

Challenges to Sustainable Development Governance in Asia-Pacific

Six Observations

アジア太平洋における 持続可能なガバナンスへの挑戦

6つの考察

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Observation 1

Asia is the probably world's most diverse continent

アジアはおそらく世界で最も多様化している大陸

- Physically (landlocked mountains to islands)
- Economically (per capita incomes: \$348-\$42,081)
- Socially (HDI rankings: 4th to 150th)
- Culturally (all world religions)
- Politically (extremes of political systems)

→ Diverse challenges for SD & SD governance
→ No single governance model applicable to all
→ Having a widely-acceptable regional SD
governance model is a bigger challenge

Observation 2

As the new economic fulcrum* of the world, Asia's environment will be under even greater threat.

新たな経世界済の基盤として、
アジアの環境はより大きな脅威にさらされる

- High rates of economic growth → even higher environmental degradation
- Economic integration efforts being pursued without enough consideration for SD integration; economists and finance specialists drive the agenda
- Urgent need: More holistic and integrative planning for Asia's future

**Fulcrum – something that supports or sustains*

Observation 3

SD governance in Asia is a mixed bag of institutions, each trying to make its own mark.

アジアにおけるSDガバナンスは
様々な機関の活動から成り立っている

- UN-ESCAP, UNEP-ROAP, ADB + sub-regional bodies/groupings (ASEAN MME, SACEP, SPREP, CAREC, NEASPEC; GMS, BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT etc.)
- Some effort to coordinate and unify some initiatives, but turf sensitivities persist
- As-Pac SD Governance: UN-ESCAP (SDCAP?); Environmental Governance: UNEP-ROAP

Observation 4

Governance is too important to be left to governments alone.

ガバナンスは政府だけに託すには
あまりにも重要すぎる

- Stakeholder (Private Sector and Civil Society) participation (not just consultation) is crucial
- UN-ESCAP and UNEP-ROAP both harness active stakeholder participation
- Stronger commitment to meaningful stakeholder participation needed at national and local government levels ; regional governance body must set the example

Observation 5

Good governance is informed governance.

良いガバナンスには十分な情報共有が不可欠

- Good knowledge support is essential
- EEA supported by EIONET is a good model; knowledge network gets ample support from governments; shared environmental information system (SEIS) interconnects 600 institutions' databases
- As-Pac has UNEP-RRC.AP, APFED Net Res, etc.; need to support UN-ESCAP, UNEP-ROAP's governance roles more systematically

Observation 6

Asia-Pacific will be prominent and crucial in the agenda.

アジア太平洋はRio+20のアジェンダにおいて極めて重要かつ大きな存在に

- As global economic fulcrum, it will also be the global SD fulcrum: What happens in Asia-Pacific happens to the world.
- The region must agree, decide and support the appropriate SD governance architecture that will work best for itself.
- Asia-Pacific cannot afford to fail the rest of the world by failing itself.

Thank you!