

UNESCAP: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 73rd Session

“Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Energy”

15th – 19th May 2017, Bangkok

Report



Welcome Banner for the attendees

The Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific (OFAP), Macau, has the honor to attend the 73rd Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) with the theme topic “Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Energy”. Mr. Nuno Maria Roque Jorge, OFAP President, attended in Bangkok, Thailand on 15th – 19th May 2017.

Theme Topic: Regional cooperation for sustainable energy

Energy system transformation plays a key role in the Asia-Pacific region in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 7 (ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all), and fulfilling the commitments under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The theme study reviews the current energy scene and emerging trends in the region. It investigates the challenges and barriers posed by energy for sustainable development in the region. The study further provides an overview of the current status, barriers and existing gaps

of the implementation of SDG7 in the region. Policy options, means of implementation, and different strategies available for countries to transform their energy systems are examined. The study also



Entrance Hall

identifies national actions and policy recommendations that could be enhanced by regional energy cooperation, and provides recommendations to strengthen such cooperation.

Critical Issues and Challenges:

Growing Digital Divide



Flags Raised in Each Country Members

- Asia – Pacific accounts for 52.3% of global fixed broadband subscriptions yet
- Average per capital fixed broadband subscriptions is below Latin America, North America, Europe and global averages
- Within Asia and the Pacific, the low income economies are being left further behind
- Women in LDCs especially, are disproportionately affected by the digital divide

The **Asia – Pacific Information Superhighway** aims to bridge the digital divide by increasing the **availability**, **resilience** and **affordability** of broadband internet by strengthening the internet infrastructure, and contribute to **SDG 9** (resilient infrastructure) and **SDG 17** (partnerships).

SIDE EVENT:



Meeting in Progress

Asia- Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum: Space Applications for Environment

- Opening Remarks by Mr. Kaveh Zahedi – Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP
- Moderated by Mr. Shinichi Sobue – Mission Manager, Space Technology Directorate I, JAXA
- ❖ As both the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) and ESCAP have a common interest in maximizing the innovative contributions of space technology applications to the attainment of the SDGs in the Asia – Pacific region, ESCAP’s Commission session provides an excellent opportunity to showcase the benefits of space application to policymakers and end users not necessarily familiar with their potential. The event will aim to generate a cross-cutting SDG dialogue to support the drafting of a new Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Spae Applications, 2018-2030.

A background document on Space Applications for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/73/20) will be presented during agenda item 3 of the Commission.

This event will therefore provide greater information to delegations at the Commission.

Types of Remote Sensing:

1. Optical Remote Sensing – Sun, Reflectance and Passive
2. Thermal IR Remote Sensing – Object, Thermal Radiation and Passive
3. Microwave Remote Sensing – Object / Radar, Microwave Radiation / Backscattering coefficient and Passive / Active

Water Management: Reduce Flood Damage

- Global Satellite Mapping of Prescription (GSMaP)
- In-situ Data
- Model

Satellite Data and in-situ data are merged to predict flood of lower river region several days before. Based on this information, the warning and evacuation call are sent to residents directly.



*Mr. Nuno Jorge, OFAP President and
Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director of UN-ESCAP
East and North-East Asia Office*

Save Tropical Forest:**Broad Ground Surface Observation by Radar
Capable of Penetrating Clouds**

Manage forest sustainably using satellite data of monitoring forest changes

- JICA – JAXA **Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics (JJ-FAST)** service started from November 2016. Logging area information analyzed by ALOS-2 is provided for

authorities and governments. It is accessible by anyone with PCs or mobile devices more easily than ever before.

- Currently the information of Amazon area, Central & Southern Africa are available. The target area will be expanded to 77 countries in tropical areas in early of 2018.

Satellite Data for Agriculture

Project Title: The project research of Satellite Data Application for Agricultural Effective Indicator's Collection in Myanmar

Contents: Agricultural statistics information such as land use types, cropping pattern, crop growth is important for agricultural development. In this research JICA and JAXA grasped the information by utilizing satellite data (MODIS, ALOS-2, Landsat and Rapid Eye) at Bago region in Myanmar. JICA will employ this method for future activities related to agricultural development which will contribute to SDG Goal 2.

SIDE EVENT:



Introduction before the Meeting

Solar Radiation and Solar Power Estimation Using Geostationary Satellites

- Prof. Atsushi Higuchi, Chiba University
- Prof. Terry Nakajima, JAXA / EORC
- Prof. Takashi Nakajima, Tokai University
- Dr. Takeshi Murata, NICT
- Dr. Daisuke Abe, Weather News

ICHARM – International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management is a category 2 center of UNESCO established in 2006

Mission:

Is to serve as the **Globe Centre of Excellence for Water Hazard and Risk Management** by

- Observing and analyzing natural and social phenomena
- Developing methodologies and tools
- Building capacities
- Creating knowledge networks
- Disseminating lessons and information

In order to help governments and all stakeholders manage risks of water-related hazards at global, national and community levels.

The hazards to be addressed include **floods, droughts, landscapes, debris flows, tsunamis, storm surges, water contamination, and snow and ice disasters.**

❖ **GISTDA's work is supporting the people of Thailand and Asia**

Contribute to SDGs: Agricultural Monitoring by Satellite

- Report of WG5 Agriculture and Food Security GEOSS-AP Symposium, Tokyo, Japan, January 2017
- To contribute to several SDG, **especially SDG2**, GEOGLAM / Asia-RICE will continuously **improve the accuracy of rice crop production outlooks and predictions** that directly or indirectly **help policy makers and agricultural stakeholders** to provide sufficient quality crops with sustainable agriculture practices.
- **Contribution to other SDGs**: because agriculture is human and environment related, agriculture is SDG2, with direct effects on **clean water, climate action, life on earth, no poverty, responsible consumption and production, and good health and well-being.**

Knowledge Products: Highlights

Asia-Pacific Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development (RESAP) operating for over 20 years.

ESCAP is the only regional commission with a space applications programme.



Information posted

Ongoing work:

- Regional Drought Mechanisms
- Support for disaster affected countries
- Capacity building and regional cooperation to enhance access

Forthcoming:

Studies

- ESCAP / ASEAN Study on Drought Situational assessment and SDG poverty alleviation implications
- Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2017 *Handbooks*
- Handbooks on risk assessment in ASEAN
- El Nino risk assessments



Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia (ESCAP-ENEA) is the subregional platform to build and strengthen multilateral partnerships and intergovernmental cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development and integration in Northeast Asia.

The ENEA Office bridges the developing and developed countries in the subregion and works with six member States of ESCAP in the subregion, namely China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation, and two associate members, Hong Kong and **Macau**.