

Territorial Approach to
Climate Change:
Regional Workshop to raise
awareness and enhance action on
Climate Change Adaptation and
Mitigation at Sub National level
October 2010



ADAPTATION
KNOWLEDGE
PLATFORM



REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE
ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM for Asia



Acknowledgements

- United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP)
- Korean Adaptation Center for Climate Change (KACCC)
- Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (Adaptation Knowledge Platform)

For further information, please contact:

Raji Dhital

Associate Programme Officer

UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Email: raji.dhital@unep.org

Satya Priya

Adaptation Knowledge Platform

Email: Satya.Priya@rrcap.unep.org

Copyright © AIT-UNEP RRC.AP 2010

Bangkok, Thailand

October 2010

How to obtain the digital copy:

The Regional Workshop on Territorial Approach to Climate Change can be electronically downloaded from the www.asiapacificadapt.net.

This digital publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgement of the source is made. The Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this report as a source.

The “Territorial Approach to Climate Change (TACC)” was developed using demand based surveys that were conducted with various local-level decision maker agencies in South and Southeast Asia. UNEP conducted a need assessment of the sub-national authorities, with the help of different agencies such as ICLEI (Local Government for Sustainability), ACCCRN (Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network). Taking into account the feedback provided by the need assessment, information and capacity needs, of the sub-national authorities, were identified and incorporated in designing the training modules for the TACC workshops. The training modules were reviewed and contextualized to reflect the experiences in the region. In Asia, this highlights that there is a great demand for training on Adaptation, Climate Science, Financing and Policy.

The Training workshop is a joint event, co-sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change (KACCC) and organized in coordination with the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (Adaptation Knowledge Platform), to catalyze interest among the decision makers at sub-national scale and provide guidance and role of climate resilient plans and programs in the developmental agenda.

Background

The “Territorial Approach to Climate Change (TACC)” project came in response to the capacity gaps and opportunities, which highlighted the potential for urgent joint action, by not only the UN system and sub-national territories, but also the needs and gaps identified through the scoping mission by the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform countries in Asia. The overall approach of the TACC is increased resilience to climate change impacts and reduced carbon footprint in sub-national territories in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The main activities are raising awareness of sub-national territories worldwide and assisting the development and implementation of mitigation and adaptation plans with sub-national plans and strategies.

Initial phase of TACC involves working with Sub-National Local Governments to compile good practices on climate change adaptation and mitigation at sub-national level, assess training/information needs and organize regional and sub-regional workshops. An interactive comprehensive collection of environmental information (political and scientific) on climate change, training material and tools, served to organize a series of awareness raising cum training programmes with authorities and stakeholders, who are involved in the shaping of integrated climate change policies at sub-national level.

1 While this workshop covered both climate change mitigation and adaptation issues and challenges at sub-regional level, in particular, Regional Climate Change Adaptation the Adaptation Platform led the “Adaptation Module” of the workshop and joined hands with the organizers in addressing the broader dimension of the overall development and planning agenda of the Climate Change.

Objectives¹

- Raise awareness and facilitate knowledge sharing concerning actions against climate change such as adaption and mitigation and fostering a green economy at the sub-national level.
- Share knowledge and tools relevant for strengthening climate change science, adaptation, mitigation, financing, and capacity development at the sub-national level.
- Catalyze interest in developing an Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (ITCP) for adaptation and provide guidance for developing it through multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration and within a multi-level governance framework.
- Explore opportunities for sustained knowledge-sharing and capacity development for sustained sub-national climate change actions, focusing on adaptation to climate change.

Outcome

It was anticipated that, by the end of the workshop, participants have enhanced their knowledge and understanding concerning:

- general causes and effects of climate change and how to access sources of credible scientific information;
- Available adaptation options that are currently occurring at the community, ecosystem, city and other levels;
- Approaches and methods to foster sustained capacity development at the sub-national and local level, including human resource and skills development



ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

A number of initiatives have been launched to help countries build their capacity to respond to the changing climate, but many of these are undertaken independently of each other. The Adaptation Knowledge Platform addresses this challenge by building bridges between initiatives, researchers, policymakers, business leaders, and those working on climate change adaptation “on the ground”. **The overarching goal of the Adaptation Knowledge Platform is to strengthen adaptive capacity and facilitate climate change adaptation in Asia at local, national, and regional levels.** It focuses on three pillars:

- Establishing a regional system for sharing knowledge on climate change adaptation, making it easy to understand and available to those who need it;
- Generating new knowledge about adaptation that national and regional policymakers can use as they plan for climate change; and
- Promoting the application of new and existing knowledge about climate change in Asia.

Who and Where

In its first phase (2009-2011), the Adaptation Knowledge Platform will actively engage with

governmental and non-governmental practitioners, researchers, media and private sector who are interested in climate change adaptation issues in 13 countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Initial Partners

The Adaptation Knowledge Platform is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Initial partners are the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia (SENSA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)-UNEP Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP), which also hosts the Adaptation Knowledge Platform Secretariat.

Join us!

Join us in strengthening the adaptive capacity in Asia by sharing your projects and learning experiences through the Climate Change Adaptation in Asia and the Pacific web-portal (www.asiapacificadapt.net) or the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum.

For more information on this and other ways of collaboration and mutual benefit, contact:

Secretariat

Adaptation Knowledge Platform
AIT-UNEP Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific
Outreach Building, P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120, Thailand
Tel: +662 524 5386/5384;
Email: info@climateadapt.asia
Website: <http://www.climateadapt.asia>



October 2010

Photo credits

Cover: SEI/Rongchai Kongmuang