



TWENTY-FOURTH JOINT INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING/ SCIENTIFIC PLANNING GROUP MEETING

9 February 2021

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Twenty-Fourth Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/ Scientific Planning Group Meeting

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Message from the Secretariat Director

The APN 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting and Scientific Planning Group Meeting (IGM/SPG Meeting) and associated meetings, held online, successfully concluded on 9 February 2021.

The Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) approved the Fifth Strategic Plan, which sets out the overall goals of APN in the period 2020-2024 to further strengthen partnerships and activities that promote and foster regional-based research and capacity building, as a contribution to the efforts to “build forward better” and to establish a post-COVID-19 world that is more resilient, sustainable, safe and equitable. In addition, the IGM approved the Fourth Strategic Phase Report, which summarizes the achievements of APN in contributing to the implementation of international initiatives related to global change, including disaster risk reduction and sustainability in the period between 2015 and 2020. The IGM also adopted a set of draft amendments to the APN Framework Document, which were proposed to streamline the institutional structure of APN and improve the overall efficiency of the intergovernmental network.

The Fifth Strategic Plan was scheduled to be presented and endorsed at the start of the new strategic phase in July 2020. However, the work of drafting the Strategic Plan was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Even in the face of the climate crisis and the COVID-19 crisis simultaneously, it is crucial for APN to contribute to the global agenda such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The following organizations participated at the 24th IGM/SPG Meeting as observers, and provided an overview of their respective institutions and updates of their activities at the interactive session: Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO); Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) from the National Institute for Environmental Studies Japan (NIES); Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment of World Climate Research Programme (WCRP-CORDEX); Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (RKC-MPD) from the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA); Future Earth in Asia; and the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES).

We sincerely thank all participants for attending the IGM/SPG meeting including Mr Motoyasu Tanaka, Chief Executive Officer for the Environment, Hyogo Prefectural Government, and Ms Eri Nakajima, national Focal Point for Japan and Chair of the 24th IGM/SPG meeting. We also extend our sincere appreciation to national Focal Points, Scientific Planning Group members, Capacity Development Committee members, invited experts, members of the Task Force to Draft the Fourth Strategic Phase Report and the Fifth Strategic Plan, and all other stakeholders for their significant contribution and continued commitment to APN.

Lastly, the year 2021 marks the 25th anniversary of APN since its establishment in 1996. I am pleased to mention that APN has contributed significantly to address the challenges of global change and sustainability in the Asia-Pacific region thus far. I am convinced that APN will continue to make such contributions that meet the needs of the region in a timely manner under the new Strategic Plan.



Gen'ichiro Tsukada
Director
APN Secretariat

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Section 1

Chairperson's Summary



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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Chairperson's Summary of the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting/Scientific Planning Group Meeting

Summary

This document is the official record of the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting/Scientific Planning Group Meeting held on 9 February 2021.

1. APN Members, designated alternates and invited experts from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam attended the meeting. Representatives of the following organizations attended as observers: Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO); Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT); the Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment of World Climate Research Programme (WCRP-CORDEX); the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA); Future Earth Asia; and the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES). A list of participants is included in Appendix 1.

Inaugural Session

2. Welcome remarks were given by Mr Gen'ichiro Tsukada, Director of the Secretariat; Mr Motoyasu Tanaka, Chief Executive Officer for the Environment, Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan; and Ms Eri Nakajima, national Focal Point (nFP) for Japan and Chairperson of the present meeting.

Approval of the Draft Agenda

3. The Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) adopted the draft agenda presented.

Item 1. Report from the Secretariat on behalf of the Steering Committee

4. On behalf of the Steering Committee (SC), Mr Tsukada reported the major developments and work undertaken since the 23rd joint Intergovernmental Meeting/Scientific Planning Group Meeting (IGM/SPG meeting) held in July 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. Particularly, he introduced activities conducted to enhance relationships with global change and sustainability organizations; events organized in collaboration with the Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan; the annual call for proposals for the Collaborative Regional Research Programme (CRRP) and the Scientific Capacity Development Programme (CAPaBLE); project management, particularly due to the impacts of the pandemic; the new website of APN; publications and other recent outputs; various science-based activities including the publication of a special issue and synthesis of APN activities related to impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and participation in virtual and in-person events.

5. The IGM acknowledged the various activities conducted in the intersessional period since the 23rd IGM/SPG meeting and approved the report.

Item 2. Approval of the Fourth Strategic Phase Report

6. Ms Peldon Tshering, coordinator of the Task Force to draft the Fourth Strategic Phase Report (2015-2020) and Fifth Strategic Plan (2020-2024), presented the Fourth Strategic Phase Report on behalf of the Task Force. She expressed her appreciation to all Task Force members and the Secretariat for their efforts in developing the report. Ms Tshering provided a brief overview of each chapter of the report and noted that recommendations and conclusions from the report had contributed to the development of the Fifth Strategic Plan. She also highlighted the appendices of the report, which include a complete record of projects funded by APN and completed in the term of the Fourth Strategic Phase and their major outputs.

7. The Secretariat supplemented with some facts and figures generated from the report: over the Fourth Strategic Phase, APN has completed 119 projects with more than USD 7 million allocated. These projects engaged over 1,600 scientists and researchers, and over 11,600 individuals across the region. Together, these projects have produced more than 650 distinct outputs.

8. The IGM approved the Report, acknowledging its detailed documentation of the concrete results of APN activities over the five-year period from 2015 to 2020. Noting the importance of visibility, the Chairperson encouraged members to widely disseminate the report among the research and policymaking communities in their respective countries.

Item 3. Approval of the Fifth Strategic Plan

9. Dr Douglas Hill, nFP and Scientific Planning Group (SPG) member for New Zealand and member of the Task Force, presented the draft Fifth Strategic Plan on behalf of the Task Force. He

provided an overview of the process of developing the Strategic Plan and explained its contents, particularly through specific examples of potential activities under the five goals of research, capacity development, science-policy interaction, community engagement and operations. He pointed out the importance of increased efforts towards enhanced communication, dissemination and outreach activities in realizing the goals mentioned above. In concluding, Dr Hill suggested that a working group be formed among APN members after the present meeting to consider developing indicators for monitoring, analyzing and evaluating the work of APN in its Fifth Strategic Phase.

10. Mr Yasuo Takahashi, Chairperson of the Task Force, noted in a video message that the Task Force, through two meetings in July 2019 and January 2020, had exchanged a wide range of views on the content of the Strategic Plan and shared roles for the development of the Plan, and encouraged members to provide further input at the present meeting. In closing, he expressed his hope that APN would continue to make necessary contributions to address the challenges of global change and sustainability in the Asia-Pacific region in the new strategic phase.

11. Mr Roath Sith, nFP for Cambodia, noted the relevance of the Strategic Plan to his country, particularly in the areas of plastic and microplastic pollution in inland and marine environments, agricultural security after the COVID-19 pandemic, and further studies on air pollution, particularly Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5.

12. Dr Xu Jun, nFP for China, congratulated the Task Force on developing the Strategic Plan and noted the need to: strengthen regional and international cooperation on research on low carbon technology, innovation, and sustainability; facilitate the transfer of scientific and technological achievements from laboratories to the marketplace and provide practical suggestions to policymakers; and explore multiple financial support mechanisms in the post COVID-19 world including through co-funding projects to expand the influence of APN and promote research findings for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

13. Mr Ajay Raghava, nFP alternate for India, stressed that the good practices contained in the Fourth Strategic Phase Report should be taken forward to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure the best use of APN resources. On the Fifth Strategic Plan, he commented that the Plan should address cross-cutting issues, such as climate change and biodiversity, that would lead to the integration of national policies in member countries.

14. Dr Henri Bastaman, nFP for Indonesia, expressed his appreciation to APN and indicated that data and results from APN activities, especially in climate change research, have been used by his government. He stressed that the Strategic Plan should be implemented with flexibility and dynamism, especially due to the unpredictable changing situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

15. In her capacity as the nFP for Japan, Ms Nakajima pointed out the need for the following actions during the Fifth Strategic Phase: setting targets for operational reform, reconsidering the function of the IGM, reviewing the management of subregional committees, and prioritizing its activities in the following areas: carbon neutrality through the Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere (R-CES) initiative, the synergy between climate change and disaster risk reduction through collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT), as well as marine plastic debris and microplastics. She suggested that a working group be formed to look into promoting the aforementioned activities. Ms Nakajima then provided a more detailed explanation

of R-CES and examples of activities that are designed to realize R-CES, including the 2050 Zero Carbon Cities project. Ms Yuko Hoshino, nFP alternate for Japan, introduced AP-PLAT and called on countries in the region to participate in the Platform. Mr Ryuzo Sugimoto, Director of the International Cooperation Office, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, introduced efforts of Japan in promoting international cooperation on marine plastic litter, citing an example of the ASEAN+3 Marine Plastic Debris Cooperative Action Initiative, and called on APN member countries and researchers to promote this field and contribute to addressing this global environmental issue.

16. Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip, nFP alternate for Malaysia, noted that the Strategic Plan was concise and comprehensive, and expressed hope that the Plan would benefit all member countries.

17. Dr Radha Wagle, nFP for Nepal, expressed her congratulations on the Strategic Plan and her wish for its successful implementation despite the changing context due to the COVID-19 pandemic and global climate change.

18. Dr Hill acknowledged the emphasis in the Strategic Plan of strengthening links with regional organizations in the Pacific, which is in line with the consistent focus of the New Zealand government.

19. Mr Marcial Amaro Jr., nFP for the Philippines, emphasized the interconnectedness of the Fourth Strategic Phase Report and the Fifth Strategic Plan, and the need for regional efforts towards “building forward better” in the post-COVID-19 period as highlighted in the Plan.

20. Mr Sang U Han, nFP alternate for the Republic of Korea, conveyed the regret of Ms Min Ji Choi, recently appointed nFP for the Republic of Korea, for her absence due to a conflicting schedule. Being very recently appointed as the nFP alternate, he expressed his wish to gather information about APN through the meeting.

21. Dr Konstantin Lutaenko, nFP alternate for Russian Federation, expressed his support for the Strategic Plan and noted that the emphasis on biodiversity and marine plastic pollution is highly relevant to the eastern part of the country. He stressed the need for APN to continue its efforts in building capacity for early career scientists, promoting science-policy dialogues, and developing fundraising capabilities for contribution from member countries as well as other sources, including the private sector.

