Asian sub regional summary proposals**

Chair invited Prof. Giasshuddin Miah, SPG member to address the meeting.

Prof. Miah mentioned that during the 04<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC meeting, it was decided to produce 2 proposals based on 1) Climate change and agriculture, and 2) Ecosystems and biodiversity. He mentioned that two concept papers had been prepared, and the summary proposals were shared among the south Asian members during the ad-hoc meeting in Kobe. As the proposed project was led by Sri Lankan scientist, he invited to Prof. Pushpakumara to present the detailed work plan on “Assessment of Ecosystem Services of Selected Landscapes of South Asia” proposal.

After Prof. Pushpakumara’s presentation, Prof. Miah’s requested from the members to comment on it, especially raised the issue whether we need to be concerned about cropping patterns or any other interventions, in terms of climate change and agriculture. The following details the specific comments/concerns raised by the members from different countries.

Dr. Amir Muhammed (Pakistan)- Lot of interventions exist in the particular area (i.e. climate change and agriculture) in relation to tea plantations; we try to understand the knowledge based on these lands and characterize different types of agricultural use based on genetic and other interventions for finding suitable adaptations. Hydrological aspects are important, too.

Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha (Nepal)- We need to be looking at what is happening (where some kind of some farming systems are already existing to prevent land degradation, and these already existing practices are the starting areas). We need to be concerned about the steps we could take to develop resilience based on the existing situation.

Dr. Amir Muhammed (Pakistan) - Assessment of ecosystem services of selected landscapes of South Asia is important. He added that the catchment areas dominated by forest, tea, home gardens, and several agroecosystems jointly form a landscape, and it is important to find the ecosystem services of such landscape, as they are well connected (e.g. agricultural landscape and forests). Once we find out what sort of ecosystem services are there, it is important to communicate that to the policy makers. Briefing on ecosystem services and biodiversity, he added that we are valuing only something we can feel, and its provision of ecosystem services is not factored into decision making. He stressed on the need for having a full accounting system for the ecosystem services. We will incorporate GIS and other methods and try to find relative values for all four categories of ecosystem services (slide). Montane forests, agriculture (tea), home garden systems are all interconnected, and they all provide good ecosystem services which are not properly evaluated. We want to identify the biodiversity involved and link that to the ecosystem services. Only monetary values are given for timber and similar ecosystem services, and no valuation has been done for cultural values or carbon accounting, etc. We need to select the sites and methodologies matching our countries. New discussions are going on with certain US universities regarding the methodologies to be used (economic methods; e .g. travel-cost methodologies). He mentioned its relevance to APN Science Policy agenda.

Prof. Pushpakumara, mentioned that he wants to make the proposed project a south Asian regional project and requested a collaborator from Bhutan to fulfill the regional involvement

Ms. Peldon Tshering, Bhutan nFP, mentioned that to identify the suitable candidate from Bhutan, she wanted to know the actual involvement needed as the commitment will be based on that.

Dr. Amir Muhammed from Pakistan mentioned that given the possibility of having different methodologies and areas, we need to have a first workshop to identify the methodologies, and



each country needs to find their methodologies. Progress review meetings will be done in partner countries. Bhutan nFP explained the need for defining the methodologies first, and asked if there is no capacity existing within a country, could the person/s involved be trained for doing it.

Dr. Muhammed mentioned that the capacity building is also a part of the project, which will run in parallel to the project activities. When Ms. Tshering from Bhutan inquired if the analysis part will also be supported, Prof. Puhpakumara mentioned that it will be possible, as the Sri Lankan team has experts from different fields, and capacity building will also be carried out, as part of the project. Prof. Miah requested the parties to develop the full proposal by incorporating the comments from participants and collaborators. He mentioned that the proposal/s will be discussed at the SPG-IGM and the full proposal will be submitted.

### **APN framework updates (by Dr. Linda Stevenson)**

Dr. Stevenson presented on updates on three frameworks: Low Carbon Initiatives (LCI) framework, Climate Adaptation Framework (CAF), and Focused Call for climate change adaptation, disaster risk management, and loss and damage (CCA-DRR-L+D) activities, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Framework

Dr. Stevenson mentioned that frameworks are different from core programs (i.e. ARCP or The Scientific Capacity Building/Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing countries (CAPaBLE)), and the APN is still not sure if the frameworks will be successful and integrated into APN. Mentioning about the 18<sup>th</sup> IGM, she mentioned that the Ministry of Environment of Japan earmarked some finances for disaster risk management, loss and damage, and other important aspects. She wanted to know what does the forum wants to do and mentioned the need for having high quality data, regional collaboration, and mentioned that more emphasis needs to be placed on slow-onset events. She added that the APN provides science relevant for policy, and mentioned about the finances earmarked from ministry of environment of Japan, and a workshop that was held. She presented the activities to date, and mentioned about the workshop and its participants- 25% from APN members, and 75% experts from CCA-DRR-L+D areas.

Dr. Stevenson also presented some results, and mentioned that the APN also had Pacific region identified under thematic areas for high priority areas.

She talked about the Focused call (linking the above 3 areas) and the finances going to it. Site visits for APN was the highest when the focused call was launched. 85 expressions of interest (EOI)s were received for the focused call (with 44 EOIs for low carbon initiative). She mentioned that the climate synthesis report was published 2 yrs ago, which had ~4000 downloads from Asia-Pacific region. She mentioned that so far it is the top download from APN website. Out of EOIs, 75% will be eliminated. She mentioned that hopefully new activities can be expressed by Jan-Feb of 2014.

Next she presented the APN biodiversity and ecosystem services framework themes, and talked about the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services (IPBES) workshop that took place in September in South Korea. Dr. Stevenson mentioned that the APN book” **Climate in Asia and the Pacific: Security, Society and Sustainability**” is ready to be published soon, and praised Dr. Madan Shrestha’s role in it.

## SESSION 5: COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES ON CCA-DRR

### **Information sharing on country experience on addressing climate extreme events, drought and flood**

**Bhutan** presentation, *Information sharing on country experience on addressing climate extreme event, Drought and Flood*, was delivered by Ms. Tshewang Zangmo of National Environment Commission (NEC). She mentioned that NEC is the main governing body on climate change related activities. She mentioned that Bhutan is a land-locked and least-developed country. Agriculture and hydro power are the most vulnerable sectors. She described the identified prioritized projects under National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), and talked about the components under Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) project, and mentioned the outcomes of the project. Outcomes and key lessons learned were mentioned in detail.

Ms. Zangmo mentioned that there are 24 potential dangerous glacial lakes in Bhutan in terms of flood vulnerability, and currently the country is updating the priorities under climate change adaptation.

**Bangladesh** presentation on *Addressing Climate Extreme Events-Drought and Flood: Bangladesh Experience* was given by Mr. Faiz Ahmad, the Chair. He talked about the vulnerable land areas for salinity, floods, drought and population in the country in great detail. Approaches for adaptation and mitigation were presented, and the information on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> national communications, and NAPA submitted in 2009 were mentioned. According to Mr. Faiz Ahmed, climate change strategy and action plan 2009 has 6 thematic areas; he mentioned about the country's efforts in establishing coastal embankments and early warning systems for disaster management, as well.

