

ISAP2014

第6回 持続可能なアジア太平洋に関する国際フォーラム
The Sixth International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific

2014

23 July Wed | 24 July Thu

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Session Summary

Bringing Regional Voices to the Post-2015 Development Agenda:

Solutions for a Low-carbon, Resilient and Inclusive Asia-Pacific

IGES



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
UNU-IAS
Institute for the Advanced Study
of Sustainability

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DAY 1

23 July

P-1 Accelerating Low Carbon, Resilient and Inclusive Development in the Region: Implications of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report for Asia

10:00 – 12:20 23 July 2014

Climate change is posing substantial threats to both present and future generations, and action must be taken not only to mitigate but also to adapt to its impacts. With its significant economic expansion and huge population, Asia has seen an increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. If a carbon intensive development pattern continues, Asia will account for about 50% of global GHG emissions by 2050. In that sense, there has been growing importance in low-carbon development in Asia. Leading experts on climate change and sustainable development were invited to this session to discuss how Asia can lead the world into a sustainable future, fully taking into consideration the implications of the Fifth Assessment Report of IPCC.

Rajendra K. Pachauri mentioned that sustainable development should meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. He stated that in order to ensure a resilient and sustainable pathway for humanity at large, interaction among climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk management is important.

Shuzo Nishioka stated that unless we completely eliminate emissions, temperatures will continue to increase. Japan must take a path to reduce emissions by 85% using deep decarbonisation and is now at the turning point for transformation.

Rintaro Tamaki explained that establishing better policies is necessary to achieve a successful transition to a low-carbon economy. He indicated four key policy approaches for low-carbon transition.

Emil Salim mentioned that economic growth with low GHG emissions is possible and added that cooperation among Asian countries through technological innovation, and development in carbon capture storage and clean coal development are also important for ensuring the transition to low-carbon societies.

Abdul Hamid Zakri spoke of the need for implementation of policy, institution arrangement and governance, which can utilise existing national institutions as well as management of a common pool of resources in the ecosystem. He emphasised that communication and education are fundamental to achieving decarbonisation.

Akimasa Sumi stated that it is necessary to obtain support from people to ensure the success of sustainable development. He added that there is a need to show successful concrete examples of overcoming the barriers against addressing climate change and to establish detailed action plans by using various scientific tools.

Ligia Noronha focused on two issues that are of particular concern to UNEP - financing change, and sustainable consumption and production, and also called for international and regional cooperation to create employment, improve the environment and reduce risks.

Key messages of the session

- A stable climate is one component of sustainable development. Climate change is posing substantial threats to both present and future generations, and action must be taken not only to mitigate but also to adapt to its impacts.
- The global climate system could be impacted by Asian development patterns as Asian countries pursue their development path.
- Successful transition to a low-carbon economy needs better policies than now, such as financial policies that lead to low-carbon development.
- Economic growth with low GHG emissions is possible in Asia. Countries in the region need to revisit their development patterns and also work together for low-carbon development, such in innovation of low-carbon technologies.

Reported by Takako Ono, Takako Wakiyama and Emma Fushimi, IGES

IGES' forthcoming Fifth White Paper "Greening Integration in Asia: How Regional Integration Can Benefit People and the Environment", discusses how regional integration in Asia and the Pacific could be a driver for sustainable development. The current regional integration processes in the region are focusing on economic integration through trade and investment liberalisation. The White Paper provides input to the discussion on what kind of regional integration amongst Asian nations would be beneficial, not only in the short term and from the narrow viewpoint of national interests, but from a wider sustainability perspective. This session aimed to present key messages of the White Paper with a general audience and to receive feedback from the discussant – Ms. Ella Antonio of the Earth Council.

The session had four presentations from IGES researchers who are contributing authors of the White Paper. The first presentation introduced the overall idea and structure of the publication, described some unsustainable regional trends and emphasised the role of regional policy processes, as an important complement to national and global policy making. The second presentation highlighted some key challenges related to the forest sector and described how regional collaboration, especially on timber certification, could help improve the situation. The third presentation underlined the significance of climate friendly technologies and the need for trans-border technology transfer. A three-stage model for technology transfer was introduced together with a set of recommendations on how regional integration could help address key obstacles. The fourth and final presentation explained the structure of ASEAN and discussed how this regional integration framework could become more effective to facilitate sustainable development in member countries.

In the discussion part, the overall ideas and messages of the White Paper were enthusiastically supported by Ms. Antonio. However, she pointed out the need for some recommendations to be further elaborated, especially with regards to how they can be put into practice. She also underscored the significant progress made by ASEAN and the need for the White Paper to take notice of these achievements. Finally, she emphasised that the key to reforming Asia's regional integration is to go through governments in the member countries.

Key messages of the session

Asia is developing rapidly but unsustainably. Currently, regional cooperation and integration processes contribute only marginally to addressing these undesirable trends. However, as argued in the White Paper, joint action at the regional level holds considerable potential to complement and strengthen country level efforts. The White Paper provides recommendations under three headings: (i) Make trade and investment work for sustainable development, (ii) Strengthen and refocus regional institutions, and (iii) Build capacity at national and sub-national levels.

Reported by Magnus Bengtsson, with input from Mark Elder, Programme Management Office, IGES

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PL-1 Launch of the Japan 2050 Low Carbon Navigator: Navigating toward Low Carbon Societies

14:00 – 15:30 23 July 2014

This was the launch session of the Japan 2050 Low Carbon Navigator (a Japanese version of the UK 2050 Pathways Calculator), jointly developed by IGES and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES). The session not only introduced the Japan 2050 Low Carbon Navigator, but also shared lessons learnt from the UK 2050 Pathways Calculator. In the panel discussion, speakers from different areas such as education, NGOs, local government and research institute discussed ways by which the 2050 Low Carbon Navigator can be used and convey their expectations for this tool. **Prof. Hironori Hamanaka**, Chair of the Board of Directors of IGES, moderated the session.

In the opening remarks, **Mr. Nobuhiro Kino** (Ministry of the Environment, Japan) emphasised the significance of the Low Carbon Navigator in the current context of Japan. **Mr. Richard Oppenheim** (British Embassy Tokyo) reiterated his support for the Low Carbon Navigator, and expressed his expectation that the Low Carbon Navigator would be widely used in Japan in the same way as it is in the UK.

