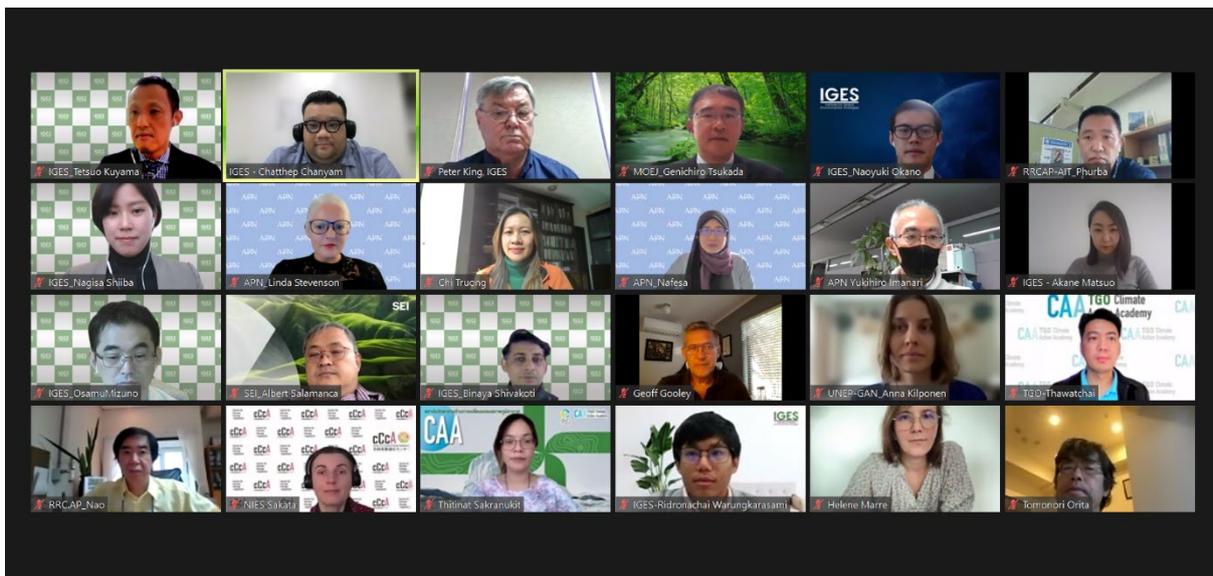


Consultation Meeting of AP-PLAT Capacity Development: Meeting Report



10 February 2022
11:30 – 13:30 (GMT+7)
Bangkok, Thailand

1. Overview

Effective interaction among climate science, policy and action is key to building a climate resilient society. As mentioned in the Paris Agreement, climate-related capacity development for developing countries should be accelerated to deal with the many challenges brought by climate change. However, in the current situation, capacity development through international cooperation for climate change adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region does not seem to be clearly defined.

Considering this, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) plans to prepare a publication showing the essence and ideal form of “Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation” in the field of international cooperation, so that effective international cooperation can be implemented in the Asia-Pacific region. This publication aims to identify the intrinsic value of international cooperation on climate change adaptation and to suggest some of the ways in which capacity development should be strengthened.

2. Objectives of the Consultation Meeting

- 1) Provide a draft of the publication and seek feedback from the participants so that this publication can be finalized; and
- 2) Show the results of a mapping analysis of current training programs/modules on adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region and discuss potential training programs/modules on adaptation for the future.

3. Welcome and Objectives

Mr. Genichiro Tsukada, Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office, Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ) welcomed the participants and reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve climate ambition. As the Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Platform (AP-PLAT) was launched during the G20 meeting in 2019, it laid the foundation for international cooperation in the field of adaptation. AP-PLAT aims to enable the environment for climate-risk informed decision making and practical adaptation action through synchronizing and harnessing best available efforts among partner countries and organizations. On behalf of MOEJ, he thanked the participants for joining the meeting as he believed that the participants are experts in the field of climate adaptation and capacity development in Asia. He hoped that the outcome of the discussion would guide the direction of future activities of AP-PLAT and enhance cooperation with partner organizations. Lastly, he hoped that this collaborative effort will promote regional capacity development work in Asia and Pacific region as a whole.