In mentioning the disaster management institutions in Bangladesh, he mentioned that there are different levels of disaster management, including village level. He also mentioned about the research and innovative practices including floating vegetable cultivation beds, flood –tolerant

varieties, that can sustain 2-wks of submerged conditions, practices minimizing the need for irrigation, drought-tolerant crops, water harvesting technology around where the crop is planted (Mini Pond), Homestead gardens, multistoried agroforestry systems, etc. He claimed that although the country had food insecurity in the past, with the new government, the country is richer in using ground water, and it has much improved with regard to food security, as well.

**Sri Lanka** presentation, *information sharing on country experiences on addressing extreme events drought/floods*, was delivered by Mr. S.R. Jayasekera of Department of meteorology. He presented some of the observed extreme events (heavy rainfall and extreme droughts) in Sri Lanka. He presented all the measures country has taken so far, including weather forecast, the introduction of a new color code for very intense tsunami or cyclone conditions.

**India**- Dr. HP Borgaonkar of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, India, talked about *Impact of Climate Change on India's Monsoonal Climate and Climate Extreme Events*. He talked about the two major global warming periods – 1910-1945 and 1976-2000, and the observed climate change in India. He mentioned that the association of el Niño and drought is very significant. The current trend has been the increased number of hot nights and decreased number of cold nights. Extreme events within the region, climatic trends, etc., were presented in detail.

**Nepal**- Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha presented information on *Floods and droughts in Nepal in relation to climate change*. He mentioned that in Nepal, the number of rainy days (>1mm) are decreasing, but the number of days with rain  $\geq 100$  mm is increasing throughout South Asia.

Lowering glacial lakes (to avoid flooding) costs billions of dollars. Occurrence of extreme events (i.e. wetter conditions in wet months and drier conditions in dry months) has increased, as well. He mentioned that in Nepal the Second National Communication is in its final stage, and NAPA is going on. Capacity building is promoted by the relevant government agencies. In Himalaya, temperature may rise by  $6^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 100 yrs (and that rise is more crucial compared to lowland areas).

**Pakistan** presentation on Climate-related extreme events in Pakistan was given by Dr. Amir Mohammad. He described arid to semiarid climate and problems associated with water scarcity and drinking water problems in Pakistan. He mentioned that even in villages, bottled water needs to be taken. Agriculture is the largest sector and main source of employment and foreign exchange for the country. Due to climate change, shift in monsoon timing and intensity, and temperature have happened. He mentioned that Pakistan has world's most elaborative irrigation system. Incidence of droughts is lower; however, incidence of floods has increased. More severe or moderate floods occur almost every year since 2010. Southern part of the country is very dry, but towards north there is more rainfall. But extreme floods are found in Southern part almost every year. Highest temperature recorded at Mohenjo-Daro is 53.8 0C. During the last few years, research capability in meteorology department increased (earlier it was like a service department). National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) also got created to take care of all the external events. Federal Flood Commission also exists. He claimed that it would be important for all the experts in different areas in South Asia to get together and have a better effort in a climate change.

### **Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia (Part II)**

Prof. Miah mentioned that in future, we need to include the attempts by countries to combat climate change, what lessons we could learn from other countries, etc. Mr. Ajith Silva, Director, Air Resource Management & International Relations, Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka, affirmed what Prof. Miah said. He mentioned that the dry zone in Sri Lanka had over one thousand tanks that harnessed the needs of people and animals, to harvest the run off, and safeguard ground water in the past. The information on such activities needs to be shared. He mentioned about visiting one such tank during the field trip.

When Pakistan inquired if Afghanistan part of SA or not, Dr. Linda Stenvenson said that if the membership of SA think that APN should involve Afghanistan as part of South Asia, then they should address that at the IGM. She reminded that there are other counties such as Maldives, Uzbekistan, which probably might have more advanced climate agenda compared to Afghanistan.

Pakistan SPG member also claimed that the cyclonic storms are happening at increased intensities in Pakistan, stimulating the extreme events.

Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha mentioned that the agriculture in Nepal is affected due to extended periods of fog and unavailability of sun light for months in some parts has important impact on production. He added that the frequent extreme events, and glacial lake problem are common in Bhutan, Pakistan, and Nepal.

India SPG member mentioned that the farmers are considering shifting of seasons, as the country is getting more rain in October during the recent past.

Dr. Shrestha mentioned that LAPA activity is very important. West Nepal is looking at how the climate change adaptation practices are happening, what is done and needs to be done, etc. Pilot sites have been established in 14 areas in West Nepal.

## **SESSION 6: WAY FORWARD FOR SOUTH ASIA- SUB REGIONAL COMMITTEE (SA-SRCOM)**

### **Institutionalizing Sub-Regional committees in APN framework (by Ms. Taniya Koswatta)**

Ms. Taniya Koswatta requested the participants for their views on how to develop a framework to decide who should be the members and Chair in the sub regional committees. She mentioned that there is a need to identify a good leader who could focus on the group; what will be the responsibilities of the chair and other logistics need to be considered, and there should be a proper mechanism to move forward. The responsibilities of the members of the sub committees also need to be identified.

Dr. Linda Stevenson supplemented what Ms. Koswatta mentioned, and told the participants that the financial support is restricted and if the committee is going to have invited experts, they must be self-funded; she also mentioned that Mr. Lou Brown needs help in institutionalizing sub regional sub committees.

### **Sub regional committee membership**

Dr. Muhammad from Pakistan suggested that the membership should include only APN members. Prof. Miah from Bangladesh mentioned that it can include approved countries, as well. Dr. Linda Stevenson clarified that APN currently has only one approved country in South Asia (i.e. Maldives), which is eligible to collaborate in project proposals, but not to participate in meetings. According to her, Singapore, Pacific Islands and Myanmar are also approved countries, which cannot attend intergovernmental meetings. She agreed with Dr. Amir from Pakistan that only the member countries should be considered for membership; but the approved countries can be involved in projects.

Based on a question by Ms. Tshering from Bhutan if an approved country could ever become a member, Dr. Stevenson mentioned that it needs to apply for membership (APN). Due to cost

constraints, the APN does not invite new members. Myanmar has not applied, and it has been only an approved country. Such approved countries include Myanmar, Singapore, Pacific Islands, Maldives, etc.

Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha also agreed with Dr. Amir, and mentioned that the sub-committee meetings should have member countries only. If an approved country is invited, it will have to pay the participation costs or be self-funded (not APN).

Ms. Taniya Koswatta then summarized the above decision. Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that the sub-committees can decide to cover expenses within the APN funds given (Even inviting the experts could be covered if it is within the APN fund limit). Based on further questions by the other participants, Dr. Stevenson provided further clarifications on this, which are summarized below.

Usually the sub-committees meet on an annual basis, and in future the members might need to have some in-kind funds for travel, etc. She mentioned that earlier it was USD 60,000 for all 4 regions; but now the APN provides USD 120,000.00 per year, including the proposal development workshop/s. She mentioned that the membership might have to consider how often they want to have meetings, considering the APN budget constraints.

Dr. Amir mentioned that the proposal development probably could have been done at country level. Dr. Stevenson mentioned that having one regional level workshop will be beneficial, but probably not every year. She mentioned that she prefers having those at national level.

### **Role of committee members**

Dr. Linda Steven mentioned the need for considering the mandate at sub-regional level. She mentioned that there is a need to stick with original goals/objectives. Ms. Tanya Koswatta mentioned that it will be the same responsibility as the current members. If you need to have a decision as a group, you could have a comment on that. Bhutan nFP can summarize a mandate, as she is involved in policy making.



Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that the Chair will be selected during the IGM probably (to select chair and vice chair), disregarding who would be hosting the meeting. Initially it could be done annually, and later it might happen every 2 years.

Bhutan nFP, Ms. Peldon Tshering mentioned that there is a need for having a rough draft of a text, before proceeding further and Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that there will be one done after the meeting.

First co-chair, Dr. Hemant Borgaonkar from India invited Linda Stevenson for her presentation.

### **Evaluation of South Asia sub-regional committee (Dr. Linda Stevenson)**

Dr. Stevenson mentioned that the Evaluation of the sub-regional cooperation will be done by four people including Dr. Louis Tupas, and Dr. Andrew Matthews. She added that there has been four years of collaboration, as this is the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. She asked the participants for their opinion on how to develop a metric for evaluation of the South Asian group.

Dr. Stevenson added that it would be great if two members from South Asia could volunteer in coordinating this evaluation, as APN cannot do it alone. The timeline is ~18 months, and there is a need to do get something done by March, share it among the committee, and pass it to the four people mentioned above, for evaluating it.

Based on the silence among the group, Dr. Stevenson added that there is no way of securing the future, if SA is not willing to cooperate in this event. Based on a question by Bhutan on how it is going to happen, Dr. Stevenson mentioned that the members need to collaborate with each other and develop a metric and undertake this activity as a group. She mentioned that it is the time for an evaluation, and each sub-regional committee can engage in this process of evaluation. She urged the members to be involved in the evaluation process.

Upon an inquiry by Bhutan if there is a specific format for that, Dr. Linda Stevenson added that the sub regional cooperation was started 6 years ago as a trial, and it is the time for an evaluation. She mentioned that any reports/questionnaires, etc., have to be done by the participants (or members). She mentioned that the APN will provide questionnaires to project leaders, although the evaluation of capacity building is something hard to do.

Based on a question by Bangladesh if South East Asia also has to do the evaluation, Dr. Linda Stevenson said that it was decided at the IGM held in March 2013 that SE Asia also has to follow it. She asked the members to discuss among themselves electronically; according to her, it does not need to be a big report, and it is for the APN to have some evaluation on how things are going on. She added that the evaluation metrics have been developed for projects under ARCP and CAPaBLE, but not for sub-regional committees; so it is up to the members to decide how they should do it, and she clearly mentioned that it is an electronic exercise.

Next, Co-chair invited the nFP Bhutan for her talk.

### **Enhancing Communication with other regional networks**

Bhutan nFP, Ms. Peldon Tshering briefed on the regional cooperation organizations existing in SA (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP)). She mentioned that all the members are mostly familiar with SAARC, and talked about SAARC centers located at different places. She mentioned that SAARC centers have been mostly working on government mandate. Talking about SACEP in Colombo, she mentioned that it has been involved in the environment promotion within the member countries. Then she mentioned about the regional START center, and briefly mentioned about the SE Asia START center in Thailand. In addition, there are regional networks focusing on climate change, considering vulnerability and adaptation, etc. She wanted to know the institutes that are working closely with SAARC bodies within each country. She mentioned about a recent climate change meeting held in Bhutan. Sri Lankan participant mentioned that the government has been working closely with

SACEP, and Bangladesh mentioned that most regional cooperation bodies are based in Delhi and the country has been communicating with them.

### **Future plans/activities and the 6th APN SA-SRCom Meeting**

Based on a brief discussion among the members it was decided to investigate the possibility of having the next meeting in New Delhi, India. Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that APN secretariat would like to draft a letter for the corresponding institute/s, and facilitate the process (as an action point). She mentioned that if both the 6<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC meeting and SPD could be held in Delhi that would be great. Prof. Miah mentioned that he could also help with some logistics, if it will be decided to have it in Delhi.

It was agreed that each member should send the addresses and all relevant information regarding the regional organizations within each country, to Ms. Taniya Koswatta.

Bhutan nFP mentioned that what was mentioned by Drs. Shresthra and Stevenson will help proceed with this process. In the meantime, Bhutan can also start communication with START. She added that the SAARC development fund based in Bhutan is looking to cooperate with other bodies. She asked if the members could email about any other bodies, as it will be quite useful.

The Chair asked for the comments on Dr. Linda Stevenson's summary on SPD. Dr. Stevenson mentioned that based on the summary, the members need to focus when, where, and what should be done in making the SPD a reality. Dr. Amir Muhammed from Pakistan suggested to tentatively plan the SPD for October 2014, given the possibility of having other meetings in November.

The summary of SPD presented by Dr. Stevenson was amended by her, and she mentioned that the SPD might be held in either India or Bhutan, and the host will be responsible for 100 % of the logistics. Both India and Bhutan mentioned that it will not be a problem. India agreed to let the APN Secretariat know about the possibility of having it in India, by the end of October.

Dr. Stevenson mentioned that the Organizing Committee could include the SPD and nFP from each country (6 members), one member from the APN Secretariat, and one from each START and CDKN.

She added that the committee should start with looking at different thematic areas to increase the leverage of funding from START and CDKN.

Dr. Amir mentioned that having green revolution as a case study will be very important in this endeavor, and Prof. Miah also mentioned about having Dr. M.S. Swaminathan involved, which was agreed upon by the others.

### **Concluding remarks**

The Chair and Co-Chair thanked everybody, and appreciated the efforts by the APN Secretariat. They appreciated the contribution given by the representatives of the different countries in making the meeting a success.



## **SOUTH ASIA PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP (SA-PDTW)**

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Raise awareness of the APN among young/early career scientists in the South Asia sub-region of the Asia-Pacific.
- Increase capacity of young/early career scientists to submit proposals to the APN and compete effectively in its competitive Annual Calls for Proposals (for research and capacity development) in key scientific areas for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Empower APN Members to;
  - (i) Provide their knowledge on the APN proposal submission process; and
  - (ii) Learn about the APN Proposals Process so that they might go back to their respective countries and impart their knowledge.



**October 04, 2013**

**Morning session**

Dr. Linda Stevenson warmly welcomed all the participants and thanked the local organizers for their contribution in organizing one week of meetings.

**Opening Remarks and overview of the APN**

Dr. Linda Stevenson, Head, Communication & Scientific Affairs Division of APN gave the opening remarks.

After group placements and self-Introduction, Dr. Stevenson gave an overview of the APN. She also gave the details of some past proposal writing workshops, and other relevant information, while emphasizing on the opportunities given by the APN to young scientists.

**Ms. Tanya Koswatta** presented the *Objectives of the workshop and the APN's Calls for Proposal Process*. Under this she mentioned the basic eligibility for proposal submissions and types of activities eligible for funding, project duration and budget limits, and the steps involved in the review process, etc. During her introduction, she mentioned that so far More than 45 young, early-career scientist from 17 countries have received training in the PDTWs.

**Dr. Hemant Borgaonkar** presented '*The APN Proposals Process: The Role of SPG Members & nFPs in Reviewing APN Proposals*'. In his talk, he introduced the main organs of APN, the role of Scientific Planning group (SPG) and national focal points (nFPs) in the review process including the initial considerations of the review process, considering both ARCP and CAPaBLE programs. He also briefed on the proposal rating scale and the approval process.

