

PL-6 Key Messages from IPCC AR5 and Its Implications in Asia:

Future Perspective of Climate Change Policies in Asia through Integration of Mitigation and Adaptation

15:45 – 17:15 23 July 2014

The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)—the most comprehensive assessment of scientific knowledge on climate change—is being released by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in four parts between September 2013 and November 2014. Knowledge and experiences, compiled by the AR5, have powerfully stimulated climate change debate around the world. There is a growing need for raising public awareness of the findings from the AR5 and their implications for the national policies. Against this backdrop, based on the approved reports in AR5, this session aimed to raise awareness of the IPCC and its activities among the general public to promote national debate and actions for addressing climate change through providing the latest scientific findings and encouraging dialogue between scientists, practitioners, and the public.

Dr. Akio Takemoto mentioned that it is indispensable to address not only already existing impacts of climate change, but also potential impacts that cannot be prevented in the medium and long terms. Having overviewed the IPCC and its work with a focus on the process and outputs, **Mr. Taka Hiraishi** highlighted the findings from the AR5 WG1 report. **Dr. Kiyoshi Takahashi** explained the risk of climate impacts results from the interaction of climate-related hazards with the vulnerability and exposure of human and natural systems. **Dr. Yasuaki Hijioka** then stated that compared to the previous report, the AR5 widened the area for risk assessment, and evaluations were conducted from the perspectives of risk management; additionally, the systematic evaluations of adaptation and mitigation measures were implemented. **Dr. Kejun Jiang** overviewed the findings from AR5 WG3 report, focusing on Asia. Finally, **Mr. Isao Endo** suggested improving land-use as one approach to integrate mitigation and adaptation measures. After the presentations, a wide range of issues were discussed, including the trade-off/co-benefits, cost/finance, and effectiveness of climate mitigation and adaptation as well as their integration.

Key messages of the session

- IPCC AR5 strengthened the assessment of the risks of climate impacts, highlighted adaptation measures that are already conducted, and indicated the future path for mitigation.
- Immediate actions are required for controlling temperature rise below 2 degrees C.
- Both mitigation and adaptation are indispensable, and improving land-use planning can be one of approaches for integration.
- Long-term and interdisciplinary perspectives are important.
- More quantitative research and discussion are needed.

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