Prof. Shuzo Nishioka (LCS-RNet/ LoCARNet / IGES) addressed the relevance of 2050 Low Carbon Navigator within the context of the limited time available for stabilising the climate at the national and global levels. Referring to Japan's 80% emissions reduction targets, Prof. Nishioka stressed that Japan needs a drastic transformation to break away from high energy and carbon dependent society. He vividly presented the current energy flows in Japan and explained various measures that Japan has and/or needs to undertake to transform into a low-carbon society.

Dr. Xin Zhou (IGES) introduced the Japan 2050 Low Carbon Navigator to the audience. Her presentation started with an overview of the Low Carbon Navigator, its background, the rationale of its development as well as the processes followed during the development, and what type of questions it can address. Dr. Zhou also demonstrated the Low Carbon Navigator, explained its structure and level settings, and how it works. She also presented several example pathways under different levels settings and under various assumptions.

Dr. Jan Ole Kiso (UK DECC) explained how the 2050 Calculator can work as a platform for energy-literate debate. He observed that in the context of the UK, the open-source, Excel model of the 2050 Calculator engages experts, whereas the web tool informs policymakers about likely outcomes under different scenarios. Following that, he addressed the core issue of the session: how the 2050 Calculator influenced UK's policy debates and formulation. Dr. Kiso stated that the 2050 Calculator helps the audience in understanding what matters in the overall debate concerning the future of UK energy and emissions, including the impact of moving away from nuclear energy, the impact of choices such as increased use of bioenergy, UK's grid decarbonisation targets, the role of gas, and impacts on energy security.

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In the panel discussion a group of representatives from academia, NGOs and local government discussed how they expect the Low Carbon Navigator to be used. **Prof. Hironori Hamanaka (IGES)**, who facilitated the panel discussion, asked the discussants to try out the tool by making their own choices and inform the audience the reasons behind their selection. **Prof. Kazuo Matsushita (IGES)** showed his choices on the demand side of residential, commercial and industrial sectors and stressed his selections reflect the importance of carbon pricing in achieving Japan's 80% reduction targets. **Mr. Naoyukki Yamagashi** (WWF Japan) underscored the significance of renewable energy sources in achieving this target, while **Ms. Miho Nakajima** (Kawasaki City) focused on the demand side, in particular transport. **Prof. Masaharu Yagishita** (Sophia University) followed Japan's current government's expected plan of keeping the country's nuclear potential, whereas **Dr. Shuichi Ashina** (NIES) combined all the choices made by the panellists to make one low-carbon pathway, focusing on the society scenarios to keep a balance between supply and demand.

The second part of the panel discussion centred on the utilisation of the Low Carbon Navigator. A number of important insights came from the panellists. **Prof. Matsushita** said that he believes the Low Carbon Navigator can serve as an educational tool which will revitalise students' thinking in future debates on climate change. Replying to **Prof. Hamanaka's** question about its use at the local level, **Ms. Nakajima** also echoed **Prof. Matsushita's** proposal that it can be very useful for environmental education at the local level. **Mr. Yamagashi** expressed his views from an NGO perspective, where he held that the Low Carbon Navigator will help in discussion and debates particularly about renewable and other energy-related scenarios. However, he also expressed his doubts about the low level of potential for renewables set in the current version of the Navigator. **Prof. Yagishita** expressed his belief that it can be a useful tool for promoting participatory approaches in energy-related debates. **Dr. Ashina** observed that the next step could be to develop a local level Navigator for Kawasaki City. **Prof. Hamanaka** thanked the panellists for their interesting and useful ideas about the use and further improvement of the Low Carbon Navigator.

Dr. Tsuyoshi Fujita (NIES) provided the closing remarks of the session. He applauded the Low Carbon Navigator, mentioning that its simple and easy-to-use visual interface will allow for engaging the general public in energy-related discussions, which is very important for Japan's journey toward a low-carbon society by 2050.

Reported by Mustafa Moinuddin, Green Economy Area, IGES

In response to the increase in damages caused by climate change and large-scale natural disasters cities across Asia are increasingly focusing on resiliency. The session focused on research conducted by IGES in collaboration with the Universities of Nagoya, Hosei and Osaka on city efforts to not only maintain city functions supporting social and economic systems during a disaster but also on measures to maintain an energy supply and ways to transition urban structure. Actions to accelerate national and local implementation of the resilient policy measures and promote resiliency cities were discussed alongside efforts undertaken by international organisations and programmes such as UNISDR, ICLEI and APAN.

Resiliency is becoming a more important component of city planning, however implementation within Asian cities remains mixed, with funding, technology, institutional and capacity gaps as well as low political commitment being visible. Such gaps can be offset to a certain degree through community based work and efforts to raise awareness and build links within and between communities. Although climate change adaptation is a theme within Japan, much of the focus on resiliency is on disaster risk reduction following the Hanshin and Tohoku Earthquakes (1995 and 2011 respectively). Japanese research themes assessed policy frameworks, energy resiliency and risk-based resiliency management which has highlighted gaps in the current approach and identify some good practices and lessons learned. Whilst local governments have been engaged to some extent, there is still a lack of integration between the work undertaken by local government, academia, international organisations and city networks with work often being in parallel rather than fully integrated. With almost two further years of the project to run there are further opportunities for expansion of the scope of the project.

Key messages of the session

- Various methodologies for resiliency are being developed in a scientific manner. However how these methodologies can be effectively shared is still under consideration
- Resiliency work is happening in parallel in cities, city networks, international organisations and academia. It is necessary to further integrate these insights to maximise resources and raise capacity and awareness.
- Target setting and post-disaster visions of regions need to be considered to enable communities to fully recover from disaster.
- The role of eco-systems in resiliency is only now starting to be more fully considered, this aspect needs a greater role
- Following the Tohoku Earthquake, the role of communities and relations was acknowledged within Japan as vital for the recovery of the area, where voluntary action as had a large impact. Community-based work is a vital component of resiliency and cannot be ignored.
- Resiliency is starting to find its roots in cities, but needs further support and development to flourish.
- Japanese cities have good examples in developing national/local policies, visions and planning, tools and guidelines for risk assessment, education/awareness programmes, and technologies in line with building resilient cities
- These experiences and lessons learned can be shared with needy cities in Asia through city-to-city exchange and coordination among international platforms (UNISDR, ICLEI, APAN).
- How to define the concept of resilient cities needs more discussion
- Making short-term and long-term goals, implementation plans and ensuring regular monitoring are essential for building resilient cities
- In achieving this, not only is the hardware and software approach applicable, but also heart-ware (friendship, voluntarism) is important according to the Japanese experience in Tohoku revitalisation programmes.
- All these can be achieved, if cities have good leadership and political commitment.