**Dr. Linda Stevenson** talked on *Writing a proposal for the APN*. She presented what is to be expected in a good proposal, preparation process for doing research, funding sources, and reasons for declining research proposals, etc. She elaborated on the importance on having links with the

policy makers, having in-kind funding, and having collaboration from international parties outside APN, as well.

**Ms. Tanya Koswatta** gave a talk on *How do you deal with the finances?* Under this she presented how to prepare a budget plan, common mistakes in budget planning, how to avoid common mistakes associated with certain proposals, and important issues in finance, etc. She also mentioned how funding is channeled through APN (initial advance of 20 percent of the budget and the remainder paid at the end of the project), having a risk management plan for finances, and the need for returning any unspent funds to the APN, etc.

**Dr. Janaka Ratnasiri** gave his presentation on *Guidelines and advice for proposal writing*. Under this, he presented the objectives of the ARCP proposal process quoting from certain goals and objectives from the APN website, and presented some information he has in relation to the proposal submission to the APN, including the outcome from the projects, some constraints associated with collaborative processes, and successes in receiving collaboration and co-funding from global institutions/partnerships other than APN.

*Q & A Session and Overview of the Hands-on Training Session* following the morning session was handled by Mr. Ajith Silva, Director, Air Resource Management & International Relations, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, representing the nFP of Sri Lanka. The important questions and concerns raised by the participants and the responses from the APN and other corresponding parties are as follows:

- Is it acceptable to find collaborators from the same field prior to developing the proposal, by contacting and finding through sources such as internet?. The response from the APN (Dr. Linda Stevenson) was affirmative, encouraging such collaborative efforts
- Is the collaboration between the partners/institutes within the same country possible? The response from the APN (Dr. Linda Stevenson) was affirmative, encouraging such collaborative efforts

- Dr. Madan Shrestha mentioned that such collaboration can be found through the national focal point, as well.
- In answering a concern a participant had in relation to the barriers of obtaining funds through the university, Dr. Stevenson mentioned that in such cases it is better to choose a collaborator from another country as the principal investigator.
- Dr. Janaka Ratnasiri mentioned about the difficulty in receiving confirmation from some collaborating countries for project participation.
- One concern was if health impacts due to climate change could be included in a proposal. Answering this question, Ms. Tanya Koswatta mentioned about some similar past projects, information of which could be assessed through the APN website. Dr. Janaka Ratnasiri also mentioned about some past projects.
- In answering whether it is mandatory to have 3 countries for submitting a proposal for ARCP, Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that it is mandatory and if there are less than three countries, such a proposal could be included under CAPaBLE.
- Whether it is possible to provide financial support for a developed country for any services rendered by them? Answering the question, Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that it is possible; however, the majority of the funding needs to go to the developing country collaborators.
- In answering the question what criteria are important to be a principal investigator, Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that there should be at least a Ph.D, and scientists in early career are encouraged. If the proponent does not have a Ph.D., better to choose a senior person with a Ph.D. as the principal investigator.
- Based on a question by the nFP of Bhutan, asking how the project auditing and evaluation are done, Dr. Linda Stevenson mentioned that the proponents should submit a project



report at the end of each year, in order to receive the funding for the subsequent year. Project evaluation naturally takes place considering project objectives, and sometimes questionnaires are available for self-evaluation.

### **Task One: Completing Summary Proposal Writing Assignment**

After the lunch break, the participants started the discussions and developing the summary proposals. Assigned APN members provided mentorship to each group.

### **Group oral presentations**

At 5.00 pm, the participants from each group presented the summary proposal they had drafted. Each group received comments for improving their proposals from the audience. Broadness of the topic, too many activities to be covered with a limited period (i.e. 2 years), changes needed to be incorporated in certain topics, and budgetary miscalculations were among the comments received by different groups.



**October 05, 2013**

### **Experience sharing on proposal writing**

The session started by a presentation by Prof. Buddhi Marambe on his experience working with the APN since 2009. He mentioned the need to have proper collaboration, how to reach the interested parties for collaboration, and how APN could be of help in guiding you to work with other funding partners in the world, etc. He concluded by mentioning what the proponents should never do-i.e. falsification, fabricating, and plagiarism.



### **Revising Summary Proposals**

Participants were given one hour to incorporate the comments they received during the previous day and further develop their summary proposals, before the tea break.

## **Overview of the Review Process**

Dr. Linda Stevenson presented the peer-review process. She mentioned the criteria for evaluating the summary proposals, and mentioned the possible range of marks for ranking them as excellent (9-10), very good (7-8), good (5-6), fair (3-4), and poor (1-2).

## **Review Process**

Each group of the participants were given the summary proposals of the other groups for their comments. Each group had to prepare a power point presentation with strengths and weaknesses in relation to the summary proposals developed by the other three groups.

The titles of the final summary proposals thus distributed among the group are as follows:

Group 1: Exploring new approach to water use systems for cereal crop production in South Asia under wake of global climate change (Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka)

Group 2: Assessment of biodiversity of upland ecosystem under the changing climate in South & Southeast Asia (Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Philippines)

Group 3: Identification of best mitigation practices to reduce soil erosion along the roadside (Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh)

Group 4: Packaging suitable water management technologies for enhancing water security in South Asia (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India)

## **Group oral presentations and discussion session**

Groups presented their reviews on the rest of the groups with the points they had given to the respective summary proposals. Presentations were made by a person selected by each group. The presentations were followed by a brief discussion session. Based on the voting and comments presented by each group on the summary proposals of the rest of the groups, the proposal developed by Group 4 was selected as the best proposal.



### **Questionnaire: Review of the training workshop and suggestions for improvement**

The APN Secretariat asked the participants to complete a questionnaire based on their views on the 2-day workshop, along with any comments/suggestions for further improvements.

### **Concluding remarks and Group photograph**

The meeting ended with the talks by Dr. Linda Stevenson from the APN Secretariat, Mr. BMUD Basnayake, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, and Mr. Ajith Silva, Director, Air Resource Management & International Relations, Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, Sri Lanka, and a final group photograph.



## **ANNEX 1- PARTICIPANTS OF 5<sup>TH</sup> SA-SRC MEETING**

### **5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation (SA-SRC) Meeting of APN**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013**

**Colombo, Sri Lanka**

#### **Participants list**

#### **BANGLADESH**

**1. Mr. Faiz AHMED**

Joint Secretary (Administration)  
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangladesh Secretariat  
Dhaka-1000  
BANGLADESH

**2. Prof. Giashuddin MIAH**

Professor and Dean  
Dept. of Agroforestry and Environment  
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU)  
Gazipur 1706  
BANGLADESH

#### **BHUTAN**

**3. Ms. Peldon TSHERING**

Chief, Policy & Planning Services  
National Environment Commission  
Thimphu  
BHUTAN

**4. Ms. Tsewang ZANGMO ( alternate SPG)**

Programme Officer  
National Environment Commission  
Thimphu  
BHUTAN

#### **INDIA**

**5. Dr. H. P. BORGAONKAR (alternate SPG)**

Senior Scientist

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology  
Dr. Homi Bhabha road, Pashan  
Pune  
INDIA

