



# Mobilising Knowledge and Building Capacities for Climate Resilience in the Asia-Pacific

## **BACKGROUND**

The Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) is a region-wide network working to effectively manage and disseminate diverse climate change adaptation knowledge and meet on-the-ground demands of climate change practitioners.

APAN is part of the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Global Adaptation Network. It responds to the call made by the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in 2008 which "recognised that regional centres and networks undertaking work relevant to climate change play an important role in enhancing adaptation" and "agreed to promote existing networks for impacts, vulnerability and adaptation and encouraged the establishment of new networks."

Together with international organisations and development agencies across the region, APAN – supported by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan and other partners – serves to **equip government officials and other key actors with critical knowledge** to design climate change adaptation measures, to access needed finance and technologies, and to build capacity to integrate climate change adaptation into national development policies. APAN has also made its approach more strategic by leveraging both financial and substantive contributions from different partners, adding significant value to the network.

# ROLE OF IGES

Since 2009, the IGES Regional Centre based in Bangkok, Thailand has served as the APAN Regional Hub, together with UNEP and other partners, undertaking core functions, including web-based knowledge management, information and stakeholder outreach services, and technical support and coordination.

APAN operates across the Asia-Pacific region in around 48 countries through eight designated leading institutes that act as nodes to drive APAN activities. While they provide technical assistance and capacity development opportunities for government officials and other stakeholders, the IGES Regional Centre coordinates all of these activities and provides technical inputs. The IGES climate change adaptation team based in Hayama, Japan also contributes substantial inputs to APAN.

# IMPACT

The IGES Regional Centre manages the APAN web portal that serves as one of the region's leading knowledge sharing platform and resource repository. APAN also regularly engages some 5,000 community members through news updates and its popular email discussion series.

APAN, since its establishment, conducted over **40 training workshops and conferences** across numerous climate change adaptation areas. The number of developing country government officials who participated in **APAN events totals around 4,000 people.** 

Because of APAN events, climate change adaptation awareness was raised among newer stakeholders. Members of Parliament in South Asia were trained on framing adaptation strategies in public policy-making processes in Islamabad, Pakistan in December 2013.

Following another APAN workshop in September 2013 in Kathmandu, Nepal, **APAN galvanised cooperation** with the Network of Asian River Basin Organisations (NARBO) to improve water security and resilience building.

### **ABOUT APAN**

APAN is a leading climate change adaptation network in the Asia-Pacific region. Our primary goal is to assist countries to build climate change resilient and sustainable human systems, ecosystems, and economies. Our initiatives turn knowledge into policy action and training into tangible benefits.

## **APAN PARTNERS**







Global Water













Government of Japan



**RCCCA** 











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