Reported by Simon Gilby, Sustainable Cities Area, IGES

PL-3 Bringing SLCPs and PM_{2.5} into Integrated Air Pollution and Climate Change Strategies in Asia: Linking Science, Models, and Action

14:00 – 15:30 23 July 2014

Following a series of high-profile reports from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 2011, both governments and researchers have paid a growing amount of attention to air pollutant species known as short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs). SLCPs—such as black carbon, tropospheric ozone, and methane—can destabilise climate systems while degrading air quality over relatively short atmospheric lifetimes. In fact, international initiatives such as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) have been formed to help catalyse action on SLCPs. However, taking action on SLCPs often requires strong linkages between science, modelling and policy. This session, therefore, was held with an aim to familiarise the audience with science, modelling and policies related to SLCPs and other atmospheric pollutants.

Dr. Zusman offered a framing presentation that helped familiarise the audience with SLCPs, why they are important to Asia, and why it has been difficult to mitigate SLCPs in Asia.

Dr. Akimoto underlined that as simultaneous reductions of NO_x/NMVOC emissions are more appropriate than mitigation scenarios focusing solely on the SLCPs (and the methane precursors of ozone) in Asia, a co-control approach in Asia should target the reduction not only of CH₄ but also of NO_x/NMVOC.

Dr. Masui concentrated on quantifying the costs and benefits of chiefly low-carbon strategies and showed that air quality co-benefits can significantly offset costs upon simulation results. More work will be needed to look at the complementarities between low-carbon and SLCP mitigation strategies.

Mr. Fujita introduced Japan's future activities to address air pollution issues in Asia by highlighting the importance of a regional cooperative programme with Clean Air Asia and UNEP.

Professor Suzuki emphasised the importance of science-policy interface and need for an epistemic science community in Asia. He then explained the proposal on Asia Science Panel for Air Quality (ASPAQ).

Mr. Iyengar provided an overview of how recognition of SLCP and UNEP's related programmes has evolved over the years and noted that more consolidated work to convey one science voice to policy makers is needed.

Dr. Hicks provided views from a broader international perspective. He outlined the activities of CCAC, and the significant steps to international cooperation to reduce SLCPs.

During the Q&A session, one of the questions raised was about the reliability of health impact estimates. Responses from the panelists included: the challenges of transferability of epidemiological studies to other regions, various effects of the pollutants not only cardiovascular but also cancerous, and socio-economic factors.

Key messages of the session

- The health, agricultural and climate benefits of mitigating SLCPs are several orders of magnitude greater in Asia than other regions. A stronger interface between science, models, and policy will help realise these benefits.
- In terms of science, there is a need to tailor work on SLCPs to the needs of stakeholders in Asia; this requires working on methane and non-methane precursors of ozone.
- In terms of modelling, there is a need to look at the relationship between low-carbon and SLCP reduction strategies.
- In terms of policy, new modelling and science can be used to strengthen existing regional cooperation frameworks.

PL-4 Stakeholder Communication for Informed Decisions: Lessons from and for the Displaced Communities of Fukushima

14:00-16:00, 23 July 2014

The aim of the UNU-IGES joint session is to promote an exchange of views between the two projects and to draw in relevant international expertise on the role of and the challenges pertaining to stakeholder communication in facilitating informed decisions and policy-making. On the one hand, it draws on experiences from Fukushima to highlight the critical junctures where there is room for improving stakeholder communication and information provision. On the other hand, the session draws on international experiences from other disasters to understand how such critical junctures could be addressed effectively in the policy-making process. In this sense, the objective of this session is to draw on both the lessons from as well as for the displaced communities of Fukushima.

Prof. Takeuchi, Senior Vice-Rector, UNU, provided opening remarks, during which he explained that the session would focus on multi-stakeholder communication and informed decision-making. He emphasized that consideration would also be paid to what we can learn from the experiences in Fukushima.

Mr. Kanno, Mayor of Iitate Village, spoke about his role in making decisions and leading the evacuation of the entire village of Iitate. He took into consideration both the people's living conditions as well as the potential for future rehabilitation of the village in his decision to evacuate to locations within one hour of the village.

Prof. Suzuki, IGES fellow, provided insights into the nuclear accident and the recovery process, which differs from post-disaster recovery from natural events. He also stressed the importance of local roundtables as a platform to facilitate stakeholder dialogue and informed decision-making.

Dr. Sekiya, Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, spoke about the lack of an investigation on evacuation activities during the emergency period, although there was proper investigation of the nuclear power plant accident. He stressed that one lesson from the post-disaster evacuation was the importance of nuclear disaster risk reduction.

Dr. Tsutsumi, Research Fellow, UNU-IIGH, spoke about the connections between disasters and mental health. He pointed out issues related to the lack of standardised information being provided by the scientific community during emergencies, e.g. political conflicts arising due to advice from individual experts.

Key messages of the session

The rehabilitation of livelihoods after the nuclear power plant accident will be a long-term process. Local roundtables with balanced representation were proposed as an information platform and a mechanism for improving stakeholder communication and informed decision-making. It is also important to accumulate local and grassroots level good practices for rehabilitation of livelihoods, and to share this information with the public. A number of lessons learnt were also shared, including the need for the development of nuclear disaster risk reduction, based on experiences gathered in Fukushima with emergency evacuations.

Reported by Yoshiaki Totoki, Sustainable Consumption and Production Area, IGES

PL-5 International Climate Regime in 2020 and Initiatives in Asia: Mitigation Actions and Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) System

15:45-17:15, 23 July 2014

This session discussed the current status and the future challenges for international climate change and its impacts on developing countries' mitigation policies and actions with special reference to Indonesia. The presentations were made on international climate regime, mitigation actions and environmental challenges of Indonesia at the national as well as local levels, and new research on measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) system in Indonesia.

Following the presentations, panel discussion addressed the three questions, namely, 1) What is the impact of evolving international climate regime on developing countries' mitigation actions at the national and the local levels?; 2) How can national and local environmental initiatives be enhanced through international cooperation? and 3) What are the challenges and the way forward for developing countries to enhance their mitigation action in a measureable, reportable and verifiable manner?

To begin the session, the moderator, Mr. Naoya Tsukamoto, Principal Researcher/ Secretary General at IGES, introduced the objective of the session and raised several points on MRV and climate policy in Asia.

Dr. Kentaro Tamura, Area Leader, Climate and Energy Area, IGES, explain the current situation of international negotiations under the UNFCCC and topics such as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and MRV. He mentioned that there were several types of NAMAs, which were submitted by many countries and that MRV systems are different depending on the specific policy purpose of NAMAs.

Ms. Vinda Damayanti Ansjar, Head, Division of Environmental Sound Technology, Standardization and Technology, Ministry of Environment, Indonesia, introduced the background and the current status of climate change policy related to the MRV in the context of environmentally sound technology (EST). She stressed that it was important to set up technology benchmarking for registration and verification under the EST.

Prof. Rizaldi Boer, Executive Director, Center for Climate Risk and Opportunity Management in Southeast Asia and Pacific, Bogor Agriculture University, Indonesia, shared the RAN/RAD GRK (climate change action plan in Indonesia) and relevant guidelines and processes for future MRV systems. He emphasised that there were spectral challenges on MRV issue such as reliable baseline, capacity building for inventory and data collection and development of relevant tools.

Prof. Tsuyoshi Fujita, Director, Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), introduced his research plan to disseminate an integrative modelling (AIM model) for low-carbon society in Indonesia. He stated that the monitoring system to be developed under this research activity could become part of the infrastructure to support local governments in terms of enhancing data reliability. Dr. Yasuko Kameyama, Head, Sustainable Social Systems Section, Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, NIES, raised several points for facilitating the discussion. Her question was related to the possible future agreement under the UNFCCC and she asked speakers what kind of contexts such as co-benefit and poverty eradication etc. would be needed for any future agreement.

Key messages of the session

- MRV of mitigation actions will provide an opportunity in terms of multiple benefits such as GHG emissions reductions and sustainable development. Challenges include incentives and costs to promote the advanced technology to the industrial sector, especially Small and Medium Enterprises.
- MRV is an important subject because there are several types of NAMAs. In order to develop a new MRV system which can meet international standards, it is important to consider the customisation of its system while taking into consideration the national circumstances in developing countries.

Reported by Kentaro Takahashi, Climate and Energy Area, IGES

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.

Reported by Isao Endo and Muneyuki Nakata, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services Area, IGES

PL-7 Setting the Direction for Adaptive Development: The Urgent Need to Achieve a Sustainable Asia-Pacific

15:45 – 17:15 23 July 2014

Adaptive development is a newly emerging field that attempts to link the concepts of sustainable development, climate change adaptation and risk governance into one paradigm. It is a field that could be used for achieving a sustainable Asia-Pacific in the context of the emerging needs and challenges in the region. Adaptive development (AD) is a critical endeavour for the future well-being of people in the region and throughout the world. The presentations discussed the overall theme of AD, its relevance in policy making, as well as field-based approaches to research and learning for AD. The session aimed to identify further means for mobilising academic and research communities in pragmatic knowledge production for addressing these emerging issues

Dr. Kazuo Yamamoto, Vice President of AIT, provided the keynote speech addressing the importance of networking as well as the need for a deepening knowledge accompanied by breakthrough technology at each networking node. Prof. Wanglin Yang of Keio University presented on transdisciplinarity in the context of student work on Project Based Learning (PBL) from different disciplines and how such an approach can be incorporated into the university curriculum. He explained the concept of AD and suggested that it is a pathway to the realisation of the goals of the 'Future Earth' initiative. He pointed out the existing gap between AD research and practice, and suggested that PBL is one effective way to bridge scientific knowledge and practice. Discussing whether adaptive policies are necessarily effective policies in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction governance, Dr. Prabhakar S.V.R.K. of IGES presented research to identify adaptive policies and the effects of such responses. He addressed the questions of 1) how soon policies were introduced, 2) how frequently the policies underwent change, and 3) how effective the policies were in achieving their objectives. The study concluded that not all adaptive policies serve as effective policies, and that effective policies were dependent on a wider set of factors. A move from reactive governance towards predictive governance was proposed. Prof. P.K. Joshi of TERI University discussed pragmatic knowledge generation as a precursor to PBL and action research, and he examined different ways in which knowledge is generated. Important aspects in knowledge generation include capacity building in the form of thinking skills, critical thinking (using visual thinking), self-traits and thinking steps. He stressed the need for a knowledge revolution comprising the following elements: increased qualification of knowledge and development of new technologies; closer links with science-phase; increased importance on education and R&D; branding, marketing, distribution; and information management. Process, source, technology and innovation are seen as important requisites for a knowledge revolution.

Key messages of the session

- Currently there is little understanding on practical application of adaptive development. Understanding of AD can be enhanced through: 1) encouraging interaction between science and policy, and 2) use of "nodal" networking to deepen knowledge.
- There is currently a large gap between research and practice regarding AD, while the use of PBL could help bridge scientific knowledge with actual practice on the ground.
- Adaptive policies (related to NRM and DRM) do not necessarily mean effective policies. Policy effectiveness is dependent on several factors.
- Use of a pragmatic approach to achieving a knowledge revolution, i.e. a fundamental change in adding value by creating, assessing and using knowledge, would require process, source, technology and innovation.

Reported by Paul Ofei-Manu, Integrated Policies for Sustainable Societies Area, IGES

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DAY 2

24 July

P-2 Pursuing a Sustainable Society:

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sustainable Lifestyles and Well-being

9:30-10:30 24 July 2014

The aim of this session was to frame overall discussions on sustainable and inclusive development in the region at ISAP sessions from the view point of SDGs in the context of Asia. It introduced current international discussion on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The speakers also discussed key topics that will lead Asia into sustainable development such as sustainable consumption and production, sustainable lifestyle and well-being.

The process on SDGs is a revolutionary one that discusses and examines possible forward-looking goals specified for sustainable development. Rather than discussions focusing on separate aspects of development, namely social, economic and environmental development, discussions are held on development in an integrated manner. At the Asia-Pacific regional level, the following major six directions have been more or less agreed: 1) prioritisation of poverty eradication, solving inequality, development whilst protecting the natural resource base, 2) empowerment of women, 3) resilience to several types of shock, such as natural disasters, 4) response to population increase, dynamism and urbanisation, 5) progress in natural resource management, and 6) regional integration. Also, many representatives discussed about the methods of implementations of SDGs.

SDGs should reflect the needs of transformation in our understanding of sustainable development and the game of economy that is now being played. Countries in Asia have started to play a new game of green economy on a scale and at a speed that places more emphasis on green growth, low-carbon, and resilient development. We have a major unfinished sustainable development agenda in the Asia Pacific. To meet this agenda, it is crucial to address sustainable resource management as well as inclusive green development. Meeting the forthcoming SDGs, a new roadmap for the future will require that we play a new game of benefits for Asia by the new sets of rules.