#### NEPAL

##### **6. Dr. Madan Lal SHRESTHA**

Academician  
Nepal Academy of Science and Technology  
Kathmandu  
NEPAL

#### PAKISTAN

##### **7. Dr. Amir MUHAMMED**

Rector  
National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences  
FAST House, Islamabad 44600  
PAKISTAN

#### SRI LANKA

##### **8. Mr. Basnayake Mudiyanseelage Uthpala Dayananda BASNAYAKE**

Secretary  
Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy  
82, Sampathpaya, Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla  
SRI LANKA

##### **9. Mr. S. H. KARIYAWASAM**

Director General  
Department of Meteorology  
383, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07  
SRI LANKA

##### **10. Mr. Ajith SILVA**

Director  
Air Resources Management & IR  
Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy  
Battaramulla

SRI LANKA

**11. Mr. S.M.WERAHERA**

Assistant Director  
Air Resources Management & IR  
Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy  
Battaramulla  
SRI LANKA

**APN Secretariat**

**12. Ms. Christmas de GUZMAN**

Programme Fellow  
APN Secretariat  
Kobe  
JAPAN

**13. Dr. Linda Anne STEVENSON**

Head, Communication & Scientific Affairs division  
APN Secretariat  
Kobe  
JAPAN

**14. Ms. Taniya Jayani KOSWATTA**

Coordinator  
APN Secretariat  
Kobe  
JAPAN

**Local Staff (Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy)**

**15. . Ms. Vindya Hewawasam**

Air Resource Management & International Relations

**16. Ms. Ruchira Perera**

Air Resource Management & International Relations

**17. Ms. T.K.I.G. Kumari**

Air Resource Management & International Relations



## **ANNEX II- PARTICIPANTS OF THE SA-PDTW**

### **Proposal Development Training Workshop on Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research**

**(APN)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

#### **BANGLADESH**

**1. Mr. Md. Yousuf Ali**

Assistant Director (Technical)  
Department of Environment  
Dhaka  
BANGLADESH

**2. Mr. Hasan Muhammad ABDULLAH**

Assistant Professor  
Dept. of Agroforestry and Environment  
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU)  
Gazipur 1706  
BANGLADESH

#### **BHUTAN**

**3. Mr. Tshering DENDUP**

Assistant Environment Officer  
National Environment Commission  
BHUTAN

**4. Mr. Lobzang TENZIN**

Human Resource Officer  
National Environment Commission Secretariat  
National Environment Commission  
BHUTAN

#### **INDIA**

**5. Dr. Sanjay Sarjerao KALE**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Environmental Sciences  
University of Pune  
INDIA

## NEPAL

### **6. Mr. Dashrath MISHRA**

Under Secretary (Tech)  
Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment  
Singhadurbar  
Kathmandu  
NEPAL

### **7. Mr. Surendra Raj PANT**

Ecologist  
Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment  
Kathmandu  
NEPAL

## PAKISTAN

### **8. Ms. Nuzba SHAHEEN**

Research Scientist  
Global Change Impact Studies Center (GCISC)  
National Centre for Physics (NCP) Complex  
Islamabad  
PAKISTAN

### **9. Dr. Ghani AKBAR**

Senior Scientific Officer/Senior Engineer  
Climate Change, Alternate Energy and Water Resources Institute (CAEWRI)  
National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC)  
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)  
Islamabad  
PAKISTAN

## SRI LANKA

### **10. Ms. Preethika Madhawe JAYAKODY**

Meteorologist  
Department of Meteorology  
SRI LANKA

### **11. Mr. Roshan HERATH**

Research Assistant  
Department of Meteorology  
SRI LANKA

**12. Mr. MADUWE GURUGE Manoj Prasanna**

Programme Assistant (Environment)  
Biodiversity Secretariat  
Min. of Environmental & Renewable Energy  
Battaramulla  
SRI LANKA

**13. Ms. IDDAGODA HEWAGE Chamika Nilmini**

Programme Assistant (Environment)  
Climate Change Division  
Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy  
Battaramulla  
SRI LANKA

## ANNEX III- MEETING AGENDA

SA-SRC-05-01: Draft Agenda  
Action: For Endorsement  
Created: 30 August 2013 Revised: 27 September 2013

### 5<sup>th</sup> APN South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting Colombo, Sri Lanka, 01-02 October 2013



Organized by: Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Sri Lanka and the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

#### Draft Agenda (version 1)

#### Day 1: Tuesday, 01 October 2013

**13.00-13:30**                      **Registration of Participants**  
(30 min)                              Participants' registration. Hosts will provide logistical information.

#### SESSION 1: Opening Session

**13:30-13:40**                      **Welcome Remarks**  
(10 min)                              The APN national Focal Point (nFP) for Sri Lanka, Mr. B.M.U.D Basnayake, Secretary of Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Sri Lanka

**13:40-13:50**                      **Opening Remarks**  
(10 min)                              Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson, Division Head for Communication & Scientific Affairs, APN Secretariat will welcome participants.

**13:50-14:00**                      **Group Photograph**  
(10 min)                              All honourable guests, regional participants, invitees by the host, and staff have a group photograph taken.

#### SESSION 2: Sub-Regional Cooperation Update

**14:00-14:10**                      **Self-Introduction and Election of Officers**  
(10 min)                              Members of the South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Committee (SA-SRCom) introduce themselves and elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Meeting.

**14:10-14:20**                      **Item 1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda**  
(10 min)                              The elected Chairperson of the Meeting will seek adoption of the agenda. Items of Any Other Business (AOB) may be raised.

**14:20-14:40**                      **Item 2. Background and Objectives of the Meeting**  
(20 min)                              Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson, Executive Science Officer, APN Secretariat, will provide a brief explanation about the background of APN Sub-Regional Cooperation and Meeting objectives. Short discussion with the members will follow to level off expectations.

**14:40-15:10**  
(30 min) **Item 3. Review of the 4<sup>th</sup> APN SA-SRC Meeting & SA-SRCom Meeting**  
Mr. Gokarna Mani DUWADEE, nFP of Nepal will present the highlights of the 4<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting and SA-SRC Ad Hoc meeting which were held during the 18<sup>th</sup> IGM.

### SESSION 3: Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia

**15:10-15:30**  
(20 min) **Item 4: APN Science-Policy Dialogue**  
Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson, APN Secretariat will present and overview of the sub-regional science-policy dialogues and follow-up synthesis, showcasing particularly the results to date and recent discussions at the APN 25<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting.

**15:30-16:00** **Coffee Break**

**16:00-16:30**  
(30 min) **Item 5: Partners visions of Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia**  
START, and CDKN, will introduce their preparation plan and future direction on science policy dialogue in south Asia (*Following speakers are participate to meeting via Skype*)

- 16:00-16:15 START- Prof. Anand Patwardhan, Chair of South Asia START committee
- 16:15-16:30 CDKN- Mr. Ali T. Sheikh, Director, Asia Climate & Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) & Chief Executive Officer LEAD Pakistan

**16:30-17:00**  
(30 min) **Item 06: Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia (PART I)**  
Discussion will continue on next day at the Session 5: Collaborative Activities on CCA-DRR

**17:00-17:15**  
(15 min) **Concluding day 1 and Logistical Arrangements**  
The Chairperson will adjourn the Meeting for the day and the local host will make announcements.