22. Dr Anil Jasinghe, nFP for Sri Lanka, welcomed the initiatives in the Strategic Plan, particularly those related to marine litter, microplastics and circular economy. He suggested that coordination among nFPs is important to avoid overlapping with existing efforts. He welcomed the inclusion of monitoring and evaluation in the Strategic Plan and suggested that it be extended to the project level. Additionally, Dr Jasinghe highlighted that nFPs should be made aware of the projects being implemented in their respective countries and build a coordination mechanism to ensure national priorities are met.

23. Dr Monthip Sriratana, nFP for Thailand, supported the suggestions put forward by Japan, especially on target setting and operational reforms. She spoke highly of the emphasis of the Strategic Plan on capacity building, knowledge synthesis, monitoring and evaluation, and communication and dissemination. She hoped that APN could address nature-based solutions to climate change by aligning its work with the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. She suggested that APN

could hold webinars to highlight the work of outstanding projects and provide support for countries to develop a reporting system for SDGs.

24. Dr Luis Tupas, nFP for the United States of America, noted that the Strategic Plan had been developed in a way that it has successfully laid out the high-level goals of APN in the new strategic phase while opening the door for accommodating more specific action towards achieving those goals. He recommended that the IGM approve the plan and take note of the input from all members while implementing the Plan.

25. Mr Ngo Tuan Dzung, nFP for Viet Nam, joined other members in supporting the Strategic Plan, and noted the shared priorities, particularly in plastic pollution, smart city development and circular economy, and welcomed the inclusion of developing indicators for monitoring and evaluation in the Plan.

26. The IGM, acknowledging interventions of members at the present meeting, approved the Fifth Strategic Plan.

Item 4. Approval of the Amendments to the Framework Document

27. On behalf of the nFP for Japan, Ms Hoshino introduced the proposed amendments to the Framework Document, which were developed based on: a) comments by the Task Force in the process of developing the Fourth Strategic Phase Report and the Fifth Strategic Plan, b) written comments submitted by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, to the Task Force in January 2020 and subsequently to the SC in July 2020, and c) further discussion and decision made at the 44th SC meeting held on 8 February 2021. She introduced the major propositions and their respective rationale and sought IGM approval of the amendments proposed.

28. The IGM approved the list of proposed amendments to the Framework Document and the Guidance for Members on APN Organs and Suborgans as presented.

Item 5. Report from the Scientific Planning Group

29. Dr Kim Chi Ngo, SPG member for Viet Nam and SPG Co-Chairperson, provided a report to the IGM on behalf of the SPG, particularly the result of the election of SPG Co-Chairpersons and the SPG Sub-Committee to serve from February 2021 to June 2022. Dr Ngo also introduced a plan of the SPG to form a task force to perform a review of the call for proposals and review process after the present meeting with an aim to streamline the process while ensuring rigour and integrity.

Item 6. Report on Subregional Cooperation

30. On behalf of Mr Muhammad Irfan Tariq, nFP for Pakistan and Chairperson of the South Asia Subregional Committee (SA-SRC), Dr Linda Anne Stevenson, Head of Knowledge Management and Scientific Affairs and Deputy Head of Development and Institutional Affairs of the Secretariat, reported the results of the SA-SRC meeting held on 5 February 2021, including the election of two nFPs and one expert representing SA-SRC to be nominated to the SC and Capacity Development Committee (CDC), respectively, as well as tentative plans for the 10th SA-SRC meeting and Proposal

Development Training Workshop (PDTW) for South Asia. She acknowledged the following observers and project leaders who provided an update on their respective organizations or APN-funded projects: Dr Md. Younus Ali, SAARC Agricultural Centre, India; Ms Vositha Wijenayake, SLYCAN Trust, Sri Lanka; Dr Nuzba Shaheen, Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC), Pakistan; and Dr Dipayan Dey, South Asia Forum for Environment (SAFE), India.

31. On behalf of Mr Jailan Simon, nFP for Malaysia and Chairperson of the Southeast Asia Subregional Committee (SEA-SRC), Dr Hisham reported the results of the SEA-SRC meeting held on 5 February 2021, including the election of two nFPs and one expert representing SEA-SRC to be nominated to the SC and CDC, respectively, as well as tentative plans for the 13th SEA-SRC meeting and PDTW for Southeast Asia. He acknowledged the following observers and project leaders who provided an update on their respective organizations or APN-funded projects: Dr Dian Sukmajaya, ASEAN Secretariat, Indonesia; Dr Fredolin Tangang, CORDEX-SEA/SEACLID, Malaysia; Dr Duc Luong Nguyen, National University of Civil Engineering, Viet Nam; and Dr Soo Chen Kwan, Kyoto University, Japan.

32. Prof. Wenjie Dong, Chairperson of the Temperate East Asia Subregional Committee (TEA-SRC), reported the results of the TEA-SRC meeting held on 5 February 2021, including the election of two nFPs and one expert representing TEA-SRC to be nominated to the SC and CDC, respectively. He acknowledged the following observers and project leaders who provided an update on their respective organizations or APN-funded projects: Dr Yegor Volovik and Dr Ning Liu, NOWPAP; Dr Wei Wan, MAIRS-FE; Dr Kwang-Sik Choi, Jeju National University, Republic of Korea; and Dr Ingrid van Putton and Dr Lisa Maddison, IMBeR.

33. Dr Tupas reported on behalf of the Pacific Group its discussions held on 5 February 2021, in particular the election of an nFP and an expert representing the Pacific Group to be nominated to the SC and CDC, respectively. Dr Tupas requested IGM approval to establish a Subregional Committee for the Pacific. Additionally, he shared the outcomes of preliminary discussions on organizing a scoping workshop to identify topics of common interest in the Pacific.

34. The IGM acknowledged the reports and approved the establishment of the Subregional Committee for the Pacific.

Item 7. Presentations from observer organizations

35. The following representatives of observer organizations delivered a presentation on the possibility of strengthening partnerships with APN: Dr Ailikun, Assistant Executive Director, ANSO; Dr Yuji Masutomi, AP-PLAT, Center for Climate Change Adaptation, NIES; Dr Irène Lake, Director, WCRP-CORDEX; Dr Hein Mallee, Director, Future Earth Asia; Mr Michikazu Kojima, Senior Economist, ERIA; and Dr Sonia Batten, Executive Secretary, PICES.

Item 8. Confirmation of New Members to the SC and CDC, and New SPG Co-Chairs

36. The IGM acknowledged the appointment of SPG Co-Chairpersons to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows: Dr Kim Chi Ngo (Viet Nam) and Dr Hemant Borgaonkar (India).

37. The IGM acknowledged the membership of the Steering Committee, to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows: Mr Tenzin Khorlo (Bhutan), Dr Anil Jasinghe (Sri Lanka), Mr Roath Sith (Cambodia), Mr Henri Bastaman (Indonesia), Dr Xu Jun (China), Prof. Andrey Adrianov (Russian Federation), Dr Luis Tupas (United States of America), Dr Kim Chi Ngo (Viet Nam), Dr Hemant Borgaonkar (India), Ms Eri Nakajima (Japan), Dr Douglas Hill (New Zealand), and Ms Min Ji Choi (Republic of Korea)¹.

38. The IGM acknowledged the membership of the Capacity Development Committee to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows: Dr Md. Mahmudur Rahman (Bangladesh), Prof. Juan M. Pulhin (Philippines), Dr Yuji Masutomi (Japan), Prof. Patrick Nunn (Australia), Dr Kim Chi Ngo (Viet Nam), Dr Hemant Borgaonkar (India), Ms Eri Nakajima (Japan), Dr Douglas Hill (New Zealand), and Ms Min Ji Choi (Republic of Korea)².

Item 9. Confirmation of Action Points of the 24th IGM/SPG Meeting

39. The IGM reviewed and approved the draft action points presented at the meeting, subject to formal editing. The list of approved action points is attached as Appendix 2 of this summary.

Item 10. Any Other Business and Closing

40. Mr Tsukada informed members that the next IGM/SPG meeting and associated meetings would be held around June 2022, pending further consideration of the potential host and means of conducting the meeting.

41. The Chairperson congratulated members, especially on the approval of the Fifth Strategic Plan and Framework Document, and expressed her hope that substantial progress will be made in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and in promoting further collaboration in innovative research and capacity development among member countries.

42. Mr Tsukada expressed his appreciation to all members for their active participation and for approving the Fifth Strategic Plan, and asked members for their continuous cooperation to promote APN activities in their countries. He thanked the observer institutions and hoped their contribution would become a trigger for partnerships in the near future. He thanked the Chairperson for her chairpersonship that ensured the success of the present meeting.

43. The meeting was closed after a vote of thanks had been accorded to the Chairperson and all participants of the meeting.

¹ The SC at its 45th meeting held immediately following the present meeting co-opted Dr Lance Heath (Australia) and Prof. Ailikun (China) as Invited Experts of the SC.

² Dr Luis M. Tupas (United States of America) became an *ex officio* member of the CDC by virtue of his election as the Chairperson of the SC at its 45th meeting held immediately following the present meeting.



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**The 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 9 of the draft agenda¹

Action points of the 24th IGM Meeting

Agenda Item	Action point No.	Action Point	Further Action by
Approval of the draft agenda and items of any other business	1	The IGM approved the draft agenda of the meeting as presented.	-
Item 1. Report from the Steering Committee delivered by the Secretariat	2	The IGM approved the report from the Steering Committee delivered by the Director of the Secretariat.	-
Item 2. Approval of the Fourth Strategic Phase Report	3	The IGM approved the Fourth Strategic Phase Report presented by the Task Force.	-
	4	Members and the Secretariat are to disseminate the Fourth Strategic Phase Report widely to all relevant stakeholders.	IGM, TF, Secretariat
Item 3. Approval of the Fifth Strategic Plan	5	The IGM approved the draft Fifth Strategic Plan presented by the Task Force.	-
Item 4. Approval of the amendments to the Framework Document	6	The IGM approved the proposed amendments to the Framework Document and the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans as proposed by Japan.	-

¹ IGM/24/A.