However, various concepts related to sustainability such as low-carbon, sound material cycle society, or biodiversity are not easily linked to the actual lives of each citizen. This is because the recent economic trends tend to divide and promote dis-communication among different players in the supply chain. Changing awareness of the market would result in real changes in consumption and production. Total collaboration from production, sales, to consumption is necessary. The key is improvement in communication.

Overall, the session discussed the importance of changing the game of economy into green economy with a quality considering environmental and resource basis for growth. It is very important to integrate theory and reality, as well as policy and actual fields. The session emphasised the importance of human-centered development such as integration of poverty eradication, solving inequality, conserving resources and the natural basis for development. Also, to put international discussion on implementation into reality, it is crucial to understand, enhance, and utilise local capacities and potentials to make changes and provide well-being.

Reported by Yasuhiko Hotta, Sustainable Consumption and Production Area, IGES

PL-8 Financing Low Carbon Technology Transfer of Small-Medium-Enterprises (SMEs): A Match-making Strategy

10:45 – 12:45 24 July 2014

This session addressed the question on barriers and success factors for low-carbon technology transfer (LCTT) to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries. SMEs are active in business development, producing creative ideas and possessing large potential for introducing low-carbon technologies. However, they have not received enough attention in climate discussions. The lack of a match-making strategy among stakeholders forms a major barrier to the enhancement of financing technology transfer to them. In this regard, the session was an opportunity to bring private sector, government and experts together to discuss and identify an effective match-making platform to enable the conditions for financing technology transfer for SMEs in developing countries.

The session included seven presentations and a panel discussion. The flow of the presentations started with a framing presentation given by Ms. Yuqing Ariel Yu, Task Manager, Climate and Energy Area, IGES, followed by two presentations introducing lessons learnt from on-the-ground projects about low-carbon technology transfer (LCTT) for SMEs in India. They were given respectively by Mr. Hidehiro Kitayama, Leader at the Heat Pump Sales Section of Unimo Products Department, MAYEKAWA MFG. CO., LTD, and by Mr. Girish Sethi, Director, Industrial Energy Efficiency Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). The fourth presentation was given by Mr. Osamu Kawanishi, Senior Policy Analyst, Environment Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in which he highlighted how to mobilise private investment for green infrastructure. The last three presentations focused on the issue of international and bilateral mechanisms to promote LCTT. In this regard, the fifth presentation was given by Mr. Shobhakar Dhakal, Associate Professor Energy Field of Study, Asian Institute of Technology, in which he introduced the Climate Technology Centre Network (CTCN). The sixth and seventh presentations focused on the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) in Viet Nam and Bangladesh. They were given respectively by Mr. Le Ngoc Tuan, Director, Division of Science, Technology and International Cooperation Department of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam and by Mr. A.M. Monsurul Alam, Joint Secretary, Director Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangladesh.

The panel discussion focused on two topics: 1) Finance and technology transfer and 2) Matchmaking strategy. The discussion about the first topics involved the following members: Mr. Naoki Mori, Head of Climate Change Office and Group Leader of Environmental Management, Global Environment Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Mr. Tatsuya Hanaoka, Senior Researcher, Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES); Mr. Osamu Kawanishi (introduced above), and Mr. Shobhakar Dhakal (introduced above). The discussion on the second topic involved the following members: Mr. Takahiro Ueno, Visiting Researcher, Graduate School of Public Policy of the University of Tokyo /Researcher, Socio-economic Research Center, Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI); and three other members introduced above namely: Mr. Hidehiro Kitayama, Mr. A.M. Monsurul Alam, and Mr. Girish Sethi.

Key messages of the session

- SMEs should be given more attention in LCTT, given their significant potential to reduce GHG emission. There needs to be mobilisation of domestic financial resources, since SMEs cannot access overseas finance. The equity markets in developing countries appear to be readily available at a reasonable cost; hence, it could be used as an important tool to finance LCTT to SMEs. Bond markets and securitisation could be also considered.
- LCTT process has different stages and thus policy interventions vary accordingly. Promoting research development and demonstration (RDD) is not sufficient to promote LCTT. Follow up activities to promote deployment is also crucial, hence the process of “RDD&D” should be considered rather than “RDD”

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- The demonstration stage is extremely important, and a significant part of financial resources available should be devoted to it. The JCM and CDM mechanisms could be considered for this stage.
- There should be a focus on green infrastructure, where institutional investors (such as pension funds) can play a crucial role. Securitisation could be an alternative capital market for long term financing for those institutional investors.
- CTCN is an important tool for developed countries to understand the needs of developing countries and facilitating technology transfer for both mitigation and adaptation;
- Although the JCM could present an important tool to promote LCTT, the concept and operation of this mechanism is still not clear for a large number of companies in Japan as well as overseas; hence, more awareness creation on this regard is needed.
- JICA-SIDBI two-step loan initiative is a successful case to finance LCTT to SMEs, which could be extended to India as well as replicated in other countries.
- Matchmaking among stakeholders is extremely important. Intermediaries, such as research institutes, NGOs/NPOs, should take a leading role in the matchmaking process between Business to Government (B2G), Business to Businesses (B2B,) and Business to Funding institution (B2F).

Reported by Abdessalem Rabhi, Business and Environment Area, IGES

PL-9 Benefits and Challenges of Community Engagement for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity: Lessons from Participatory Landscape Management under the Satoyama Initiative

10:45-12:45 24 July 2014

The exclusion of ecosystem-dependent communities from the management and use of local resources has been one of the drivers of ecosystem degradation around the world. In this context, the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) seeks to overcome the loss of biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes by promoting good practices for participatory planning and management. This Session aimed to showcase some of the opportunities and challenges of participatory ecosystem use, based on the experiences accumulated under the Satoyama Initiative. The Session introduced an example of an innovative, locally-rooted form of marketing, which can act as a bridge between sustainable production and consumption. This was followed by presentations of studies by IPSI partners, as well as a panel discussion on the possibilities and challenges of community engagement for the sustainable use of biodiversity.

The Senior Vice Rector of the United Nations University (UNU), Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, delivered the Session's Keynote Speech. He introduced the International Partnership of the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), as well as the concept of Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) and pointed to the importance of "creating resilient societies by local efforts."

Mr. Toru Fukushima, President of Fukushimaya, contributed the Guest Presentation on "local community based supermarket business" to the Session, explaining the role that companies can play in bridging sustainable production and consumption, and the factors contributing to Fukushimaya's success as a new business model.

The Panel Session included three presentations:

- Dr. Kuang-Chung Lee, National Dong-Hwa University, Taiwan, presented a case study of a Rice Paddy Cultural Landscape conservation project in an Indigenous Community of Taiwan, and illustrated how community engagement can help overcome existing challenges.
- Dr. Kaoru Ichikawa, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability, UNU (UNU-IAS) explained how the Indicators of Resilience in SEPLS, developed by IPSI, can be used for community engagement and what the expected benefits are.
- Dr. Ykhanbai Khijaba, Environmental and Development Association "JASIL", Mongolia, described the challenges faced in the sustainable use of pastoral landscapes and the preliminary results of the use of the IPSI Indicators of Resilience in Mongolia.

Key messages of the session

The various approaches to engage local communities in the sustainable use of SEPLS and biodiversity developed and adopted within the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative provide a number of valuable lessons. Particularly important are the communication between different stakeholders (e.g. between producers and consumers), and consensus building processes, both within the local communities (e.g. through regularly held community forums) and between the local and scientific community to be able to speak with one voice. The Session also highlighted the importance of ensuring human well-being beyond the generation of material wealth. An effective community engagement contributes to strengthen both the resilience of ecosystems and the "resilience of the human spirit."

Reported by Federico Lopez-Casero, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services Area, IGES

PL-10 Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia: Toward a Common Language for Governance

10:45 – 12:45 24 July 2014

In the wake of the 2012 Rio+20 conference, governments will soon begin to negotiate the post-2015 development agenda. The outcomes of those negotiations will likely yield a set transformational sustainable development goals (SDGs). The SDGs will help raise the profile of several new policies priorities, but the degree to which they improve the health of people and the planet will depend upon an often overlooked factor: governance. Many organisations underline that “good governance” will be essential to achieving the SDGs; however, operationalising the term remains difficult. Some organisations stress broad principles (such as rule of law or control of corruption) while others highlight narrow practices (such as engaging stakeholders or monitoring progress). This session will bring together policy-makers, experts and practitioners from Asia to outline these differences and work towards a common language for governance of the SDGs.

Beginning the session, Mr. Shrestha underlined some of the key lessons learned from MDGs such as a lack of ownership, an overly narrow focus on quantitative targets and a top-down approach. This was followed by a presentation from Mr. Olsen that drew on a discussion paper on good governance and three categories of means of implementation (MOI) (finance, technology and institutions). He contended that focusing on three baskets of MOI can help negotiations find a way forward for a transformational post-2015 development agenda.

Speaking from a global perspective, Dr. Someshwar pointed out that persistent poverty, worsening inequalities, global resource imbalances are unfortunate phenomena. He then stressed that governance - defined as the exercise of power - should be structured so as to be responsive to diverse spatial and temporal dimensions in an increasingly globalised economy. Prof. Kanie emphasised the importance of a multi-layered approach and three aspects of governance: good, effective, and equitable governance. He then noted that a stand-alone goal on governance should include all three of these aspects.

From the national/local perspective, Dr. Cadman recommended that SDGs require a governance framework applicable at multiple levels and that MOI needed to be embedded in each SDG. He further stressed that SDGs themselves require a “governance goal” to ensure consistency of implementation and to improve quality, effectiveness and legitimacy. Ms. Antonio then identified capacity development needs for implementing SDGs, and maintained that Asia needs more vertical/horizontal coordination and communication between multiple levels, stakeholder participation and regard for subsidiarity with emphasis on planning and operationalising priority capacity building requirements in Asia.

Key messages of the session

Lessons learned from the MDGs such as a lack of ownership, an overly top-down approach, and a narrow focus on quantitative targets should inform the design and implementation of the SDGs.

- The interpretation of governance and means of implementation (MOI) vary greatly across different stakeholders. There is a need to clarify these differing perspectives as well as the interrelationships between different MOI for a transformational, aspirational and integrated post-2015 development agenda.
- A multi-layered approach (global, regional, national and local) and stakeholder engagement at each level is crucial for not only designing and implementing SDGs, but also for promoting a common understanding of governance and MOI.
- In Asia, identifying the capacity-building needs of various stakeholders and actively engaging them in the planning stages of national targets and indicators could enhance implementation of the SDGs at the national and local levels.

Reported by Tetsuro Yoshida and Ikuho Miyazawa, Integrated Policies for Sustainable Societies Area, IGES

L-2 Promoting an Integrated Knowledge-Base System for Scientific Low Carbon Development Policymaking in Asia

13:00-14:20 24 July 2014

The Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet) is a network for researchers who are working on policymaking process and aiming to develop their research capacity and improve the efficiency of their outputs. For resolution on climate change in the world, LoCARNet has promoted scientific-based research for low-carbon policymaking focusing on Asian countries. LoCARNet is a network that is open to policymakers and other stakeholders as well as researchers. In order to evolve from a high-carbon society to a low-carbon society, it is vital to have measures from various aspects. Low-carbon technological development is one option. Low-carbon development is a challenging issue in Asian countries since it requires consideration on various problems while pursuing development path. For climate stabilisation, it will be necessary to continue to share wisdom and knowledge. Various activities are being carried out at the country and city level through this network. Sharing of knowledge also becomes necessary for South-South Cooperation. This session aimed to show the audience and the world that countries and organisations in Asia have cooperated to form an effective sequential system of knowledge creation, education and capacity development, knowledge sharing, and dissemination for science-based low-carbon development policymaking, and based on this, they will send out various messages in the run up to COP21.

Through the session, the following issues were recognised:

- 1) Methodologies to announce problems and conduct actions can be applied in using models to assess the policies.
- 2) An integrated model is needed to answer questions such as what low-carbon technology can be developed, disseminated and applied in a local context in Asia.
- 3) Linking scientific model and policymaking is important. Information-sharing among scientific and academic groups through a research network in Asia is important to share global problems as well as find solutions.
- 4) Knowledge-based policymaking is closely related to university and research institutions. Social planning, economic planning and low-carbon planning can be developed with scientific research.

This session proposed facilitating the same activities worldwide, by introducing contributions made by research communities in Asia towards COP21 which aims to increase ambitions to cut GHG emissions.

Reported by Takako Wakiyama, Programme Management Office, IGES

Roundtable

Roundtable on Harnessing Synergies Between Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Pertinent Issues, Success Cases and Way Forward

13:00 – 14:30 24 July 2014

There has been a growing consensus among scholars and practitioners on the synergies between disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA). IGES has embarked upon a scoping research on how best to operationalise this synergy in actual practices on the ground. To feed into the IGES research, participants discussed the current conceptual understanding on synergies and the differences between CCA and DRR; evaluated the current experiences of operationalizing these synergies between DRR and CCA in actual implementation; discussed existing bottlenecks and the way forward for harnessing these synergies, and identified crucial policy relevant research questions to be addressed in this field.

Presentation on Harnessing Synergies Between Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Pertinent Issues, Success Cases and Way Forward

Prabhakar SVRK, Task Manager, Adaptation made an overview presentation on the synergies between climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR). He emphasised that both the CCA and DRR communities have the same aim of reducing vulnerabilities and risks and increasing the resilience but they achieve these objectives through different interventions and keeping different time scales in view. To this extent, the text of Hyogo Framework of Action and the several negotiation texts under UNFCCC differ in the way they recognise and interpret disaster risks emanating from climate variability and change. He indicated that most CCA projects consider traditional DRR measures as CCA interventions while mainstreaming CCA into DRR entails that the future risks and vulnerabilities are taken into consideration while designing the current DRR interventions. The current project level experiences suggest that the DRR elements are often comprised of infrastructure interventions and related to vulnerability assessments and disaster management plans while climate change adaptation interventions are often related to livelihoods and strengthening related social and economic elements. Concepts such as redundancy or precautionary actions may need to be viewed with more caution since that they entail higher costs that may not appeal to most policymakers. Often, there is limited interaction between CCA and DRR communities leading to lack of mutual understanding on the issues concerned to each other.

Roundtable Discussion

The roundtable discussion focused on the following four important questions: a. what are the synergies between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, b. to what extent these synergies are being captured in the ongoing interventions in CCA and DRR, c. what these synergies mean for DRR and CCA planning and processes and what indicators will help capture these synergies; and d) what bottlenecks are limiting the full realisation of these synergies and how they can be overcome.

Key messages (conclusion or a way forward):

- a) The roundtable discussion clearly indicated that there are several synergies between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and that the recognition of these synergies requires that both communities come together and work closely. Several interventions such as early warning and weather and climate forecasts, risk and vulnerability assessments, financing, institutional coordination and education can lead to both climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction synergies.
- b) There is a need to recognise that there is one climate, one damage and one victim and any hair splitting in terms of near term changes and long term changes would also lead to division of stakeholders on these lines, leading to undue competition and thinning of resources that could have been invested in actions that will have climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction synergies.
- c) Emerging lessons indicate that the local governments often do not understand climate change adaptation, even if they have perfected the art of disaster risk reduction in most parts of Asia. Hence, translating CCA language in a way that is understandable to DRR community could lead to holistic risk reduction strategies.

Asian cities are rapidly urbanising and play an increasingly prominent role as engines for national economic growth. Presently, this growth is coupled with high rates of energy and resource consumption, which in turn is exacerbating pressures on the management of solid waste, wastewater, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. With reference to relevant theory and case-studies, this session highlighted city government strategies to address these challenges, bringing together representatives from the OECD and Wuppertal Institute as well as panelists from Japanese local government. In addition to sharing insights on how to design and implement local sustainable development strategies, participants also discussed how Japan's Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) can help balance economic and environmental priorities.

There is a growing consensus amongst urban theorists and practitioners that broad stakeholder involvement (i.e. government, private sector, academia, citizens' groups) is a key feature of strategy-making processes for sustainability transitions in cities. Such strategies and plans are further strengthened through the integration of relevant research findings and by considering established good-practice cases. Moreover, city networks at various scales fulfill an important role in this context, by disseminating experience, theory, raising awareness and strengthening local technical capacities. Japanese experience suggests that civic engagement and political leadership are crucial building blocks for the formulation of ambitious environmental goals and local actions. Having established integrated policy frameworks to minimise environmental impacts, Japanese cities are now committed to disseminating knowledge and transferring technology overseas. Supported by the Joint Credit Mechanism (by which carbon credits are generated through technology transfer) Japanese cities and private sector partners are engaged in activities to enable urban sustainability transitions in Asia that are also of mutual benefit economically.

Key messages of the session

- To realise green growth and environmentally friendly policies, cities must ensure that there is a shared vision across all stakeholders in the society, sustained across decades.
- Although the backing of senior figures in cities such as Mayors is vital, environmentally friendly policies cannot be sustained without the backing of the citizenry
- Cities must look to examples from research as well as national and international city networks in order to ensure that plans consider the best practices and incorporate them.

Reported by Simon Gilby and Andreas Jaeger, IGES

**PL-12 Empowering Stakeholders and Spearheading Innovation for Sustainable Development:
Lessons from the Field and Future Perspectives**

14:35-16:35, Thursday 24 July 2014

This parallel event was aimed to discuss the achievements of the Asia – Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED) Showcase Program and future perspectives, particularly regional cooperation for fostering innovative field activities toward achieving sustainable development. The event was co-organised by the United Nations Environment Programme through its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) and IGES.

Mr. Hideyuki Mori, IGES President, underlined the key feature of APFED to promote sustainability policies and actions through the multi-stakeholder and multifaceted approaches. Mr. Eisaku Toda emphasised the leading role played by the Japanese Environment Ministry in supporting APFED activities. A short video clip was played to show the achievements and future challenges of five out of 58 projects supported since 2005.

Prof. Emil Salim commended the leadership shown by the Japanese Government and Prof. Akio Morishima underpinned that the APFED programmes brought together knowledge and ingenuity to forge actions in the region toward achieving sustainable development. Dr. Pavez Hassan stressed the need for facilitating the development of regional and national policy and institutional frameworks on public access to environmental information, participation in decision-making and judicial proceedings. Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, UNEP Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific highlighted the usefulness of APFED Showcase projects in supporting the post-2015 development agenda implementation and hinted the way forward by referring to an “SDG Showcase” as a possible follow-up to the APFED Showcase Program.

Dr. Maria Rosario Piquero Ballescas stated the advantage of field activities in mobilising communities and providing visible benefits. Ms. Smriti Felicitas Mallapaty expressed the usefulness of packaging good practices at the community level for protecting the environment and improving the people’s livelihood. Six other presenters spoke through a multi-media broadcasting system. Dr. Suneel Pandey emphasised that TERI’s involvement in project monitoring helped reinforcing its research work. Dr. Oleg Shipin underlined that the projects served as useful case studies for research and education, and Mr. Manesh Lacoul referred to a need for promoting information dissemination and stakeholder involvement in promoting replication of good practice arising from APFED Showcase projects.

Questions and comments were posed from the audience. Panellists responded by stating that the region still lacks the mechanisms to support innovative policy development and field actions in the context of achieving sustainable development. Multi-stakeholder engagement and partnership were also said to be critical factors for the success of sustainability activities. Mr. Masanori Kobayashi, moderating the discussions, expressed his hope that the multi-stakeholder partnership and movement for promoting sustainability field actions would continue with renewed support by partner organisations. Mr. Zahedi concluded the discussions by underlining the importance of reinforcing actions in Asia and the Pacific for achieving sustainable development and reassured the readiness and willingness of UNEP-ROAP in supporting endeavours in the region in the pursuit of sustainable development.

Reported by Masanori Kobayashi, Yokohama National University Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences

On the road to Nagoya, where the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) will be held in November 2014, this session aimed at providing a road map for advancing education as a key mechanism in achieving sustainable development. Bringing together ESD experts, the session addressed how transformative learning, social change and transitions to sustainability can be supported through improved educational approaches and the creation of enabling environments for sustainable lifestyles. Additionally, questions on how to best integrate aspects of quality education, ESD learning performance, and global citizenship and peace education into the framing of the Global Action Programme on ESD were explored by session speakers. The panel discussion addressed how this programme can contribute to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the post-2015 development agenda.

The keynote speaker Mr. Danilo Padilla, Chief of ESD Unit UNESCO Bangkok introduced their ESD-related activities. Based on the results of the DESD implementation in different countries, he emphasised the importance of ESD as an advanced educational concept and the World Conference on ESD 2014 as an important milestone. The first presenter Dr. Paul Ofei-Manu from IGES elaborated on how to enhance aspects of quality education towards SD. He argued in the pursuit of quality education the focus should be on strengthening ESD-based learning performance framed in the holistic and transformative context of ESD. He further called for empowering learners with the capacities to address the challenges of a sustainable future for all. The second presenter Dr. Abel Atiti of UNU-IAS highlighted several cases from their flagship work with the Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) on ESD. The RCEs employ multi-stakeholder approaches to ESD, while their respective projects and activities embrace the significance of relationships, collaborative learning, networking, system thinking and the roles of diversity and flexibility in fostering sustainable communities. The third presenter Prof. Yoshiyuki Nagata from University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo addressed the importance of transformative learning for sustainable lifestyles in relation to youth as change agents and introduced the HOPE evaluation framework (holistic, ownership-based, participatory, empowering) developed by the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) and his implementation of this evaluation approach with youth groups after the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami. Finally, the featured speaker Dr. Shepherd Urenje, a Senior Programme Specialist in ESD, Swedish International Centre of ESD (SWEDESD) shared the SWEDESD's challenges and successes in implementing transformative learning for sustainable lifestyles. He maintained that transformative learning is a crucial tool to guide future action based on SWEDESD's experience with communities of practice in Africa and Asia.

Key messages of the session

- The ISAP education session speakers including UNESCO Bangkok will further collaborate on the implementation of GAP on ESD in order to contribute to the SDGs and the post-2014 ESD Agenda.
- RCEs on ESD are committed to scaling up action on multi-stakeholder engagement process within ESD Agenda and accelerating the search for sustainable solutions at the local level to address SD challenges.
- IGES encourages quality education by applying the Learning Performance Framework as a roadmap for stronger ESD promotion.
- SWESESD aims to implement whole-institution approaches and encourages local communities and municipal authorities to develop community-based ESD programmes.

Reported by So-Young Lee, Integrated Policies for Sustainable Societies Area, IGES

At the request of the session moderator Hideyuki Mori, President of IGES, three distinguished panelists – Byung-wook Lee, President of the Korean Environment Institute (KEI); Kaveh Zahedi, Regional Director and Representative of the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia Pacific (UNEP-ROAP); and Ella Antonio, President of the Earth Council Asia-Pacific, INC. – provided their observations and shared points for improvement for ISAP 2014. Following their comments, two senior IGES researchers – Eric Zusman, Leader, Integrated Policies for Sustainable Societies, and Kentaro Tamura, Leader, Climate and Energy Area – introduced two IGES flagship initiatives for the current year as part of the ISAP 2014 Closing Session. Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair of Board of Directors, IGES, then concluded by providing closing remarks.

Byung-wook Lee, President of the Korean Environment Institute, congratulated IGES for organising a successful forum that featured future-oriented discussions, particularly on sustainable development issues. He added that Korea is embracing the conflict between sustainability and development and moving towards a green and creative economy.

Kaveh Zahedi, Regional Director and Representative of UNEP/ROAP, remarked that the forum covered both high-level issues like the SDGs and more practical ones at the community level. He pointed out that ISAP is an important testing ground for ideas and added that IGES has a role to take the post-2015 global development agenda and make it practical.

Ella Antonio, President of the Earth Council, noted that ISAP could serve as a platform for indigenous people to contribute to the SDG discourse. She also pointed out that the forum could address technical ‘language’ barriers among NGOs, academics and development partners.

Eric Zusman, Leader, Integrated Policies for Sustainable Societies, IGES, highlighted one of IGES’s flagship initiatives looking at means of implementation in relation to the SDGs and how the goals can be translated to practical action. Kentaro Tamura, Leader, Climate and Energy Area, IGES, highlighted IGES’s other flagship initiative on climate change that seeks to provide practical policy recommendations for a post-2020 climate agreement.

Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair of Board of Directors, IGES, expressed his gratitude and emphasised the need for scientists and academics to communicate well to policymakers so that they can better integrate social, economic and environmental issues to realise the SDGs. Prof. Hamanaka concluded by reiterating IGES’s aim to be a ‘change agent’ through conducting research that moves policy to action.

Key messages of the session

- There is a conflict between sustainability and development and this can be addressed by promoting green growth with innovation across various sectors.
- ISAP is an important testing ground for ideas and IGES has a role in taking the post-2015 global development agenda and making it practical.
- ISAP could serve as a platform for indigenous people to contribute to the SDG discourse and find a common understanding and language of different development terms and ideas.
- IGES launched two flagship initiatives aiming to contribute to sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. One focuses on the means of implementation on SDGs and the other explores practical policy recommendations for the post-2020 climate regime.

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August 2014