**From 18:30** **HOST COUNTRY RECEPTION DINNER**

**Day 2: Wednesday, October 02, 2013**

### SESSION 4: Future SA-SRC Activities

**09:00-09:20**  
(20 min) **Item 07: An update on South Asian sub regional summary proposals**  
Prof. Giashuddin Miah, APN Scientific Planning Group (SPG) Member for Bangladesh will provide information on proposed proposals for

I to the APN.

- Biodiversity and ecosystem services and
- Climate change and adaptation to agriculture

09:20-09:50  
(30 min)

**Item 08. APN framework updates**

Dr. Linda Stevenson, APN Secretariat will present on updates on three framework documents;

- Low Carbon Initiatives (LCI) Framework
- Climate Adaptation Framework (CAF) and Focused call for CCA-DRR-L+D activities
- Biodiversity and Ecosystem services Framework

**SESSION 5: Collaborative Activities on CCA-DRR**

09:50-12:00  
(130 min)

**Item 09: Information sharing on country experience on addressing climate extreme event, Drought and Flood.**

Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka 15 minutes presentation from each country and follow up discussion

10:30-10:45

*Coffee Break*

12:00-12:45  
(45 min)

**Item 10: Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia (PART II)**

Discussion on designing and organizing Science-Policy Dialogue will continue with integrating disaster risk reduction and loss and damage aspect.

12:45- 14:00

*Lunch Break*

**SESSION 6: Way Forward for SA-SRC**

14:00-14:30  
(30 min)

**Item 11: Institutionalising Sub-Regional committees in APN framework**

Ms. Taniya Koswatta, APN Secretariat, will give overview of planned institutional structure on formal establishment of sub regional committee under APN framework then follow up discussion among the members to discuss the structure

14:30-14:45  
(15 min)

**Item 12: Evaluation of South Asia Sub-regional committee**

Dr. Linda Stevenson, APN Secretariat will present an overview on work to date on 3SP Evaluation and 4SP Planning and evaluation process.

14:45-15:30  
(45 min)

**Item 13: Enhancing Communication with other regional network**

Ms. Peldon Tshering, nFP of Bhutan will lead a discussion on the best way to engage with south regional network such as START, CDKN, LEAD, SAARC, ICIMOD, etc.

15:30-16:00

*coffee Break*

**16:00-16:45**  
**(45 min)**

**Item 14: Future Plans/Activities**

Discussion on specific goals with timeframe as well as plans for future events and activities

**16:45-17:00**  
**(15 min)**

**Item 15: The 6<sup>th</sup> APN SA-SRC Meeting**

For the next SA-SRC Meeting, consider the following:

- Host country/institution
- Date/Venue
- Objective(s)
- Expected outcome(s)
- SA-SRCom Meeting to be conducted back-to-back with the Proposal Development Training Workshop?

Include a short discussion on the report for the next IGM and issues that the SA-SRCom would like to discuss during the SRCom

**17:00-17:15**  
**(15 min)**

**Any Other Business**

**17:15-17:30**  
**(15 min)**

**Closing and Final Remarks**

The Chairperson will deliver their concluding remarks. Local host will provide logistical details.

---

**South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop (SA-PDTW)**

**Colombo, Srilanka**

**04-05 October 2013**



---

**INTRODUCTION**

One of APN's 4 goals is *improving the scientific and technical capabilities of nations in the region*. It is vital that countries in the Asia-Pacific region have the capacity to conduct high quality research that provides underpinning scientific support for policy-makers and policy-making processes. The APN believes that research must involve local scientists and that they must be given the capacity to continue their research, and analyze and utilize their research outcomes.

Under the CAPaBLE programme (registered WSSD Type II partnership) early-career scientists are provided with opportunities to develop their knowledge and capabilities in global change research. Since 2008, the APN has been conducting Proposal Development Training Workshops in various parts of the region. Most recently, these were held in Shanghai, New York and Kobe back to back with other important meetings that brought together international participants.

---

**OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this workshop are to:

- a. Raise awareness of the APN among young/early career scientists in the South Asia sub-region of the Asia-Pacific.
- b. Increase capacity of young/early career scientists to submit proposals to the APN and compete effectively in its competitive Annual Calls for Proposals (for research and capacity development) in key scientific areas for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.
- c. Empower APN Members to
  - (i) Provide their knowledge on the APN proposal submission process; and
  - (ii) Learn about the APN Proposals Process so that they might go back to their respective countries and impart their knowledge.



## APN South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop Draft Agenda

Action: For Information

Created: 17 Sep 2013; Revised: 20 September 2013

Day 1, Friday 04 October 2013 (Chairperson Mr. Sunil Kariyawasam SPG member of Sri Lanka)

TIME	ITEM
09:00-09:10 (10 min)	<b>Opening and Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. Sunil Kariyawasam APN Scientific Planning Group (SPG) Member for Sri Lanka will welcome the participants and provide a short message.</li><li>Dr. Linda Stevenson, Head, Communication &amp; Scientific Affairs Division of APN Secretariat will open the PDTW and provide her remarks.</li></ul>
09:10-09:20 (10 min)	<b>Group Placements and Self-Introduction</b> <p>Participants will be asked to form in their groups of peers and mentors. All participants will then be asked to introduce themselves.</p>
09:20-9:40 (20 min)	<b>An Overview of the APN</b> <p>Dr. Linda Stevenson APN Secretariat will provide information about the APN, past PDTWs and additional information.</p>
09:40-10:00 (20 min)	<b>Objectives of the Workshop and the APN's Calls for Proposals Process</b> <p>Ms. Taniya Koswatta, APN Coordinator, will discuss the workshop objectives and provide information on the APN's Annual Calls for Proposals Processes and address the criteria for submission.</p>
10:00-10:30 (30 min)	<b>The Role of SPG Members and nFPs in Reviewing APN Proposals</b> <p>Dr. Hemant Borgaonkar (SPG alternate India) will talk about the roles of SPG Members and national Focal Points in the APN review procedure and subsequent steps for IGM approval of SPG recommendations.</p>
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00-11:15 (15 min)	<b>Writing a Proposal for the APN</b> <p>Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson will share advice in developing and writing a competitive proposal for the APN.</p>
11:15-11:30 (15 min)	<b>How do you deal with the Finances?</b> <p>Ms. Taniya Koswatta, APN Coordinator, will discuss important aspects in preparing proposal budgets.</p>
11:30-11:45 (15 min)	<b>Guidelines and Advice for Proposal Writing</b> <p>Dr. Janaka Ratnasiri, former Project Leader and collaborators of APN projects, will share his thoughts and advice for proposal writing</p>
11:45-12:30 (45 min)	<b>Q&amp;A Session and Overview of the Hands-on Training Session</b> <p>Speakers will respond to questions raised by the trainees. Dr. Linda Stevenson of the APN Secretariat will provide an overview of the hands-on training session.</p>
<b>12:30-13:30</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>