Item 5. Report from the Scientific Planning Group	7	<p>The IGM acknowledged the following elected members to the SPG Sub-Committee for the term February 2021-June 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Kim Chi Ngo, SPG member for Viet Nam, <i>SPG Co-Chairperson</i> • Dr Hemant Borgaonkar, SPG member for India, <i>SPG Co-Chairperson</i> • Dr Awnesh Singh, SPG member for Fiji • Dr Madan Lall Shrestha, SPG member for Nepal • Dr Luis Tupas, SPG member for USA 	-
	8	The SPG is to form a task force to review the call for proposals and review processes with the aim to streamline the process, ensuring integrity and efficiency.	SPG, Secretariat
Item 6. Report on subregional cooperation	9	The IGM acknowledged the reports from the subregional committees of South Asia, Southeast Asia, Temperate East Asia, and the Pacific Group.	-
	10	The national Focal Point of Malaysia is to liaise with the Secretariat on the arrangements of the 13th Southeast Asia Subregional Committee and Proposal Development Training Workshop.	nFP Malaysia, Secretariat
	11	The IGM approved the establishment of the Pacific Subregional Committee.	-
	12	The Pacific Subregional Committee is to continue the discussion on conducting a scoping meeting in 2022, and consider engaging regional partners and early-career scientists.	P-SRC
Item 7. Presentation from observers on strategic partnerships	13	<p>The IGM acknowledged the following organisations and discussions around strengthening partnerships during the Fifth Strategic Phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Ailikun, Assistant Executive Director, ANSO • Dr Yuji Masutomi, AP-PLAT, Center for Climate Change Adaptation, NIES • Dr Irène Lake, Director, WCRP-CORDEX • Dr Hein Mallee, Director, Future Earth in Asia • Mr Michikazu Kojima, Senior Economist, ERIA • Dr Sonia Batten, Executive Secretary, PICES 	-

Item 8. Confirmation of New Members to the SC and CDC, and new SPG Co-Chairs	14	<p>The IGM acknowledged the appointment of SPG Co-Chairpersons to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Kim Chi Ngo • Dr Hemant Borgaonkar 	-
	15	<p>The IGM acknowledged the membership of the Steering Committee to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows:</p> <p><i>South Asia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Tenzin Khorlo (nFP for Bhutan) • Dr Anil Jasinghe (nFP for Sri Lanka) <p><i>Southeast Asia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Roath Sith (nFP for Cambodia) • Mr Henri Bastaman (nFP for Indonesia) <p><i>Temperate East Asia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Xu Jun (nFP for China) • Prof. Andrey Adrianov (nFP for Russian Federation) <p><i>Pacific</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Luis Tupas (nFP for United States of America) <p><i>SPG Co-Chairpersons</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Kim Chi Ngo • Dr Hemant Borgaonkar <p><i>nFPs from donor countries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Eri Nakajima (Japan) • Dr Douglas Hill (New Zealand) • Ms Min Ji Choi (Republic of Korea) <p><i>nFP of the host of the next IGM (To be identified)</i></p> <p><i>Invited experts (To be co-opted by the SC at its 45th meeting)</i></p>	-
	16	<p>The IGM acknowledged the membership of the Capacity Development Committee, to serve from February 2021 to June 2022, as follows:</p> <p><i>Members representing subregions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Md. Mahmudur Rahman (Bangladesh) • Prof. Juan M Pulhin (Philippines) • Dr Yuji Masutomi (Japan) • Prof. Patrick Nunn (Australia) <p><i>Ex-officio members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC Chairperson (To be elected at the 45th SC Meeting) • Dr Kim Chi Ngo (SPG Co-Chairperson) 	-

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Hemant Borgaonkar (SPG Co-Chairperson) • Ms Eri Nakajima (nFP for Japan) • Dr Douglas Hill (nFP for New Zealand) • Ms Min Ji Choi (nFP for Republic of Korea) 	
Item 9. Confirmation of action points of the 24th IGM Meeting	17	The IGM endorsed the action points presented pending final editorial changes.	-
Item 10. Any other business and closing	-	Member countries and the Secretariat are to consider the potential host and means of conducting the 25th Joint IGM/SPG Meeting to be held around June 2022.	Member countries, Secretariat

Section 2

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks by Mr Motoyasu Tanaka, Chief Executive Officer for the Environment, Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan

My name is Tanaka, Chief Executive Officer for the Environment, Hyogo Prefectural Government.

It is my great pleasure that the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting will be held in Kobe, albeit virtually.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed our society system, and awareness and behaviour of people dramatically. However, even under such circumstances, we cannot put off our efforts to address environmental issues. There is a need to pursue “green recovery”.

While the world is accelerating decarbonization, last Autumn, the Hyogo Prefectural Government decided to aim for “carbon neutral by 2050” to carry out its responsibilities at the local level.

We will increase the target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In Hyogo Prefecture, the scale of the industrial sector, such as steel companies, is larger than the national average per prefecture. We will strengthen our effort to guide companies to decrease CO2 emissions, support the introduction of energy-conservation and energy-creation equipment, and shift from using fossil fuel to renewable energy and hydrogen.

We will also continue to introduce renewable energy as part of the concept, Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere, and promote Fuel Cell Vehicles and Electric Vehicles.

Climate change is a common challenge for all, where countries are required to take collaborative action by following the Paris Agreement that entered into force in 2016. Hyogo Prefecture has hosted the APN Secretariat since 1999 and has contributed to supporting a research network on global change in the Asia-Pacific region.

To address environmental issues, cooperation among countries and regions are indispensable. Based on close coordination between member countries and institutions, I hope APN continues to actively provide scientific input to policymaking on global change, and disseminate its achievements to other regions. I would like to conclude my remarks by wishing everyone success and prosperity.

Thank you.

Message by Mr Yasuo Takahashi, Chair of the Task Force to Draft the 4th Strategic Phase Report and the 5th Strategic Plan

Distinguished Representative from Hyogo Prefectural Government, distinguished APN members, Task Force members and guests, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon, good morning and good evening.

I am Yasuo Takahashi, Chair of the Task Force to Draft the 4th Strategic Phase Report and the 5th Strategic Plan.

I am pleased that the draft of the 4th Strategic Phase Report and the 5th Strategic Plan, which have been prepared after careful consideration and discussion by the Task Force members, are to be presented and discussed at the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) today.

Task Force meetings were held in July 2019 and January 2020 in Kobe. During the meetings, we exchanged a wide range of views on what needs to be included in the report and the new plan, and we shared roles among the members for drafting and polishing them. In the meantime, the COVID-19 pandemic has occurred, and the world has had to cope with the COVID-19 crisis and the climate crisis simultaneously. In light of this situation, we discussed the direction of APN to move forward during the 5th strategic phase period. As a result of the discussions, I am confident that we managed to develop both the report and the new plan which are clear and practical, and I believe that APN can respond to the challenges of global change and sustainability faced in the Asia-Pacific region with the new strategic plan. Here I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Task Force and the Secretariat for their hard work and contributions. I would like to expect an active exchange of views based on those draft documents at today's IGM meeting.

I am aware that the year 2021 marks the 25th anniversary of APN since its establishment in 1996. As a former national Focal Point for Japan, I am pleased to see that APN has continued to make necessary contributions to address the challenges of global change and sustainability in the Asia-Pacific region. I would like to expect that APN will continue to make such contributions that are timely and meet the needs of the region under the new strategic plan.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Opening Remarks by Mr Gen'ichiro Tsukada, Director of the APN Secretariat

Mr Motoyasu Tanaka, Chief Executive Officer for the Environment, Hyogo Prefectural Government, Ms Eri Nakajima, national Focal Point for Japan and Chair of the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting, Distinguished national Focal Points (nFPs), Scientific Planning Group (SPG) members, Capacity Development Committee (CDC) members, and Invited Experts, Distinguished members of the Task Force to Draft the 4th Strategic Phase Report and the 5th Strategic Plan, distinguished guests, good afternoon, good morning and good evening.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to all participants and welcome all of you to attend the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) today, while you are still facing a tough time.

As you may know, we originally planned to hold the 24th IGM and associated meetings in June last year, but they were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has also had major impacts on other APN's activities including the delay of the launch of the 5th Strategic Plan. In addition, the pandemic has deprived us of opportunities to meet you in person, too.

It has been a year and a half since I joined APN Secretariat, and I feel sorry that I have not been able to meet many of you face to face until now. Anyway, I am delighted we finally managed to hold the IGM meeting today, even though this is a remote meeting.

Currently, the world is facing the COVID-19 crisis and the climate crisis at the same time. It is urgent for APN to respond well to the two crises simultaneously, as well as contribute to the global agenda such as SDGs, Paris Agreement, and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Under such circumstances, I believe it is very timely that we discuss the 5th Strategic Plan today, and I look forward to a fruitful discussion at the meeting.

Additionally, I am pleased to inform you that we have some wonderful guests from like-minded institutions today, that is, from (i) Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO), (ii) Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) from National Institute for Environmental Studies Japan (NIES), (iii) International Project Office for CORDEX (Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment), (iv) Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (RKC-MPD) from Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), (v) Future Earth Asia, and (vi) North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES).

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for their participation, and we look forward to a meaningful exchange of views on collaboration between each of the institutions and APN.

I am aware that this year, the year 2021, marks the 25th anniversary of APN since its establishment in 1996. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all APN's current and former members, all current and former project leaders and collaborators, and all stakeholders for their commitment and cooperation to APN.

At the same time, I would like to emphasize the importance of taking steps one by one toward the next 25 years and beyond, toward the year 2050. I believe that APN's 5th Strategic Plan will serve as a basis toward 2050.

In conclusion, I would like to complete my opening remark by mentioning that I expect a great success of the meeting today.

Thank you very much.

Section 3

Main Item Papers



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**The 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Draft Agenda of the 24th Intergovernmental Meeting

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 12:00-12:15 | Icebreaker (to check internet connectivity and familiarize with the application) |
| 12:15-12:25 | Welcome remarks and approval of the draft agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Gen'ichiro Tsukada, Director of the Secretariat• The representative from the Hyogo Prefectural Government• Ms Eri Nakajima, nFP for Japan and Chair of the 24th IGM Meeting |
| 12:25-12:35 | Item 1. Report from the Steering Committee delivered by the Secretariat |
| 12:35-12:45 | Item 2. Approval of the Fourth Strategic Phase Report |
| 12:45-13:45 | Item 3. Approval of the Fifth Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Intervention from national Focal Points (2 minutes per member)• Approval |
| 13:45-13:55 | <i>Break</i> |
| 13:55-14:05 | Item 4. Approval of the amendments to the Framework Document <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Approval |
| 14:05-14:15 | Item 5. Report from the Scientific Planning Group |
| 14:15-14:35 | Item 6. Report on subregional cooperation (5 minutes per Committee/Group) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• South Asia Subregional Committee• Southeast Asia Subregional Committee• Temperate East Asia Subregional Committee• Pacific Group |
| 14:35-15:05 | Item 7. Presentation from observers on strategic partnerships (5 minutes per institution) |
| 15:05-15:10 | Item 8. Confirmation of new members to the SC and CDC, and new SPG Co-Chairs |
| 15:10-15:20 | Item 9. Confirmation of action points of the 24th IGM Meeting |
| 15:20-15:30 | Item 10. Any other business and closing |



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**The 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 1 of the draft agenda¹

Item 1. Report from the Secretariat on behalf of the Steering Committee (SC)

Summary

This report summarizes the major developments and work undertaken since the 23rd Intergovernmental Meeting/Scientific Planning Group Meeting held in July 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.

