29 July 2025 ISAP Plenary 1

"Synergistic Responses to the Triple Planetary Crisis in the Asia-Pacific"

Framing Presentation

Kazuhiko TAKEUCHI

President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)



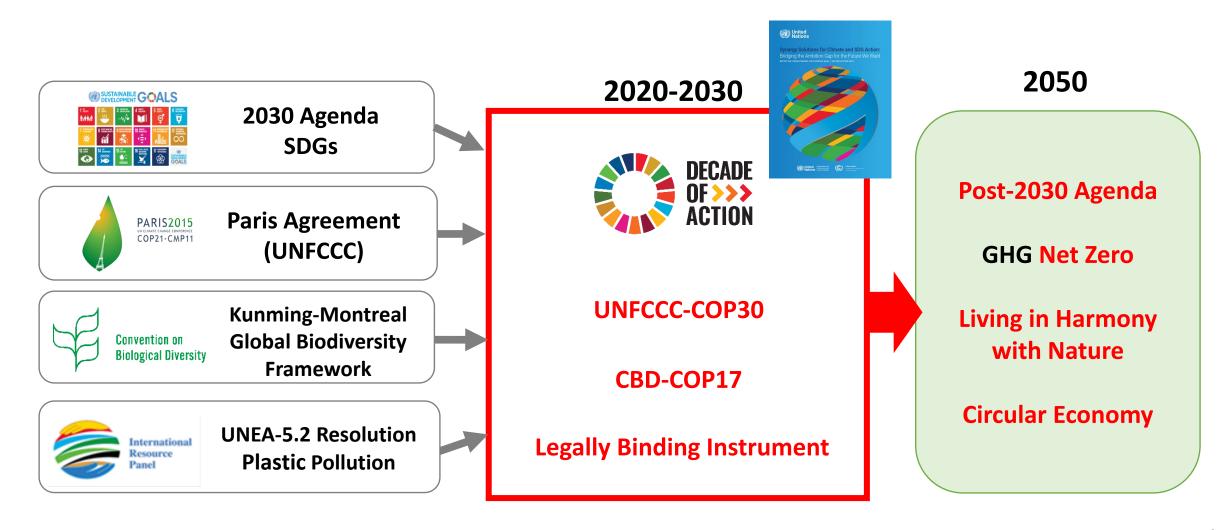
Session Background and Objective

- Asia and the Pacific is a dynamic yet vulnerable region, facing rapid development and growing environmental pressures.
- ◆ The region is threatened by the triple planetary crisis: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.
- Over 60% of the world's population is at risk due to these crises.
- ◆ A key issue is that policymakers often address these challenges with isolated solutions, rather than integrated approaches.



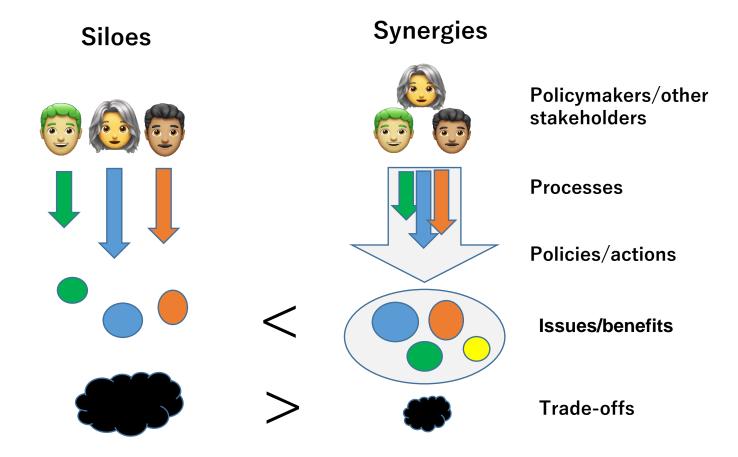
This session will explore how synergistic approaches that integrate responses to the triple planetary crisis can make Asia-Pacific more sustainable and secure.

Global Trends: Synergies Can Accelerate Progress in International Processes



What are Synergies?

- Positive interactions...
- resulting from a deliberate effort to achieve multiple sustainability objectives...
- …in a single set of policy decisions.