APN South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop Draft Agenda

Action: For Information

Created: 17 Sep 2013; Revised: 20 September 2013

TIME	ITEM
13:30-15:30 (120 min)	<b>Task One: Completing Summary Proposal Writing Assignment</b> Participants will gather in their 4 working groups and discuss the summary proposal they have been collaborating on in their pre-assignments. With mentorship from assigned APN Members, each group of trainees will spend two hours drafting/revising their 4-page summary proposal, based on the criteria provided by the APN and advice from assigned mentors.
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
16:00-17:00 (60 min)	<b>Continue Task One: Completing Summary Proposal Writing Assignment</b> Participants will gather in their 4 working groups and discuss the summary proposal they have been collaborating on in their pre-assignments. With mentorship from assigned APN Members, each group of trainees will spend two hours drafting/revising their 4-page summary proposal, based on the criteria provided by the APN and advice from assigned mentors.
17:00-18:00 (60 min)	<b>Task Two: Group Oral Presentations</b> A member from each working group will provide a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation highlight the main aspects of his/her group's proposal. 5-minute Q & A will follow each presentation. Based on the feedback from the proponents, the summary proposals may be revised in the evening but should be submitted by 10:30 a.m. to allow for photocopying and peer-review.
18:30-20:00	Dinner hosted by APN and Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy
-----END OF DAY ONE-----	

Day 2, Saturday 05 October 2013 (Chairperson Mr. Sunil Kariyawasam SPG member of Sri Lanka)

TIME	ITEM
09:00-09:15 (15 min)	<b>Experience Sharing on Proposal Writing</b> Dr. Buddhi Marambe, former Project Leader of APN funded projects, will share his thoughts and advice for proposal writing
09:15-10:30 (75 min)	<b>Task Three: Revising Summary Proposal according to feed-back on previous day</b> Participants will gather in their 4 working groups and discuss feedback and revise the summary proposal that they have been working on previous day. With mentorship from assigned APN Members, each group of trainees will spend one and half-hours to revise their 4-page summary proposal.
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00-11:30 (30 min)	<b>Overview of the Review Process</b> Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson will provide a brief overview of the criteria to be used for the review of the summary proposals.

**APN South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop Draft Agenda**

*Action: For Information*

*Created: 17 Sep 2013; Revised: 20 September 2013*

- 11:30-12:30**  
(60 min)
- Task Four: Review Process**  
Each group will be asked to perform a review on the summary proposals of their respective peer groups (i.e. 3 proposals) with approximately 20-minutes per proposal. They will prepare a PowerPoint presentation with the results also indicating the best proposal and why (this will be presented after the lunch break)
- Review Group 1: Reviews Proposals from Groups 2, 3 and 4
  - Review Group 2: Reviews Proposals from Groups 1, 3 and 4
  - Review Group 3: Reviews Proposals from Groups 1, 2 and 4
  - Review Group 4: Reviews Proposals from Groups 1, 2 and 3
- 12:30-13:30**      **LUNCH BREAK**
- 13:30-15:00**  
(90 min)
- Continue Task Four: Review Process**
- 15:00-15:20**      **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:20-16:40**  
(80 min)
- Task Five: Four Group Oral Presentations with discussion session (15min/group)**  
Each group will present on:
- General strengths and weaknesses of the summary proposals
  - General suggestions for improving the summary proposals
  - Selection of best proposal and why
- The resource persons and trainees will discuss the writing and review process addressing issues of concerns and steps for improvement.
- 16:40-17:10**  
(30 min)
- Questionnaire: Review of the Training Workshop and Suggestions for Improvement**  
The APN Secretariat will ask the participants to complete a questionnaire on how they viewed the 2-day workshop, providing comments and suggestions for improvement.
- 17:10-17:30**  
(20 min)
- Concluding Remarks and Group Photograph**  
Following a group photograph, Mr. Ajith Silva will conclude the workshop.

-----END OF DAY TWO-----

**ANNEX IV- SOME PICTURES FROM THE FIELD EXCURSION TO YAPAHUWA,  
SRI LANKA**





## **ANNEX V- SOME SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

## Item 2: Background and Objectives

Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson



### 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
1-2 Oct 2013



## Background

MARCH 2009 -  
Malaysia  
14<sup>th</sup> IGM/SPG Meeting

*All APN Members stressed the importance of sub-regional cooperation not only among the nFPs and SPG Members but with other research and decision-making communities. Particularly stressed was the importance of information exchange among the countries to facilitate relevant scientific research at the sub-level.*

- Institutional sub-regional cooperation was initiated in the second phase of APN with the establishment of the Southeast and South Asia Sub-Regional Committees.
- These SRC meetings, together with key international partners, has improved the flow of information among members of the APN at the sub-regional level and has strengthened collaboration with key



### 1<sup>st</sup> SA-SRC Meeting July 2009: Colombo, Sri Lanka

- SA-SRC provided input to the evaluation of APN's second strategic phase (2005-2010) and formulation of the third strategic plan (2010-2015).
- Discussed the APN's progress in achieving its goals and implementing the second strategic plan; areas that need more efforts and APN's direction in the next 5-10 years.
- Important discussions held on new thematic areas; needs, priorities and gaps in the region; how to address these gaps; and ways of integrating actions/responses into a regional effort.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> SA-SRC Meeting November 2010: Pune, India

- Re-emphasized that the formation of a SA-SRCom is a very important approach to focus on issues of global change research on topics, which are receiving great international attention, at the regional level
- Suggested that APN needs to look at the scope of development, influence and relevance of policy and the context of the project activities.
- Climate Downscaling Workshop was held with main expertise drawn from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
- APN's First Proposal Development Training Workshop for South Asia

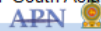


### 3<sup>rd</sup> SA-SRC Meeting January 2012: Paro, Bhutan

- South Asia members presented country reports on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Climate Change, and Biodiversity issues.
- They identified potential activities that need to be addressed in South Asia region.
  - Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
  - Climate Adaptation, particularly agriculture



- SA-SRC agreed that capacity-building activities are of equal importance as regional research activities.
- APN's Second Proposal Development Training Workshop for South Asia



### 4<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting, Kathmandu, Nepal

- SA member countries agreed to provide information on common issues in the field of biodiversity and ecosystems services in South Asia in relation to the B&ES Framework
- A proposal on climate change adaptation and its links with agriculture in South Asia is expected to be developed by SA members and submitted under the ARCP Programme in 2013.
- South Asia members discussed a general idea on disaster risk reduction aimed for the APN Opportunity Fund (AOF).
- Members expressed their interest in holding science-policy dialogues for South Asia with intention of preparing a concept paper for submission on the 18th IGM.



---

## 18<sup>th</sup> IGM/SPG Meeting, Kobe, Japan

- South Asia discussed SA-SPDs with main focus on Disaster Risk Reduction.
- The members identified that, based on successful initiatives of SEA, SA-SRC feels ready to conduct a science policy dialogue together with international and regional partners such as START, CDKN, LEAD, etc.
- Members have identified that drought and flood are the most common disasters in South Asia and sharing information among the members will be useful tool to meet the challenges on disaster risk reduction.



## Objectives of 5<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting

- Discuss the main action points from the 4<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting held in Nepal in January 2013 and SA-SRCom Ad Hoc Meeting during the 18<sup>th</sup> SPG/IGM, held in Kobe, Japan, on April 2013;
- Assess the current status of SA-SRC proposals for submission to the APN;
- Discuss the plan to design and organise Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia;
- Share updates on the APN frameworks;



---

## Objectives of 5<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting

- Share key information and country experience on addressing climate extreme events, drought and flood;
- Institutionalise Sub-Regional Committees in the APN Framework;
- Discuss plans on Enhancing Communication with other regional network; and
- Carry out the 5<sup>th</sup> SA-SRC Meeting back-to-back Proposal Development Training Workshop.