Dr. Tetsuo Kuyama, Director of Bangkok Regional Center, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, welcomed participants and expressed gratitude for attending the meeting. After the preparatory workshop, IGES had launched a website for AP-PLAT capacity development. During COP26 in Glasgow last year, IGES together with MOEJ and NIES organized outreach activities at the Japan Pavilion. Under MOEJ’s commissioned work, IGES is now developing the publication “Capacity Development for Climate Change

Adaptation in International Cooperation” which we intend to present and receive feedback from the participants. Earlier last year, IGES reached out to multiple agencies to ask experts to provide their comments for the table of contents and story line of the publication and conducted a capacity development mapping interview. Hence, the purposes for the consultation meeting are as follows:

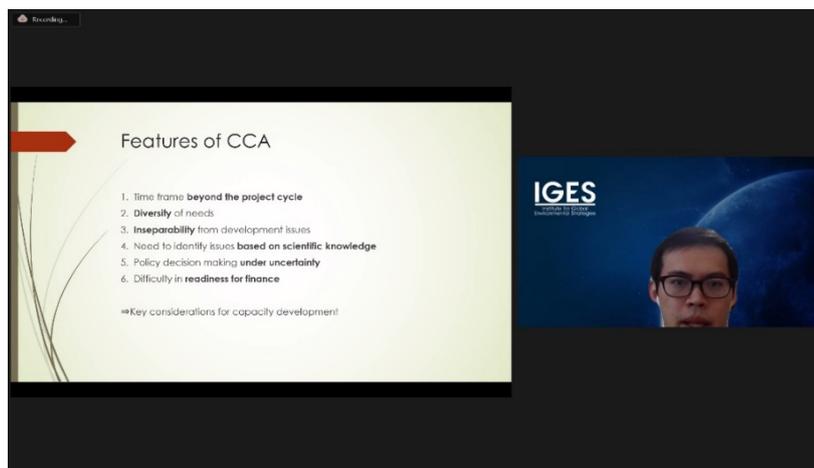
1. To present the draft of publication and seek feedback from experts in the meeting, and

2. To present the result of mapping analysis of ongoing training programs on adaptation in Asia.

4. Consultation Session on the Draft Publication: Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation in International Cooperation

This publication was formulated based on the urgent need to strengthen the adaptive capacity of developing countries in the context of international cooperation. However, we appear to lack a common understanding of capacity development in the context of climate change adaptation in international cooperation. Hence, MOEJ intends to nurture a common understanding with this new publication.

Considering this background, this publication discusses the definition of capacity development for climate change adaptation in international cooperation. Climate change adaptation (CCA) is an administrative effort to tackle urgent adaptation issues diffused over different time scales, namely the earth system, anthropogenic climate change, and development administration, with risk reduction measures that are highly specific to each region and context. This is a "tricky issue" that cannot be eliminated from the uncertainties inherent in the scientific knowledge on which policy decisions are based.



- The publication defines the "capacities" required for a local government officer in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region, ranging from planning to coordination of funds needed to implement adaptation measures, with the aim of providing a framework for the continuing challenges and cooperation needs. For the purpose of this definition, we assume that the local government officers in developing countries in need of capacity development are technicians in charge of

climate change and disaster risk management working for autonomous governmental organizations in medium-sized local cities in the least developed countries (LDCs) of Asia, where decentralization has progressed to some extent.

- Definition of "Capacity Development" for CCA in International Cooperation
 - "Capacity" - Capacity to solve their uncertain, long-lasting and infinite challenges of climate change adaptation, by understanding the necessary scientific knowledge, identifying urgent issues, and mainstreaming adaptation measures and arrange finance.
 - "Capacity development" is a process in which the international community supports not only individuals but also organizations and systems by sharing of knowledge and expertise so that local government officers can strengthen their own "capacity"

The technical skills required for the design and implementation of adaptation measures are not included in the scope of this document. This following figure is a summary of the core contribution of this publication in relation to capacity development.

No	Key features of climate change adaptation	Capacity expected of government officers
1	Time frame beyond the project cycle	Capacity to correctly handle different time frames in science and government respectively
2	Diversity of needs	Capacity to respond to community vulnerabilities in an integrated manner
3	Inseparability from development issues	Capacity to mainstream adaptation into relevant policies
4	Need to identify issues based on scientific knowledge	Capacity to understand the implications of the scientific findings underlying the issue identification
5	Policy decision making under uncertainty	Capacity to flexibly introduce adaptive measures in a sequential manner under uncertainty
6	Difficulty in readiness for finance	Capacity to envision and mobilize funding for climate-resilient communities

5. Comments and Suggestions from Participants

1. Who are the expected readers/audience of this publication?
2. What are additional points from what other organizations like the Pacific Climate Change Centre are doing or framed? Is capacity development already included in most NAPs and NDCs?
3. Why does this publication focus on international cooperation? What is the relevance of the publication in the context of discussion for climate change adaptation under the UNFCCC?

