



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2015

Global Targets

Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

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International Conference Session 1:

A Decade of Partnerships in Sustainable Development of the Seas of East Asia: Synergies and Achievements

Workshop 1 Conclusions and Recommendations: Managing Risks in Climate Change in the Seas of East Asia

Prepared by Mr. N.M.S.I. Arambepola, Director, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Workshop Chair, with the assistance of Mr. Danilo Bonga and Ms. Daisy Padayao, PEMSEA, based on workshop presentations, moderated panel discussions and interactions between panellists and participants.

Workshop Focus

1. East Asian Seas (EAS) countries in the previous Congresses (2009 and 2012) made commitments to address climate change and disaster risk reduction and management. It is an opportune time during 2015 Congress to re-visit progress that has been made to advance specific actions for managing risks across the Seas of East Asia region.
2. Over the years, the region has seen the explosive growth in knowledge and information on the impacts and risks, which were translated as policy changes and practice in CCA and DRR, including the scaling up ICM.
3. Policy and management changes considered by EAS countries to reduce impacts due to CCA and DRR now need to align with post-2015 frameworks of three important international instruments, namely, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change discussions at the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP 21) in Paris.
4. The 2-day workshop articulated valuable lessons learned and new ways of looking at climate change and disaster risks as more than just external shocks but symptomatic of the

continuing accumulation of risks driven by economic and development plans, policies and actions.

5. The EAS countries have observed knowledge gaps, needs in capacity development and financing and investment needs and the workshop identified approaches to address them adequately.

Workshop Conclusions:

6. Adapting to climate change and disasters cannot be decoupled from development and management of coastal and marine areas.
7. Countries in the region should undertake efforts to improve capacity to adapt. Integrating and institutionalizing CCA and DRRM into country level sustainable coastal management and development frameworks are necessary.
8. Managing risks is a priority. Necessary mechanisms and actions should be in place to address the gaps, challenges and overcome constraints.

Workshop Recommendations:

9. Commitments from the three international agenda, namely, the Sendai Framework, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the discussions emerging from United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), need to be institutionalized through integration in to national policies and practices in the countries.
10. Programs developed under the framework of SDS-SEA should target opportunities for capacity enhancement, knowledge and sharing of experiences.
11. Scaling up ICM is an important action agenda that should be embraced by the EAS countries. It requires integration at all levels of government, sectors, and disciplines.
12. In the implementation of the ADAPT Strategy, it is necessary to set appropriate and more specific targets.
13. Program implementation, research and development should be undertaken through multi-country and multi-agency collaborative efforts.
14. Replication of good practices need to suit the specific country needs, and should be considered in capacity building and knowledge transfer efforts.
15. Knowledge products need be developed based on working models and good practices available to facilitate sharing and replication.
16. Post disaster recovery efforts need to create risk-based land use plans and development.