**Thank you**







## Item 4: Science-Policy Dialogues



### 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
1-2 Oct 2013

## Science-Policy Dialogues

The objective of this strategic session is to discuss science-policy dialogues with a view to carrying out the plans presented to and endorsed by the 18<sup>th</sup> IGM.



### Sub-Regional Science-Policy Dialogues

- First sub-regional science-policy dialogue in Bangkok, Thailand (July 2012) and results were presented to the 18<sup>th</sup> IGM.
- 18<sup>th</sup> IGM endorsed further activities.
  - Science-Policy Dialogue in South Asia (SA)
  - Science-Policy Dialogue in Temperate East Asia (TEA)
  - Synthesis of 3 sub-regional workshops in SEA, SA and TEA
- In addition, Professor Roland Fuchs requested incorporating a media training package in collaboration with East-West Center (EWC), START and the Rockefeller Foundation. While this was agreed, no specific funding was allocated.



### Sub-Regional Science-Policy Dialogues

- Setting an appropriate scene for such engagement;
- Framing meetings in terms of effective communications;
- Assuring that "show and tell" mechanisms are avoided and that real interaction takes place;
- Allowing for both "science" and "policy" interactions;
- Science community needs to understand that information they present is not usually digestible to non-scientific communities;
- Local traditional knowledge and communities at the ground level have an important role in such dialogues;
- Undertaking and assuring that the different perspectives of all stakeholders are considered;
- Perspectives have to change in time. Should be taken in a positive way when they attempt to understand each other; and
- Discussing socioeconomic impacts.



### Sub-Regional Science-Policy Dialogues

#### 25<sup>th</sup> SC meeting has approved

- South Asia: **US\$50,000** (AOF); funds leveraged from START@US\$15,000
- Temperate East Asia: **US\$40,000** (Original allocation from AOF); reconsider from the 2014 Core Budget
- Synthesis of 3 dialogues: **US\$20,000** (Original allocation from AOF); reconsider as Hyogo-based activity from 2015 Core Budget?

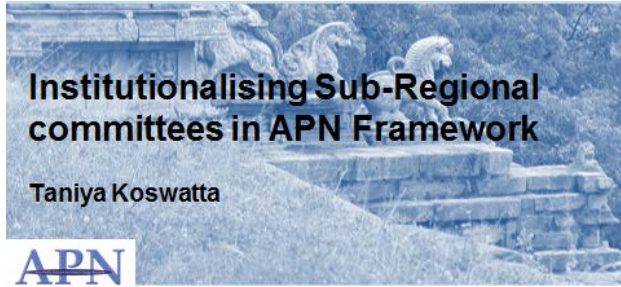
#### Interested Partners for South Asia (providing leverage funding?)

- CDKN Director for Asia (based at LEAD, Pakistan)
- START (via START-South Asia) US\$15,000
- How much funding can be leveraged?

### SPD in South Asia

- Can a South Asia Dialogue take place (yes, it can based on Item 5)?
- Can it take place in summer 2014?
- Other details on host country, etc., will be discussed in detail and a plan will be developed with an appropriate timeline to allow time for the organisation and, particularly, targeting the right people.
- CDKN and START will participate in the discussion on SA Science-Policy Dialogue via Skype at the 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-regional committee meeting from the afternoon of October 1<sup>st</sup>.





# Institutionalising Sub-Regional committees in APN Framework

Taniya Koswatta



## 5<sup>th</sup> South Asia Sub-Regional Cooperation Meeting

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
1-2 Oct 2013



## Background

- Southeast Asia (SEA) SRCom 2008
- South Asia one (SA) SRCom in 2009.
- Temperate East Asia (TEA) SRCom at the 18th IGM/SPG meeting
- <http://www.apn-gcr.org/programmes-and-activities/sub-regional-cooperation/>

### Sub-Regional Cooperation

In order to enhance information flow between and among national Focal Points, Scientific Planning Group Members and APN Project Leaders, institutional sub-regional cooperation was initiated at the outset of the second strategic phase of APN, with the establishment of the Southeast Asia (SEA) and South Asia (SA) Sub-Regional Committees.

In 2012, Temperate East Asia (TEA) held a scoping meeting and the TEA Sub-Regional Committee was formally established during the 18th IGM/SPG Meetings as the third sub-regional committee of APN.

The conduct of sub-regional cooperation meetings, with participation from key international organisations, has improved the flow of information among members of the APN at the sub-regional level and has strengthened collaboration with key partners.

Each Sub-Regional Cooperation meetings is typically followed by a knowledge sharing event organised by the host country and a Proposal Development Training Workshop organised by the Secretariat, which draws on the experience and expertise of members and invited experts.

Southwest Asia   South Asia   Temperate East Asia



Sub-Regional Committee

1. Membership
2. Procedures
3. Mandate



## 25<sup>th</sup> Steering committee decision

During the 25<sup>th</sup> SC meeting, members agreed that SRCs should form part of the Framework Document and Mr. Lou Brown, invited expert to the SC, will assist the Secretariat in drafting the appropriate text (content).



## Membership

- Sub regional committee
  - How we decide who the member countries are
    - APN member country
    - APN Approved country
  - Who will represent the country
    - nFP ( National Focal Point)
    - SPG (Scientific planning group members)
    - Invited members
    - Experts
  - How can we change or create a new member country in the sub regional committee

---

## Procedures

- Do we need a Chair?
  - Yes, how do we select the chair
  - How long he/she can be the chair
  - What are his responsibilities
  - In absence of the Chair, who will be the next person to chair -- Vice chair/First chair / Second chair?
- When does the committee meet

## Mandate

- Need to Identify
  - What is the role of the committee members?
  - What will be the output from sub regional committees (Objectives? Goals?)
  - How the members can work in the committee

---

**Need to discuss how we can  
formally establish sub regional  
committee in the APN  
Framework**



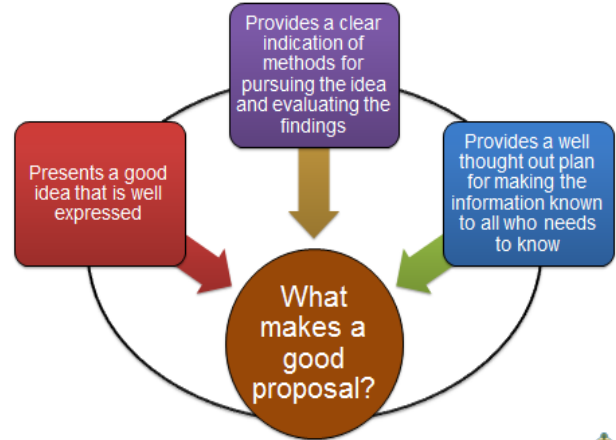
# Writing a Proposal for the APN

Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson



## South Asia Proposal Development Training Workshop

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
04-05 Oct 2013



**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**
- **Skip the above step & submit a summary proposal**



### 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





- ① Don't assume your reader knows
- ② "Sell" your proposal by addressing the evaluation criteria
- ③ Show the work is relevant to policy by clearly addressing the relevant literature
- ④ Engage policy/decision-makers as early as possible



### 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

### 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

**!!Don't Despair!!**



**Perseverance pays off**  
**APN awards are highly competitive**  
**Declination may be because of**  
**budgetary Limitations**



THANK YOU

IF ENCOURAGED BY APN = TRY,  
TRY AGAIN