4. How does this publication choose 6 elements?
5. It is suggested that this publication can focus on identifying the level of capacity development, steps and processes, and thinking of adaptation options in each sector.
6. On the issue of how to measure capacity development. Traditionally, capacity development or capacity strengthening has been very difficult to measure at institutional level or individual level. The question is whether or not this definition actually helps us move towards a better framework for measuring capacity development.
7. On the proposed definition of capacity development, has traditional/ indigenous knowledge been already incorporated?
8. What strategy will this publication use to make people understand this definition? People may have different understanding based on their own experience.
9. How do we enable local officers to use available knowledge including indigenous knowledge into CCA decision making processes?
10. What is intended outcome of this publication? If we understand the outcome, it helps us to develop theory change, indicators, etc.
11. How does this document link with the global goal on adaptation in terms of enhancing adaptive capacity, resilience and reducing vulnerabilities?
12. How do we address issues of equity, social equity, and adaptive capacity, because that's also fundamental to why people are vulnerable and groups and communities are unable to adapt? It's not just a question of lack of knowledge, it's also a question about being powerless. So maybe that's an important issue to take into consideration, because a lot of adaptation discussions are geared towards the needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups and communities.

Knowledge Exchange Session: Taking a Snapshot of Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation in Asia-Pacific

Mapping Exercise

Throughout this session, the facilitators (Ms. Nagisa Shiiba, Policy Researcher, and Dr. Binaya Raj Shivakoti, Senior Policy Researcher) used Google Jamboard for a capacity mapping exercise to understand the activities and initiatives of partner organizations and encouraged interactive discussions with participants. The mapping exercise covered targets of capacity building, approaches of capacity development along the spectrum of science, policy, and community interface, and modes and targeted adaptation processes. One common gap identified in the mapping exercise was inadequate capacity development programs targeting the community level or bottom-up approaches.

Prior to this workshop, IGES had conducted online interviews with key partner organizations to have a better understanding on their ongoing and planned activities. The objective of gap analysis was to map out the future direction of AP-PLAT and provide a snapshot of capacity development for climate change adaptation in the future.

The results of this session are laid out in 3 figures below;

1. Modality & Targeted Process

	Assessment	Planning	Financing	Implementation	Monitoring
Field-based Learning	Himalayan University Consortium		APN		
Coaching -Training program -Consultation -Workshop	ICIMOD APN KEI			ICIMOD APN	KEI RRC.AP
Self-Learning -Hands-on tools -E-learning course -Guidance	UNESCAP Himalayan University Consortium RRC.AP IGES			UNEP CAP UNEP	

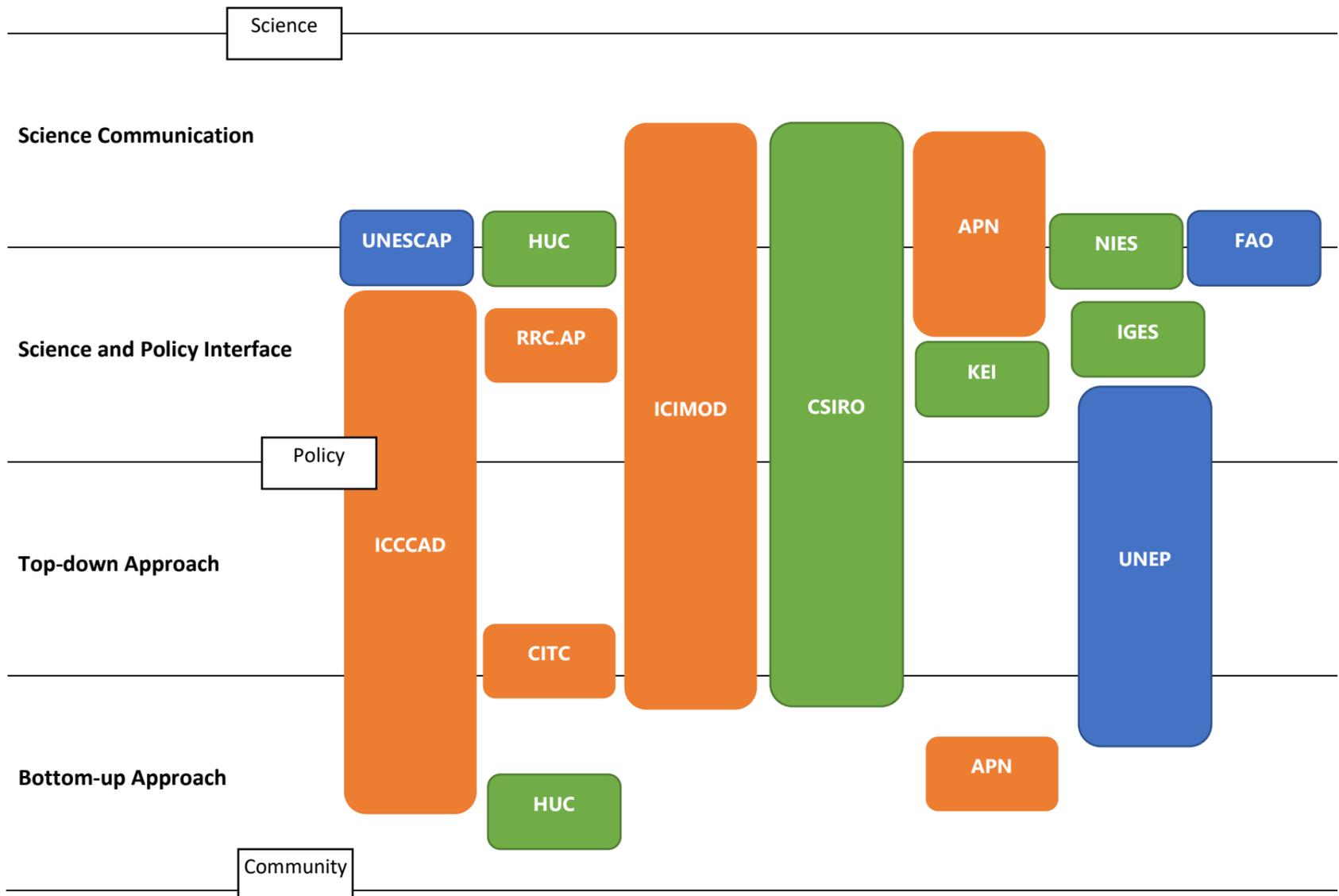
Multilateral Agency

Regional Agency

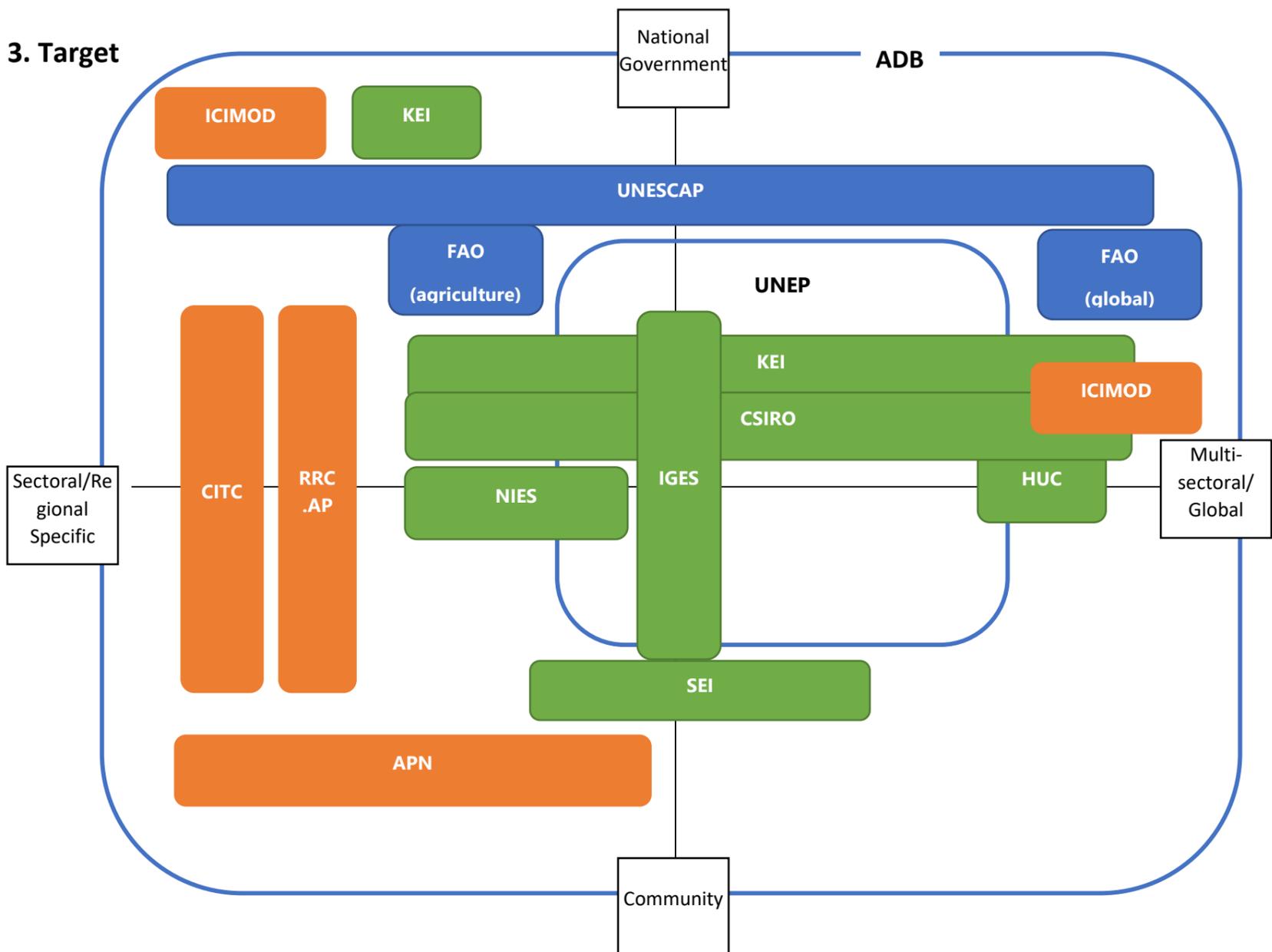
Think-tank/ Academia

Category

2. Approach



3. Target



Guiding Questions for interactive discussion

1. Are there any missing aspects on the mapping frameworks?
2. What are the opportunities for improving capacity development across the science-policy-community interface?
3. How to blend the identified three approaches of capacity development (e.g., self-learning, coaching, field-based learning) for better impact generation at multiple levels?
4. Since there is a strong need to promote enduring capacity development, can we identify immediate priority actions for that?
5. Given the discussion we have so far, how can this partnership facilitate capacity development in a collaborative and complementary manner?

Comments from participants

1. The first question was about ensuring a long-term enduring capacity development program. It is important to identify a national institution to host the whole capacity building activities because from past experience, governments used to have many different training institutions, but the problem was finding accessible training modules and funding. Some training activities did not build up the level of expertise as expected and were not suitable for the need. To sustain this, we need financial and technical support and this support must be part of a long-term commitment, so that it is possible to measure the effectiveness of the programs over time. Also, it is noted that peer-to-peer exchange within stronger networks is important.
2. It is interesting to see the gap in terms of field level capacity building. Although the COVID situation has certainly had a major influence in relation to that, we should always remember that adaptation is almost always local. It is important to establish local climate champions at the field level to ensure last mile capacity building.
3. One suggestion is to explore opportunities/options to maintain the necessary resources and knowledge and to employ them for a sufficiently long period of time
4. We need to locate/work with national level training institutes who could act as local hubs. We also need a multi-disciplinary approach. We need consistent engagement and networking among capacity development providers as well as recipients. This is where the facilitative role of IGES or AP-PLAT is highly desirable.
5. Another suggestion is to create some kind of networking platform. If AP-PLAT can facilitate such a network platform, it will be very good for not only monitoring what is happening but also for cross learning.
6. We also need to engage more with youth as a new generation of climate leaders.

Next steps

IGES will put together the relevant documents and will distribute them as soon as possible, namely: 1) a summary report of the event including final agenda, participant list and presentation materials, 2) a final product of Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation in International Cooperation, and 3) results of the Mapping Exercise.

AP-PLAT Consultation Meeting Agenda

MC: Mr. Chatthep Chanyam, Climate Change Technical Officer, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Time	Programme
Opening Session (30 min)	
11:00 – 11:10	Opening Remarks by Mr. Genichiro Tsukada, Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office, Ministry of Environment of Japan (MOEJ)
11:10 – 11:30	Purpose of the workshop by Mr. Tetsuo Kuyama, Director of Bangkok Regional Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
11:30 – 11:35	Group Photo
Consultation Session on the Draft Publication:” Capacity Development” for Climate Change Adaptation in International Cooperation (50 min)	
11:35 – 12:15	Explanation of draft contents of the publication by Naoyuki Okano, Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
12:15 – 12:25	Inputs from participants
12:25 – 12:30	Break (5 min)
Knowledge Exchange Session: Taking a Snapshot of Capacity Development for Climate Change Adaptation in Asia-Pacific (65 min)	
12:30 – 13:00	Mapping exercise by Nagisa Shiiba, Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
13:00 – 13:20	Open Discussion facilitated by Binaya Raj SHIVAKOTI, Senior Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
13:20 – 13:25	Reflection by Tetsuo Kuyama, Director of Bangkok Regional Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Closing Remark by Mr. Osamu Mizuno, Programme Director, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)	

List of Participants

No	Name	Position	Organization
1	Phurba Lhendup	Head, Climate Change Cluster	AIT Regional Resource Centre for Asia and Pacific (RRC.AP)
2	Naoya Tsukamoto	Director of RRC AP	AIT Regional Resource Centre for Asia and Pacific (RRC.AP)
3	Srinivasan Ancha	Principal Climate Change Specialist	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
4	Yukihiro Imanari	Program Advisor	Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
5	Reiko Tamura	Senior Program Officer	Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
6	Nafesa Ismail	Program Officer	Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
7	Linda Anne Stevenson	Head of KM&SA, Deputy Head D&IA	Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
8	Geoff Gooley	Program Manager	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia
9	Hideki Kanamaru	Climate Change Officer	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
10	Mizan Khan	Deputy Director	International Centre for Climate Change and Development
11	Neera Shrestha Pradhan	Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist/Programme Coordinator	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
12	Chi Truong	Secretariat Lead and Programme Coordinator	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

13	Mitomori Kohji	Director	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
14	Hanna Cho	Research Fellow	Korean Environment Institute
15	Leejin Kim	Senior Researcher	Korean Environment Institute
16	Sakata Slavka	Climate Change Adaptation Coordinator	National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)
17	Akiko Miyatsuka	Climate Change Adaptation Coordinator	National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)
18	Maki Shibuya	Climate Change Adaptation Coordinator	National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)
19	Ofa Kaisamy	Manager	Pacific Climate Change Centre
20	Masako Ogawa	Advisor	Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC)
21	Albert Salamanca	Senior Research Fellow	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
22	Thawatchai Saengkhamasuk	Director of Capacity Building and Outreach Office	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO)
23	Thitinat Sakranukit	Climate Change Officer	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO)
24	Anna Kilponen	Regional Liaison Officer for Asia-Pacific, Global Adaptation Network (GAN)	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
25	Helene Marre	APAN Coordinator	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
26	Madhurima Swaisgood	Economic Affairs Officer	UNESCAP
27	Maria Dewi	Consultant	UNESCAP - UNITAR
28	Sanjay Srivastava	Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction	UNESCAP
29	Sapna Dubey	Consultant	UNESCAP
30	Sung Eun Kim	Economic Affairs Officer	UNESCAP
31	Genichiro Tsukada	Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office	Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ)

32	Tomonori Orita	Climate Change Adaptation Specialist	Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
33	Yuko Yoshida	Deputy Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office	Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
34	Akane Matsuo	Policy Researcher	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
35	Binaya Shivakoti	Senior Adaptation Specialist	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
36	Chatthep Chanyam	Climate Change Technical Officer	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
37	Miyako Culshaw-Ishii	Project Officer	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
38	Nagisa Shiiba	Policy Researcher	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
39	Naoyuki Okano	Policy Researcher	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
40	Osamu Mizuno	Programme Director	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
41	Peter King	Senior Policy Advisor	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
42	Ridronachai Warungkarasami	Logistics Manager	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
43	Tetsuo Kuyama	Director of Bangkok Regional Centre	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)