1. Change of Members and Secretariat Staff

National Focal Point

FY 2018

- Japan: Mr Michihiro Oi, Ministry of the Environment (July 2018)
- Nepal: Dr Maheshwar Dhakal, Ministry of Forests and Environment (August 2018)
- Bhutan: Mr Tenzin Khorlo, National Environment Commission (November 2018)
- Republic of Korea: Mr Cheulhong Kim, Ministry of Environment (February 2019)
- New Zealand: Dr Douglas Hill, University of Otago (April 2019)
- Malaysia: Mr Jailan Simon, Malaysian Meteorological Department, Ministry of Energy, Science, Environment and Climate Change (May 2019)

FY 2019

- Japan: Ms Keiko Yoshikawa, Ministry of the Environment (January 2020)

¹ IGM/24/A.

- Sri Lanka: Mr A H Sarath Wijesinghe, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources (June 2020)
- Republic of Korea: Mr Myong Hwan Kim, Ministry of Environment (June 2020)

FY 2020

- Sri Lanka: Dr Anil Jasinghe, Ministry of Environment (September 2020)
- Japan: Ms Eri Nakajima, Ministry of the Environment (September 2020)
- Fiji: Mr Vineil Narayan, Ministry of Economy (November 2020)
- Nepal: Dr Radha Wagle, Ministry of Forests and Environment (November 2020)
- China: Dr Xu Jun, Ministry of Science and Technology (January 2021)

Scientific Planning Group member

FY 2018

- Philippines: Dr Sofio B. Quintana, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (September 2018)
- Sri Lanka: Mr Ashula Karunanayake, Department of Meteorology (December 2018)
- Lao PDR: Dr Virasith Phomsouvanh, Natural Resources and Environment Research Institute, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (June 2019)

FY 2019

- United States of America: Dr Luis Tupas, Department of Agriculture (September 2019)
- Philippines: Mr Nonito M. Tamayo, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (January 2020)
- Fiji: Dr Awnesh Singh, The University of the South Pacific (January 2020)
- Philippines: Dr Henry Adornado, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (June 2020)

FY 2020

- Bhutan: Mr Norbu Gyeltshen, Royal University of Bhutan (July 2020)
- Cambodia: Mr Uy Kamal, Ministry of Environment (January 2021)

Secretariat

FY 2018

- Ms Yoshie Seki, Account Assistant (August 2018)
- Dr Nafesa Ismail, Programme Officer for Science and Institutional Affairs (September 2018)
- Ms Aiko Seki, Administrative Officer (January 2019)

FY 2019

- Ms Miho Nishida, Account Assistant (April 2020)
- Mr Gen'ichiro Tsukada, Director (August 2019)

2. APN Activities**2.1. Enhancing strategic relationships with global change and sustainability organizations****2.1.1 AP-PLAT**

The Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) was established in 2017 to “support effective and efficient climate change risk management for a resilient society and

environment”². It aims to serve as an online go-to-place for climate change risk and adaptation practices based on scientific evidence.

The core pillars of its activities in collaboration with its partners are:

1. Development of scientific knowledge and information on the projection of climate change impacts;
2. Development of supportive toolkits for people engaged in adaptation planning; and
3. Capacity building for climate change impact assessment and adaptation.

Through the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, AP-PLAT invited APN to collaborate with this new platform through providing pillar No. 1 above scientific knowledge that can be derived from the APN-funded projects and activities.

The active engagement of APN in AP-PLAT has been proposed as one of the major areas of future work in the 5th Strategic Plan (Draft). Consultations on the concrete scope and scheme of the collaboration have started.

2.1.2 ANSO

The Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO), a non-profit and non-governmental international scientific organization, was founded in 2018. It aims to “promote and implement innovative initiatives in science, technology, innovation and capacity building (STIC) through international collaboration and partnerships to address the global challenges to the progress and wellbeing of human societies”³.

Four areas of activities were specified to achieve the mission:

1. Collaborative research;
2. Science-based advisory;
3. Capacity building; and
4. Technology transfer.

As ANSO shares many priority topics of global change and sustainability with APN, it is interested in investigating possibilities of collaboration, for example in the areas of collaborative research and capacity development activities. The Secretariat of both APN and ANSO started the first sounding talks in November 2020.

2.1.3 CORDEX

In its 4th strategic phase, APN continued to support the Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX), a programme of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP). CORDEX was established in 2009 “in response to the need for a coordinated framework for evaluating and improving regional climate downscaling (RCD) techniques”⁴.

In November 2020, CORDEX organized a joint meeting with Monsoon Asia Integrated Research for Sustainability-Future Earth (MAIRS-FE) to explore possibilities of closer collaboration of the two programmes and other like-minded organizations in the South/East/Central Asia to enhance information exchange, transfer of regional climate research results to policy, etc.

Recognized as an organization of importance to cooperate with - the APN was also engaged in the scoping phase of Future Earth in Asia - the APN was invited to this meeting. While many ideas for a closer future collaboration came up during the meeting, the participants confirmed the necessity of further elaboration. It was agreed to continue communication.

² From AP-PLAT pamphlet: https://ap-plat.nies.go.jp/about/pdf/AP-PLAT_pamphlet_EN_rev.pdf

³ From ANSO brochure: <http://www.anso.org.cn/publications/brochure/201904/P020191115644131163120.pdf>

⁴ From CORDEX website: <https://cordex.org/>

2.2. Hyogo Activities

2.2.1 Lecture

On 12th January 2021, APN was invited to give a lecture at the Education Center for Disaster Reduction, Institute for General Education, Hyogo University on Environmental Issues (Climate Change) and Disaster Risk Reduction under the theme of International Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction on 12th January 2021 at the Kobe Campus for Disaster Risk Reduction's lecture hall.

Two representatives from the Secretariat made a 30-mins talk each with Mr Gen'ichiro Tsukada, Director of the Secretariat, and Dr Nafesa Ismail, Programme Officer. Mr Tsukada introduced his experience in Indonesia dealing with waste management, followed by the importance of taking integrated measures against climate change and disaster risk reduction, and the introduction of APN and its activities. On the other hand, Dr Ismail covered the APN working paper on reviewing the SFDRR review and shared case studies from the results.

Professor Sakamoto of Hyogo University mentioned "Green Resilience" which could perhaps be a further topic of discussion/sharing between APN and Hyogo University. Both APN and Professor Sakamoto hope that this kind of collaboration could continue in the future.

2.2.2 Kobe University

APN and Kobe University will hold a Seminar on 28th March, 2021. The central theme is related to Biodiversity and Forests, and details are under consideration.

2.2.3 Hyogo Seminar

APN will hold a Regional CES forum with the Hyogo Prefecture Government and IGES on 15th February, 2021. The central theme is 'Creating a Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere (R-CES) utilizing renewable energy'. The keynote speakers are Prof. Takeuchi, President of IGES Dr. Rajib Shaw, Professor in Graduate school of Media and Governance at Keio University.

2.3. Call for Proposals and Project Management

2.3.1 Priority topics for the 2020 Call for Proposals

Similar to last year's call, APN established high priority themes based on inputs from member countries in each of the APN's subregions. All trans- and interdisciplinary research and capacity development proposals focusing on the following themes for South Asia, Southeast Asia, Temperate East Asia and the Pacific were invited to submit under the following priority topics:

1. Global Change and Sustainability in the COVID-19 Era: Pursuit of transformation to more resilient societies.
 - a. Integrated approaches to promote decarbonized societies, circular economy, and formulation of decentralized societies to create long-term economic and societal benefits.
 - b. Build back better: promote greener economies, improve air quality and waste management, and define more sustainable pathways for society and nature.
 - c. Impacts on local livelihoods and human security: increasing resilience and adaptation while ensuring harmony between society and nature
2. Climate change and climate variability and their related impacts [climate projections/downscaling, extreme events, DRR, monsoon, AP-PLAT, adaptive recovery, etc]
3. Ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction

4. Smart agriculture [resource allocation, livestock, food, technology transfer, innovation, extension, etc.]
5. Transboundary issues [pollution, water quality, human health, fisheries and microplastics, invasive species, waste management, etc.]

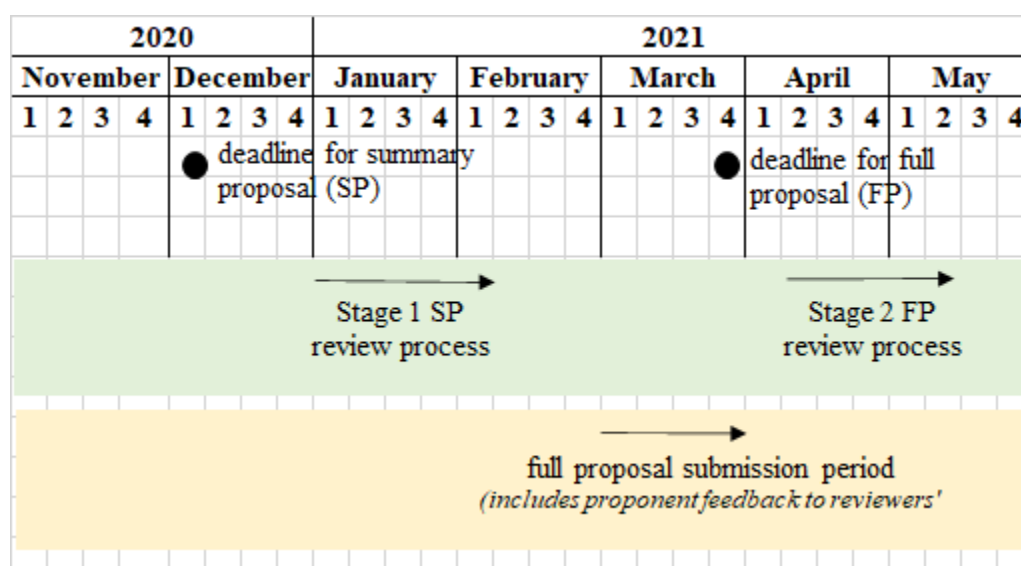
Special consideration was also given to early-career researchers where APN encourages applications from early-career researchers/scientists/practitioners. Collaborative regional research proposals submitted by early-career proponents that fulfill the eligibility criteria set by the Steering Committee will receive particular attention. the 2 main criterias are (i) the main proponent should have a Master's degree with three years of working experience, a PhD degree with at least one year of working experience, or received his/her highest postgraduate degree within the previous ten years; and (ii) the team has at least 1 early-career researcher/scientist from each APN member country or APN approved country engaged in the proposal.

2.3.2 Update on the 2020 Call for Proposals

The 2020 Call for Proposals for comprehensive regional research programme (CRRP) and capacity development (CAPaBLE) was launched on 6th November 2020. The Secretariat received 85 summary proposals for the CRRP programme and 43 for the CAPaBLE programme. As of the writing of the paper, the summary proposals are still in the first stage of review by the SPG and CDC members as well as the Invited Experts.

Programme	Received Summary Proposals	Secretariat Screening	Ineligible*
CRRP	85	43	42
CBA	43	31	12
*Ineligibility reasons: costing of equipment, payment to project proponent/collaborators/consulting firms, incomplete submissions, inability to meet the regional collaboration requirement or not related to one of APN's research priority topics			

Timeline for 2020 Call for Proposals



2.3.3 Project Management

As the Pandemic spread throughout the region in the first half of calendar year 2020, the Secretariat had to respond to many queries from project leaders in regards to disruptions to their project activities. The Secretariat developed and implemented a management strategy: *APN Project Management Strategy in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic* and continues to follow this strategy for all ongoing projects, particularly regional-based ones, who were impacted. The strategy allows for project leaders to request a special no-cost extension for up to two years (issued on a 6-monthly basis). This has been welcomed by many ongoing projects. While the Secretariat is monitoring the situation closed for all projects in regards to their extensions, longer-term impacts are not yet clear. For new projects, timelines were re-adjusted at the Contract stage to factor in timeline delays due to the Pandemic.

2.4. New Website

In March 2019, the Steering Committee at its 40th meeting mandated the Secretariat to initiate work on developing a new website for APN for the 5th Strategic Phase. The new website was expected to integrate different components of the existing website, have a unified design, enable a stronger focus on knowledge sharing and discoverability, while ensuring all components are secure and up-to-date with the latest industry practices.

2.4.1 Timeline

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| ● March to June 2019: | Identification of vendor and contracting; |
| ● June to July 2019: | User interviews, content research, and delivery of sitemap; |
| ● July 2019 to May 2020: | Front-end design; delivery of design templates; |
| ● May to September 2020: | Content development and migration; |
| ● September to October 2020: | Quality assurance and preparation for launch; |
| ● End of October 2020: | Official launch on www.apn-gcr.org . |

2.4.2 Current status

At the time of reporting, the new website features 482 projects and activities funded by APN since its establishment and 1,622 publications generated from those activities. According to metadata available from the website, more than 1,300 people and over 700 organizations have directly engaged with APN through various activities. In addition to increasing access to research outputs, it is expected that the new website will better communicate the far-reaching impact of APN within and beyond the Asia-Pacific region.

In its fifth Strategic Phase, continued efforts should be made in knowledge management and digital communication, including through the new website as an important platform for knowledge exchange and impact generation. Work is underway to continue refining the discoverability of content on the new website, to improve the usability and presentation of the interface, and to explore options of increasing relevance to global agendas and member country governments.

2.5. Science Activities

2.5.1 Special Issue

Goal: Publish a special issue of APN outputs in a high impact journal of 15 APN-funded project research papers targeted for IPCC AR6, Chapter 10 Asia Chapter of Working Group II.

The main objective of the activity was to increase the visibility and impact of APN research and capacity building projects by compiling and publishing the outputs of APN-supported projects in a

high-end journal for the attention of research and policy communities, particularly through the IPCC AR6 assessment, scheduled for publication in 2022.

The special issue ([published here](#)) is composed of fifteen articles written by project leaders or collaborators of APN projects in the past five years and who gathered at the APN-funded peer writeshop and International Symposium on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation: Asian Perspective on 16–18 October, 2019 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand.

As noted in the [editorial](#) of the special issue “*The outputs of these articles are expected to support the formulation of adaptation policies to offset the negative impacts of climate change on natural and human systems, add value to the scientific literature, and help shape local, regional and global agendas on climate change.*”⁵

Furthermore, an important product of this activity is the manuscript prepared by the Secretariat [Climate change research in Asia: A knowledge synthesis of Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research \(2013–2018\)](#). The key highlights of this manuscript will help contribute to the future agenda of APN particularly in the context of climate change adaptation and sustainable development in Asia.⁶

The activity has been important in developing high-quality research papers for the Asian region in the context of climate change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation. All 15 special issue manuscripts are published online and a compilation of these manuscripts with an editorial has been printed. Ten printed copies were provided to the APN Secretariat and these were shared with selected stakeholders.

Additionally, the Secretariat has actively and vigorously made dissemination campaigns to respective member-countries and key stakeholders, as well as reached out to authors of the IPCC AR6 as possible reference to use in their AR6 writing.

2.5.2 Secretariat staff selected to review the first and second order drafts of the IPCC AR6

Three members of the Secretariat, Dr Linda Stevenson, Dr Nafesa Ismail and Ms Christmas Uchiyama were approved by the IPCC as expert reviewers of the First Order Draft and Second Order Draft of the Sixth IPCC Assessment Report Working Group II contribution (Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability). Chapters assigned for the review included Chapter 4 (Water), Chapter 8 (Poverty, livelihoods and sustainable development), Chapter 10 (Asia), Chapter 16 (Key risks across sectors and regions), Chapter 17 (Decision making options for managing risk), and Chapter 18 (Climate resilient development pathways as well as CCP: tropical forests).

2.5.3 IPBES policy briefs and dialogue reports published

IGES and APN, through the CBD-JBF Capacity Building Project, produced policy briefs and reports from a series of science-policy dialogues on the IPBES Asia-Pacific Regional Assessment held in 2019. The policy briefs capture key messages focusing on: (1) Biodiversity challenges and solutions in Asia and the Pacific; and (2) Raising awareness of the IPBES Regional Assessment for Asia and the Pacific. The reports and policy briefs are available on the APN website as follows:

- [Report of the Science-Policy Dialogue in Oceania](#)
- [Report of the Science-Policy Dialogue for South Asia and West Asia](#)
- [Policy brief: Raising awareness of the IPBES Regional Assessment for Asia and the Pacific](#)
- [Policy brief: Biodiversity challenges and solutions in Asia and the Pacific](#)

⁵ Shrestha, S., Stevenson, L. A., Shaw, R., & Pulhin, J. (2020). Editorial of Special Issue on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation: Asian Perspective. *Environmental Research*, 109826. doi:10.1016/j.envres.2020.109826

⁶ Uchiyama, C., Stevenson, L. A., & Tandoko, E. (2020). Climate change research in Asia: A knowledge synthesis of Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (2013–2018). *Environmental Research*, 188, 109635. doi:10.1016/j.envres.2020.109635

2.5.4 Project on “Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere (R-CES)” in collaboration with Kansai Research Center (KRC) of IGES

The concept of “Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere (R-CES),” a new initiative launched by the Ministry of the Environment Japan, is to build a self-reliant and decentralized society that utilizes various sustainable resources while exchanging various urban and rural resources. It is also expected to enhance the synergy between the major global agendas such as the Paris Agreement, SDGs, the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Framework by promoting the initiative ([Creation of a Regional Circular and Ecological Sphere \(Regional CES\) to Address Local Challenges](#)). The Secretariat proposed to conduct a scoping activity to formulate a new model of collaborative regional projects on R-CES to promote the initiative in the Asia-Pacific region, in collaboration with the Kansai Research Center (KRC) of IGES, which has some research activities on R-CES. The activity started with IGES-KRC in January 2021, although progress is expected to be slow because of the Pandemic.

2.5.5 7th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum, March 8-12, 2021

APN will be joining the 7th Asia-Pacific Climate Adaptation Conference being held by APAN and hosted online by the Ministry of Environment, Japan from 8-12 March 2021. The Secretariat has submitted two proposals as outlined below and, at the time of writing, is waiting for more information on the proposals being accepted. Brief details of the session and those engaged is outlined below.



7th ASIA-PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FORUM

qpan asia pacific ADAPTATION NETWORK

APN

Inclusive resilience; community and local resilience streams

Partnerships to harmonize science information and knowledge at regional scales for enabling adaptation

APN, UNFCCC (NWP), AP-PLAT, WCRP-CORDEX

APN **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** **AP-PLAT** **WCRP CORDEX**

Linking adaptation and mitigation: The role of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes in NDC implementation towards climate action for inclusive and enhanced local resilience in South and Southeast Asia

ICCCAD, IGES, SLYCAN Trust, UPLB

APN **ICCCAD** **IGES** **SLYCAN TRUST** **INREM-UPLB**

2.5.6 Synthesis of products from Climate Adaptation Framework (CAF)

With the recommendation that APN continues to produce synthesis materials of the work it conducts under the core programmes and frameworks, the Secretariat proposes a second activity, targeted explicitly to outputs from the Climate Adaptation Framework (CAF).

The activity, which was approved at the 43rd Steering Committee in 2020, will be conducted over the next 18 months, in collaboration with Ms Vositha Wijenayake, former project leader and expert who attended APN’s L&D-CCA-DRR scoping workshop in 2014. Beginning with a scoping period that considers 13 completed L&D-CCA-DRR projects (loss & damage, climate change adaptation and

disaster risk reduction), and potentially more if time and budget allows. The timeline that will culminate in peer-reviewed special issue(s) is February 2021 to June 2022.

The product(s) will be targeted for contribution to regional and international platforms, programmes and mechanisms including AP-PLAT, APAN, IPCC, UNFCCC (NWP, WIM). The outputs will be especially beneficial for the trinity of global agendas: the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework on DRR, and the SDGs. The first synthesis will focus on APN's CAF projects addressing linkages between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and loss & damage. The first synthesis is timely in light of the recent message from the Government of Japan on its new strategy to address, at the global level, the synergies between climate action and disaster risk reduction that will focus on the concept of "adaptive recovery".

2.6. APN Science Bulletin

Since July 2018, three issues were published under APN Science Bulletin, APN's flagship in-house publication, with 8, 14, and 17 articles published in each issue, respectively. According to Google Analytics, AddThis and AwStats, the online Science Bulletin received at least 7,000, 13,000 and 9,000 views, and individual PDF articles were downloaded 938, 3,224 and 5,375 times during the calendar year 2018, 2019 and 2020, respectively. Together, the articles in these three recent issues received 64 citations, as reported by CrossRef.

The top three most cited article are:

- Kumar, M., Chaminda, T., Honda, R., & Furumai, H. (2019). Vulnerability of urban waters to emerging contaminants in India and Sri Lanka: Resilience framework and strategy. *APN Science Bulletin*, 9(1). doi:[10.30852/sb.2019.799](https://doi.org/10.30852/sb.2019.799)
- Tangang, F., Supari, S., Chung, J., Cruz, F., Salimun, E., Ngai, S., . . . Hein-Griggs, D. (2018). Future changes in annual precipitation extremes over Southeast Asia under global warming of 2°C. *APN Science Bulletin*, 8(1). doi:[10.30852/sb.2018.436](https://doi.org/10.30852/sb.2018.436)
- Sharifi, A., & Yamagata, Y. (2017). Towards an integrated approach to urban resilience assessment. *APN Science Bulletin*, 7(1). doi:[10.30852/sb.2017.182](https://doi.org/10.30852/sb.2017.182)

Top keywords include: climate change ([15](#)), capacity building ([5](#)), adaptation ([4](#)), vulnerability ([4](#)), climate change adaptation ([4](#)), Southeast Asia ([4](#)), loss and damage ([3](#)), community ([3](#)), developing countries ([3](#)), agriculture ([3](#)), disaster risk reduction ([3](#)), resilience ([3](#)), indigenous knowledge ([2](#)), temperature ([2](#)), mitigation ([2](#))

More information about the APN Science Bulletin can be found at <http://www.apn-gcr.org/bulletin>.

2.7. Attendance at online events from July 2020

The Secretariat attended the following online events since July 2020

2.7.1 APN at the PAASE 40th Anniversary and APAMS Meeting

Dr Linda Anne Stevenson gave a presentation on "Advancing Science and Human Resource Capacity in Asia through Global Change Research: the Case of APN" in the parallel session "Environment and Atmosphere" at the Philippine-American Academy of Science and Engineering (PAASE) 40th Anniversary and 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting (APAMS) Philippines, 3 August 2020. A recording of the session is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uz0O07Kr_cw.

2.7.2 APN joined GBIF webinar organized by IGES

APN joined a webinar on 14 August featuring the work of Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and its country node in Japan. Organized by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), the webinar focused on the open access and harmonization of biodiversity data for wider access and applications in biodiversity assessment and conservation. The platform provides input to monitoring international targets and indicators such as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and SDGs. More information on GBIF is available at <https://www.gbif.org/>.

2.7.3 APN joined the International Webinar and Book Discussion “Civic Engagement in Asia: Lesson from Transformative Learning in the Quest for a Sustainable Future”

On 26 September 2020, APN Secretariat represented by Ms Christmas Uchiyama, joined as a discussant at the international webinar and book discussion organized by the Lambung Mangkurat University and the Research Center for Climate Change – Universiti Indonesia (RCCC-UI). Focus of the webinar include key initiatives and experiences from non-state actors, especially civil society in the ASEAN region on public health and risk communication, women’s role on climate change adaptation, and youth- and female-driven environmental action.

2.7.4 APN at the 2020 Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (POPCCC)

APN was highly engaged in the 2020 POPCCC conference, which was held online from 27-30 October. Four members of the Pacific Group joined the conference, and four presentations were given by the Secretariat and project leaders in Australia and New Zealand. Detailed information is available [here](#).

2.7.5 APN at PICES Annual Meetings

Mr Gen’ichiro Tsukada and Dr Linda Anne Stevenson of the Secretariat participated in the annual meetings of various committees of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), currently being held from September to October. These include the Biological Oceanography Committee (BIO) meeting, the Physical Oceanography Committee (POC) meeting, and the FUTURE Scientific Steering Committee (FUTURE SSC) meeting. The meetings reviewed the committees’ activities in the previous year, and discussed the progress of ongoing projects and strengthening collaboration with partners, including APN. Particular focus was placed on PICES contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). More information: <https://meetings.pices.int/meetings/annual/2020/pices/scope>

2.7.6 APN at CORDEX-MAIRS-FE Scoping Workshop

ICRC-CORDEX is taking steps to develop small flagship projects and a virtual scoping workshop was held from 9-10 November towards elaborating on further cooperation between CORDEX, MAIRS-FE, APN and other relevant actors in the South, Southeast and Central regions of Asia. The key focus of the workshop was to establish a potential framework to network, cooperate and connect the dots, between MAIRS-FE, CORDEX, SEACLID, ANSO, AP-PLAT, APN and other stakeholders. In conclusion, participants agreed that a programme for science/climate information activities supporting regional/local sustainable development would be desirable, with a small-scale focus initially.

2.7.7 APN at the Twelfth Meeting of the SBSTA Research Dialogue

APN shared its regional action on climate adaptation and mitigation at the Twelfth Meeting of the SBSTA Research Dialogue, which was held virtually from 24–25 November. APN introduced its knowledge synthesis on recent climate change research in Asia, and highlighted three community-based approaches documented in a recent special issue in the journal Environmental Research. The presentation and the accompanying poster is available on the [UNFCCC website](#).

2.7.8 APN attended various events with SLYCAN Trust

- Global Summit on Just Transition was organized by SLYCAN Trust on 3-4 December 2020. The summit aimed to enhance the understanding of the concept of just transition and its inclusion in climate action at all levels. APN contributed to the discussion by sharing examples of recent APN-funded work at the grassroots level, including improving women's access to climate information in India; appraising slow-onset hazards in the Kanan Watershed of the Philippines; easy-to-use assessment tools for communities in Cambodia; public-private partnerships for herder communities in Mongolia. More information is available [here](#).
- Global Youth Forum on Climate Change, organized by SLYCAN Trust on 16-18 December 2020, placed an emphasis on the role of youth in intergenerational justice, equity, resilience and other aspects of climate action. The Forum was initiated in 2016 and has since fostered increasing youth participation by focusing on knowledge and information sharing as well as capacity building. APN participated in the session "Incorporating climate and disaster risk management into actions" and shared the latest actions by APN through the research and capacity development projects it funded in South Asia and Southeast Asia. These include case studies of capacity development activity that enhance local governments' institutional resilience, improving community capacity in rapid disaster mapping, and promotion of institutional and community awareness of safe building codes for disaster resilience. Dr Stevenson emphasized the importance of informal dialogue and regional collaboration in integrating scientific findings into policy planning. More information is available [here](#).
- Workshop on Climate and Disaster Risk Management: The workshop series comprised of four series (1) Addressing Loss and Damage through Nationally Determined Contributions, (2) Climate and Disaster Risk Management, (3) Integrating Climate and Disaster Risk Transfer into National Policies and Climate Commitments, and (4) Inclusive and Participatory Climate and Disaster Insurance which run from January 18th to 21st, 2021. APN contributed to the session on Climate and Disaster Risk Management held on 19th January. Dr Nafesa Ismail presented the working paper on relevant research and capacity building projects in Asia-Pacific that contribute to the progress of the Sendai Framework on DRR implementation. The video recording is available [here](#).

2.7.9 APN at Gobeshona Conference Session on Locally-Led Adaptation

APN attended a session organised and led by IGES and that engaged APN, MOEJ, ICCCAD, ICIMOD and UNDP. This session discussed ways and mechanisms of regional collaboration for designing and implementing effective modes of capacity building at the local level. The session stressed the importance of regional collaboration as an instrument to trigger local adaptation innovation and leadership development to co-design and implement adaptation actions. The session also promoted the AP-PLAT and APAN platforms, emphasizing the capacity building component of AP-PLAT and the upcoming 7th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Forum in March 8-12, 2021. The session also focused on how regional cooperation could be capitalized as an important enabler for capacity building to support, accelerate, and upscale local adaptation action and innovation for:

- Effective communication of efforts, needs and priorities from local to national and international levels
- Transferring scientific knowledge, technology and tools for informed decision making and actions on the ground
- Building business models for attracting finance and support to upscale adaptation innovation across local levels and landscapes
- Continuous adaptation innovation and transformation into a climate resilient society

3. Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic

3.1. Events

The following events were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Pacific Scoping Workshop to Establish the Pacific Subregional Committee, 4-5 March 2020, Honolulu, United States of America
- Proposal Development Training Workshop and 10th South Asia Subregional Committee Meeting, 6-10 April 2020, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 24th Intergovernmental Meeting and associated meetings, 22-26 July 2020, Dhaka, Bangladesh

3.2. Closure of the Secretariat Office

Due to the state of emergency declared by the Government of Japan on 7 April 2020, the Secretariat closed its office in Kobe City. Since the state of emergency in Hyogo was lifted on 21 May 2020, the Secretariat has adopted a rota system where staff report to the office three times a week.

**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 2 of the draft agenda¹

Item 2. Approval of the Fourth Strategic Phase Report

The 4th Strategic Phase (2015-2020) Report was drafted by members of a Task Force and staff of the APN Secretariat during a period of nearly two years. The pandemic delayed the completion of the report - it was planned to be presented at the 24th session of the IGM, originally scheduled to convene in June 2020 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The report summarizes the achievements of APN in three chapters covering the following areas:

- Chapter 1: Science, policy and capacity development activities;
- Chapter 2: Communication and outreach activities; and
- Chapter 3: Institutional management.

Chapter 4 complements strengths, challenges and opportunities identified in the previous chapters, and provides suggestions for the 5th Strategic Plan.

The appendices include a comprehensive record of the APN-funded projects completed in the 4th strategic phase and a list of the outputs produced by these projects. The compilation of the top 50 project products by downloads gives a useful overview over the different groups of users of the APN website. It helps to improve the communication, dissemination and outreach strategy of APN.



¹ IGM/24/A.



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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 3 of the draft agenda¹

Item 3. Approval of the Fifth Strategic Plan

The drafting of the 5th Strategic Plan (2020-2024) started at the second Writing Workshop of the Task Force, held in January 2020. The work on the 5th Strategic Plan was disrupted by the pandemic - the completion was delayed by about six months.

At the Writing Workshop the members of the Task Force identified the following five areas as goals:

- Goal 1: Research
- Goal 2: Capacity development
- Goal 3: Science-policy interactions
- Goal 4: Community engagement
- Goal 5: APN and its operations

To each of the goals, examples of activities and areas of work were determined to focus on during the 5th strategic phase.

Additionally, “communication, dissemination and outreach” was identified as an overarching component that supports achieving the above mentioned five goals. In this section, strategic steps are identified that are needed to improve the communication with and outreach to the stakeholders.

Recognizing the importance of monitoring the work and analyzing and evaluating the results, the 5th Strategic Plan (draft) stipulates the development of indicators to measure the achievements and performance of APN during the 5th strategic phase.

In the light of the fight of the world community against COVID-19, the 5th Strategic Plan (draft) is a distinct expression of APN to contribute to “build forward better” a resilient and sustainable post-pandemic Asia-Pacific region.

¹ IGM/24/A.



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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 4 of the draft agenda¹

Item 4. Approval of the Amendments to the Framework Document

Background and summary

This paper, which was distributed to the IGM on 9 December 2020, provides a list of proposed amendments to the Framework Document and the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans (contained in subsequent document IGM-24-4.1). The list was developed based on comments provided by the Task Force on the Fourth Strategic Phase Report and the Fifth Strategic Plan, comments that the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) presented at the 42nd Steering Committee (SC) Meeting and comments that MOEJ presented at the 43rd SC Meeting of which were subsequently endorsed by the SC.

The proposed amendments include the following:

- Transferring a part of the mandate of the IGM to the SC; and
- Revising the way to hold the Subregional Committee meetings.

The proposed amendments also include the following:

- Changing the classification of developing countries to low- and middle-income countries, and developed countries to high-income countries;²
- Reinforcing the participation of nFPs at the IGM meeting;
- Introducing a quorum to the IGM meeting and SPG meeting, and changing the quorum of the SC meeting;

¹ IGM/24/A.

² Explanatory note by the Secretariat: based on a decision by the SC at its 44th meeting held on 8 February 2021 immediately before the present IGM meeting, this particular proposed amendment was not presented at the IGM meeting for approval despite its inclusion in this document at the time of distribution.

- Revising the mandate of the Secretariat; and
- Other editorial amendments.

Required action

The IGM is asked to consider and approve the list of proposed amendments to the Framework Document, the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans and supporting documents as contained in this paper.

This paper contains the following documents:

- IGM-24-4.1: List of proposed amendments to the Framework Document and the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans
 - Major Amendments of the Framework Document: the list contains major amendments with explanations
 - Other Amendments of the Framework Document: the list contains editorial amendments
 - Major Amendments of the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans: the list contains major amendments with explanations.
 - Amendments to the Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans: the list contains editorial amendments;
- IGM-24-4.2: The current Framework Document with line numbers;
- IGM-24-4.3: The current Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans with line numbers;
- IGM-24-4.4: Amended Framework Document based on the above list (the left side of the document is the current version and the right side is the amended version with changes indicated in red); and
- IGM-24-4.5: Amended Guidance for Members of APN Organs and Suborgans based on the above list (the left side of the document is the current version and the right side is the amended version with changes indicated in red).

This paper also contains the following appendices:

- Appendix 1: MOEJ Comments on Recommendation of APN 4th Strategic Phase Report and 5th Strategic Plan; and
- Appendix 2: MOEJ Comments on the APN 5th Strategic Phase and its activities.



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**The 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 5 of the draft agenda¹

Item 5. Report from the Scientific Planning Group

Summary

The following slides summarize the discussion and decisions made at the 14th SPG Pre-Meeting held on 8 February 2021.

¹ IGM/24/A.

IGMSPG-24-5 Report from the Scientific Planning Group


24th Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting
9 February 2021



Content

- Election of SPG Co-Chairs and SPG Sub-Committee (Feb 2021 - June 2022)
- Vote of thanks to outgoing members
- Other business discussed at the SPG-PM
 - Perform a review of the call for proposals and review process

Election of new SPG Co-Chairs and new SPG Sub-Committee

SPG Sub Committee July 2018 to January 2021			SPG Sub Committee February 2021 to June 2022		
SPG Co-Chair	Dr Kim Chi Ngo, SPG Member for Viet Nam		SPG Co-Chair	Dr Kim Chi Ngo, SPG Member for Viet Nam	
SPG Co-Chair	Dr Soojeong Myeong, SPG Member for Republic of Korea		SPG Co-Chair	Dr Hemant Bargaonkar, SPG Member for India	
SPG-SC Member	Dr Alexander Sterin, SPG Member for Russia		SPG-SC Member	Dr Awnesh Singh, SPG Member for Fiji	
SPG-SC Member	Dr Hemant Bargaonkar, SPG Member for India		SPG-SC Member	Dr Madan Lall Shrestha, SPG Member for Nepal	
SPG-SC Member	Dr Luis Tupas, SPG Member for USA		SPG-SC Member	Dr Luis Tupas, SPG Member for USA	

Vote of thanks to outgoing members of the SPG-SC

- Dr Soojeong Myeong,
SPG Member for Republic of Korea



Dr Alexander Sterin, SPG Member for Russia



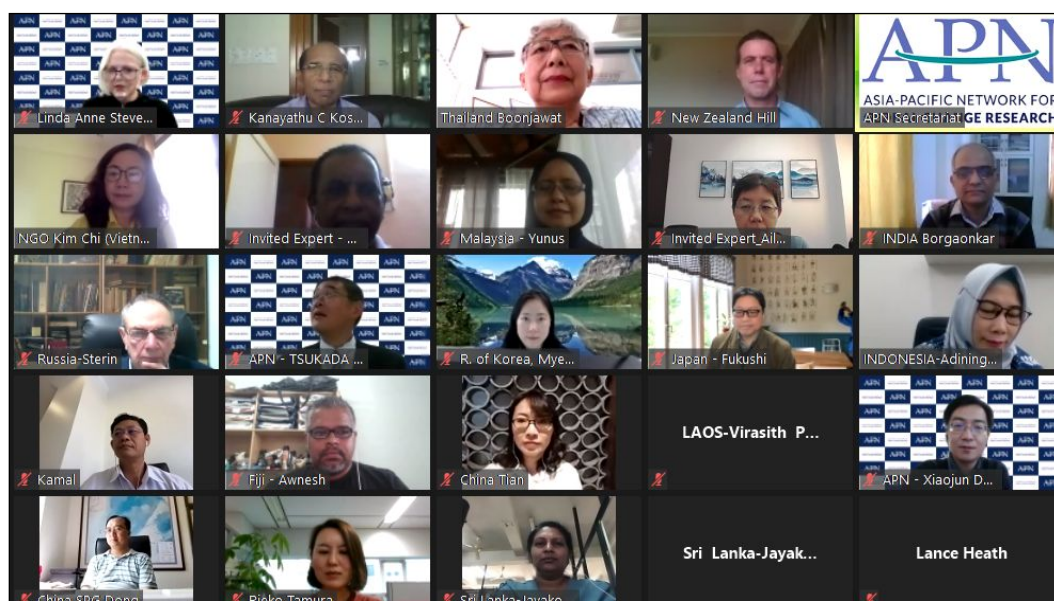
- Professor Kanayathu Chacko Koshy
Invited Expert to SPG and CDC

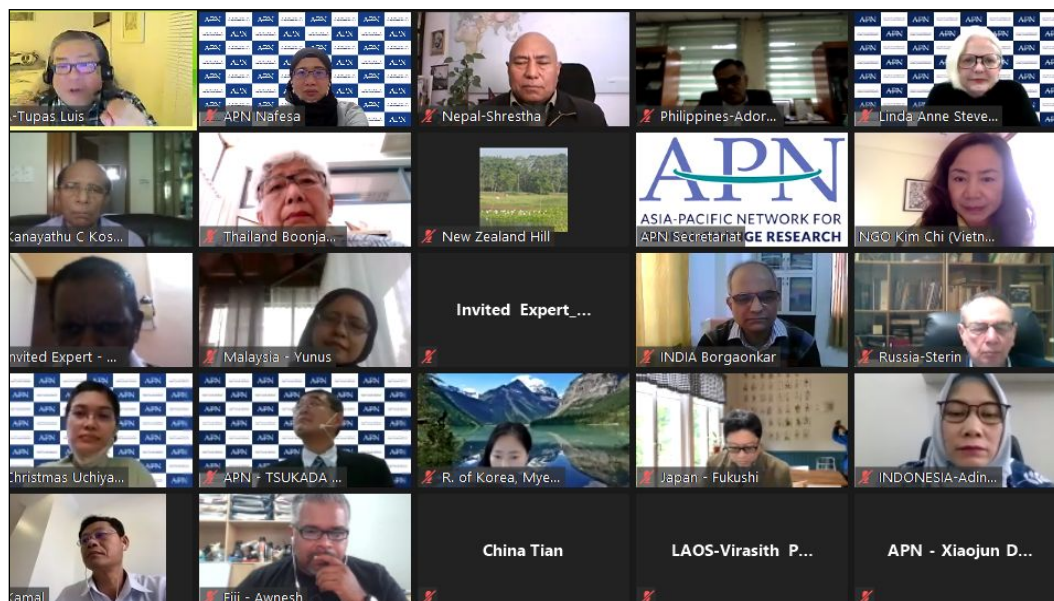


Other business discussed at the SPG-PM

Review of the call for proposals and review process:

- To reconsider on the review of proposals during this COVID-19 era
- Aim to streamline the process ensuring rigour and integrity
- Proposals Review Task Force:
 - Associate Prof. Jariya Boonjawat (SPG Member) - SEA
 - Dr Hemant Prabhakar Borgaonkar (SPG Co-chair member) SA
 - Dr Aleksandr Sterin (SPG Member) - TEA
 - Dr Luis Tupas (nFP and SPG Member) - Pacific
 - Dr Subramaniam Moten (SPG Member)
 - *To consider a CDC member and other members of the SPG-SC*







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**The 24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 6 of the draft agenda¹

Item 6. Report on subregional cooperation

Summary

The following slides summarize the discussion and decisions made at the following subregional parallel sessions held on 5 February 2021:

1. South Asia Subregional Committee
2. Southeast Asia Subregional Committee
3. Temperate East Asia Subregional Committee
4. Pacific Group

¹ IGM/24/A.

Item 6 Report of the South Asia Subregional Parallel Session

24th Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting
9 February 2021



Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the SA-SRC

- **Chair:** Pakistan
Mr Muhammad Irfan Tariq, Director General (Environment & Climate Change), Ministry of Climate Change.
- **Vice-Chair:** Nepal
Dr Radha Wagle, Joint Secretary and Chief of Climate Change Management Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment
- **Term:** February 2021 - June 2022

Election of two members to the Steering Committee

In accordance with action points of the South Asia Zoom Meeting held in October 2020 and follow-up communication with members, the two nFPs to be nominated to the Steering Committee are:

- Mr Tenzin Khorlo, Chief Environment Officer
Water Resources Coordination Division,
National Environment Commission
BHUTAN
- Dr Anil Jasinghe, Secretary
Ministry of Environment
SRI LANKA



Election of one member to the Capacity Development Committee

In accordance with action points of the South Asia Zoom Meeting held in October 2020 and follow-up communication with the nFP for Bangladesh, the expert to be nominated to the Capacity Development Committee is:

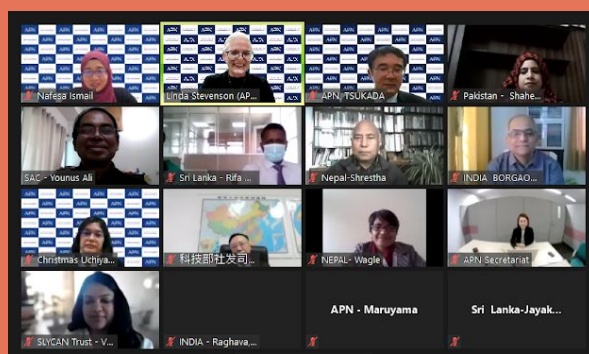
- Dr Md. Mahmudur Rahman, Chief Scientific Officer,
Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization (SPARRSO)
BANGLADESH

10th South Asia SRC Meeting and PDTW

- The 10th South Asia SRC Meeting and PDTW will take place in Pakistan in a face-to-face fashion when it is possible to do so.
- All early-career researchers have been confirmed from each of the South Asia countries who are waiting in anticipation for the PDTW to be convened
- Suggested that a one-day symposium also be considered in Pakistan back to back with the SRC meeting and PDTW.

The following organisations and project leaders joined the South Asia SRC in an interactive session

- Dr Md. Younus Ali, **SAARC Agricultural Centre**, India
- Ms Vositha Wijenayake, **SLYCAN Trust**, Sri Lanka
- Dr Nuzba Shaheen, **Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC)**, Pakistan
Presented on APN project: Climate smart agriculture through sustainable water use management: Exploring new approaches and devising strategies for climate change adaptation in South Asia
- Dr Dipayan Dey, **South Asia Forum for Environment (SAFE)**, India
Presented on APN project: Impacts of Crop Residue Removal for Biomass Energy on Soil Function: Studies to recommend Climate Adaptive Agricultural Waste Management



Thank you

Item 6 Report on the Southeast Asia Subregional Parallel Session

24th Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting
9 February 2021



Appointment of Roles - SEA SRC

1. Chair and Vice-chair of the SEA-SRC

- **Chair: Malaysia**

Mr Jailan Simon

Director General of Malaysian Meteorological Department

Ministry of Environment and Water



- **Vice-chair: Cambodia**

Mr Roath Sith

Assistant to the Ministry of Environment

General Directorate of Environmental Knowledge and Information

Ministry of Environment



- **Term: February 2021 - June 2022**

Appointment of Roles - SEA SRC

2. Two members to the Steering Committee (SC)

In accordance with action points of the Southeast Asia Zoom Meeting held in October 2020 and follow-up communication with members, the two nFPs to be nominated to the SC are:

- **Cambodia**

- **Mr Roath Sith**

Assistant to the Ministry of Environment

General Directorate of Environmental Knowledge and Information

Ministry of Environment



- **Indonesia**

- **Mr Henri Bastaman**

Ministry of Environment and Forestry Ministry



Appointment of Roles - SEA SRC

3. One member to the Capacity Development Committee (CDC)

In accordance with action points of the Southeast Asia Zoom Meeting held in October 2020 and follow-up, the expert to be nominated to the CDC is:

- **Prof Juan Pulhin**

Department of Social Forestry and Forest Governance
College of Forestry and Natural Resources,
UPLB, Philippines



Presentations on Strategic Partnerships with APN

1. Dr Dian Sukmajaya, **ASEAN Secretariat**, Indonesia
2. Dr Fredolin Tangang, **CORDEX-SEA/SEACLID**, Malaysia
3. Dr Duc Luong Nguyen, **National University of Civil Engineering, Vietnam**
Integrated Approach of In-situ Measurement, Modeling Techniques, and Advanced Satellite Remote Sensing for Mapping and Quantifying Contribution of Local and Regional Biomass Burning Sources to Air Pollution in Southeast Asian Countries (ongoing project)
4. Dr Soo Chen Kwan, **Kyoto University, Japan**
Integrating Health into Urban Planning towards Sustainable Development Goals in Developing Countries (completed project)

13th Southeast Asia SRC Meeting and PDTW

- The alternate nFP Malaysia informed that the 13th Southeast Asia SRC Meeting and PDTW will not be possible to take place anytime in 2021
- Malaysia will keep the Secretariat updated on this matter



Report on the Temperate East Asia Subregional Parallel Session

24th Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting
9 February 2021



Chair and Vice-Chair of the Temperate East Asia Subregional Committee

- **Chair**
Prof. Wenjie Dong (SPG member for China)
Dean
School of Atmospheric Sciences
Sun Yat-Sen University
- **Vice-Chair**
Dr Soojeong Myeong (SPG member for the Republic of Korea)
Senior Research Fellow
Korea Environment Institute



Election of two members to the Steering Committee

In accordance with action points of the Temperate East Asia Zoom Meeting held on 30 October 2020 and follow-up communication with members, the two nFPs to be nominated to the Steering Committee are:

- Dr Xu Jun (nFP for China)
Deputy Director General
Social Development Science and Technology Department
Ministry of Science and Technology
- Prof. Andrey Adrianov (nFP for Russia)
Vice President
Russian Academy of Science



Election of one member to the Capacity Development Committee

In accordance with action points of the Temperate East Asia Zoom Meeting held on 30 October 2020 and follow-up communication with the nFP for Japan, the expert to be nominated to the Capacity Development Committee is:

- Dr Yuji Masutomi, Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

Presentations on Strategic Partnerships with APN

In accordance with action points of the Temperate East Asia Zoom Meeting held on 30 October 2020 and follow-up communication with the nFP for Japan, the expert to be nominated to the Capacity Development Committee is:

- Dr Yegor Volovik and Dr Ning Liu, NOWPAP
- Dr Wei wan, MAIRS-FE
- Dr Kwang-Sik Choi, International Workshop on Key Indicator Species and Habitats for Marine Biodiversity Change in East Asia
- Dr Ingrid van Putten and Ms Lisa Maddison, IMBeR IMBIZO V Workshop: Management Strategy Evaluation: Achieving Transparency in Natural Resource Management by Quantitatively Bridging Social and Natural Science Uncertainties

Item 6 Report of the Pacific Group Parallel Session

24th Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting
9 February 2021



Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Pacific Group

- **Chair:** Dr Luis Tupas
(nFP and SPG member for USA)
- **Vice-Chair:** Dr Awnesh Singh
(SPG member for Fiji)
- **Term:** February 2021 - June 2022



Election of one member to the Steering Committee

In accordance with action points of the Pacific Group Zoom Meeting held on 6 November 2020 and parallel session for the Pacific on Friday 5 February, the nFP to be nominated to the Steering Committee is:

Dr Luis Tupas (nFP for USA)
Deputy Chief
Soil Science & Resource Assessment
Natural Resources Conservation Service
US Department of Agriculture



Election of one member to the Capacity Development Committee

In accordance with action points of the Pacific Group Zoom Meeting held on 6 November 2020 and follow-up, the expert to be nominated to the Capacity Development Committee is:

Professor Patrick Nunn
 Professor of Geography
 Co-Director of the Sustainability Research Centre
 University of the Sunshine Coast
 Australia



Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

Request IGM to establish the Subregional Committee for the Pacific


As a matter of formality, the Pacific Group formally requests the IGM to approve the establishment of the Subregional Committee for the Pacific.

Outputs of the brainstorming session on the Pacific Scoping Workshop

Topics of interest/focus in the Pacific for global change

Discussion on topics of interest/priority discussed with the aim of providing more relevant focus for APN at the Pacific Scoping Workshop

- Threats to Water Supplies
- Terrestrial Ecosystems, Ecosystem Services, and Biodiversity
 - Invasive species / food production
- Coastal Communities and Systems
- Oceans and Marine Resources
 - plastics and microplastics
- Indigenous Communities and Knowledge
- Cumulative Impacts and Adaptation
 - disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation synergy, loss & damage
- Global change and health in the Pacific
- Climate displacement and relocation



Outputs of the brainstorming session on the Pacific Scoping Workshop

Location, time and participation

- Discussed that Samoa is central in the Pacific and will be a good location
- Important to have the meeting face to face, although recognise that this cannot happen, realistically, until after March 2022 due to the Pandemic
- Consider having a back-to-back PDTW and engage early-career scientists, and secure budget for that from the FY2021 budget (in June 2021)
- Important to engage regional partners at the scoping workshop and discussions will continue between members of the Pacific SRC and the APN Secretariat

Thank you





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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 7 of the draft agenda¹

Item 7. Presentation from observers on strategic partnerships

The following institutions will deliver a five-minute presentation on their currently focused activities and opportunities to establish a strategic partnership with APN in the future.

Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO)

Dr Ailikun, Assistant Executive Director, ANSO Secretariat

Asia-Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT)

Dr Yuji Masutomi, Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies

Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX)

Dr Irène Lake, Director, International Project Office, CORDEX

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia-Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (ERIA-RKC)

Mr Michikazu Kojima, Senior Economist, ERIA-RKC

Future Earth Asia

Dr Hein Mallee, Director, Regional Centre for Future Earth in Asia

North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

Dr Sonia Batten, Executive Secretary, North Pacific Marine Science Organization

¹ IGM/24/A.



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**24th Joint Intergovernmental Meeting/
Scientific Planning Group Meeting**
9 February 2021

Item 8 of the draft agenda¹

**Item 8. Confirmation of new members to the SC and CDC,
and new SPG Co-Chairs**

The IGM will confirm new members to the SC and CDC nominated by each of the respective SRCs, and new SPG Co-Chairs nominated by the SPG Sub-Committee.

¹ IGM/24/A.

New Members to the Steering Committee

South Asia

- Mr Tenzin Khorlo (Bhutan)
- Dr Anil Jasginghe (Sri Lanka)

Southeast Asia

- Mr Roath Sith (Cambodia)
- Dr Henri Bastaman (Indonesia)

Temperate East Asia

- Dr Xu Jun (China)
- Prof. Andrey Adrianov (Russian Federation)

Pacific

- Dr Luis Tupas (USA)

New Scientific Planning Group Co-Chairs

- Dr Kim Chi Ngo (Viet Nam) (continuing term)
- Dr Hemant Borgaonkar (India)



New Members to the Capacity Development Committee

South Asia

- Dr Md. Mahmudur Rahman, Chief Scientific Officer, Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization, Bangladesh

Southeast Asia

- Dr Juan Phulin, Professor, College of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of the Philippines Los Baños

Temperate East Asia

- Dr Yuji Masutomi, Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

Pacific

- Prof. Patrick Nunn, Professor of Geography and Co-Director of the Sustainability Research Centre, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia



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