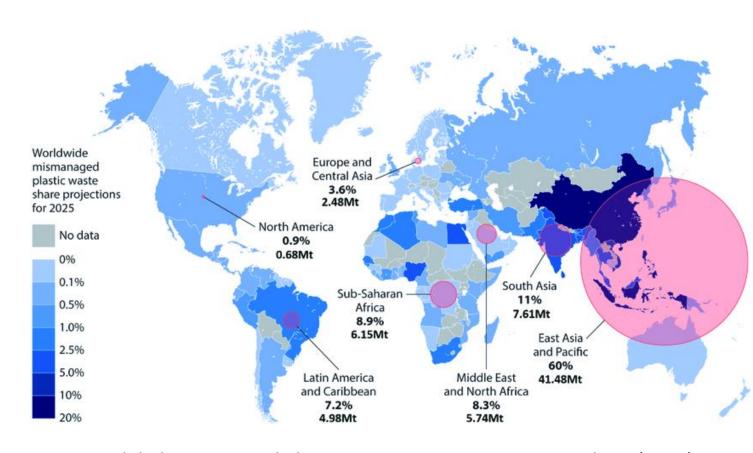


Global Sustainability Needs Asia-Pacific Commitment: A Case of Plastic Pollution

- Marine plastic pollution spreads through ocean currents, impacting distant nations.
- Microplastics infiltrate the food chain, threatening ecosystems and human health.
- Plastic production and incineration contribute to GHG emissions.
- Tourism and fisheries suffer economic losses.
- Inadequate waste management leads to illegal dumping and river contamination.
- Waste blockages increase flood risks, while toxic emissions from burning plastic pose health hazards.



As a global hotspot for plastic consumption, production and mismanagement, the region's response is crucial to addressing this global issue.



Global mismanaged plastic waste projections near coastlines (2025). Estimated 69.14 Mt, with 15–40% entering the ocean.

Source:Watt et al., RSC Advances, 2021. DOI: 10.1039/d1ra00353d

Asia-Pacific Synergy Report: Addressing the SDGs and the Triple Planetary Crisis

- The Asia-Pacific Synergy Report aims to consolidate strategies for advancing SDGs and addressing the Triple Planetary Crisis in the region, targeting for release in July 2026.
- It will provide practical insights for policymakers and practitioners, and help the region's policymakers shape the substance and structure of a post-2030 Agenda.
- To maintain a comprehensive and inclusive perspective, the report will be developed in collaboration with experts from diverse fields across the region.
- A collection of case studies will also be created separately and attached to the main report.

Lead Agencies





Sponsoring country



Secretariat





Scope and Structure of the Report

The Asia Pacific Synergy Report will:

- Assess evidence of synergies from the perspectives of climate, nature, pollution, and cities in Asia and the Pacific;
- Reflect on what that assessment means for key policymaking processes in Asia and the Pacific (NDCs, VNRs, NBSAPs as well as local responses); and
- Discuss how "means of implementation" (data and tools, governance, finance) can help integrate evidence from the thematic chapters into policy and/or drive action in Asia and the Pacific.

	Chapter Title
Ch.0	Executive Summary
Ch.1	Introduction
Ch.2	Overall Framework and Existing Knowledge
Ch.3	Climate and Health
Ch.4	Biodiversity and Nature Positive
Ch.5	Pollution and Circular Economy
Ch.6	Cities and Resilience
Ch.7	Finance
Ch.8	Data and Tools
Ch.9	Governance
Ch.10	Policy Recommendations
Ch.11	Conclusion and Future Outlook

Key Milestones & Manila Meeting

2025

Feb: Kick-off event at APFSD 2025

July: 1st in-person meeting

2026

- Feb: 2nd in-person meeting and special event during APFSD 2026
- → July: Report launch at ESCAP 9th Session of the Committee on Environment and Development (Ministerial level)
 - → Reginal Synergy Programme?

2027

→ April: ESCAP Commission Session
→ Resolution to endorse the Programme?

1st In-Person Expert Group Meeting

(7-8 July 2025 at Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria)

DAY 1 – 7 July		
9:00 - 10:00	Opening Session	
10:15 - 11:45	Plenary 1: Report Objectives, Structure, and Process	
13:00 - 14:00	Plenary 2: Strategic Perspectives	
14:30 – 17:00	Group Discussions	

DAY 2 – 8 July

8:30 - 10:30	Plenary 3: Reporting Back from the Group Discussions
10:45 – 11:30	Closing Session



Recent IGES Publications on the SDGs and a Post-2030 Agenda

https://www.iges.or.jp/en/sdgs



State of the Voluntary Local Reviews 2025: At a Crossroads for Local SDG Action



Insights from Agenda 21 for Enhancing the Implementation of the SDGs and Shaping the Post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda



Strengthening Motivations for Synergies under the SDGs and a Post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda



Broadening and Deepening Support for Just Transitions under the SDGs and a Post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda