



Theme 2

Natural and Man-made Hazard Prevention and Management

Theme Chair: Dr. Cherdsak Virapat

WORKSHOP 1:

Government/Industry Partnership for Effective and Consistent Preparedness and Response to Marine Pollution in East Asia

The workshop reviewed major issues on preparedness, response and co-operation for combating pollution from oil spills with a particular emphasis on regional arrangement, cooperation, partnerships and stakeholder involvement in oil spill preparedness and response including lessons learned from past incidents.



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MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Ensure essential elements in oil spill preparedness and response are present in national oil spill contingency plan
- ❑ Encourage countries to ratify relevant int'l Conventions
- ❑ International Maritime Organization: should play a catalytic role on Oil Spill Preparedness Response and Cooperation activities/systems at national & regional levels.
- ❑ Establish legal basis for operating a regional arrangement and establish mechanism for extending assistance to other countries.
- ❑ Recognize important role of international and regional organizations in providing advocacy, technical cooperation, promoting and assisting in development of regional OPRC.
- ❑ Implement a twin track approach for identifying gaps and developing action plans for improving oil spill preparedness and response.



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WORKSHOP 2

Meeting Challenges of Climate Change at the Local Level through ICM

CONCLUSIONS

- Adaptation occurs at local to regional scales and needs scientific information that can be used at the local level
- It also requires anticipation, investment for information, data, equipment, warning systems
- International, regional cooperation and networking
- Adaptation measures need to be included in national development and strategic plans.
- Mainstreaming of disaster and risk management
- Decision-making, plans, strategies need to have a science-base and common sense and need traditional knowledge of local communities
- Perception and attitude change among stakeholders with respect to integrated management and human security.
- Tourism and insurance sectors are highly motivated to be associated with ICM and climate change adaptation measures.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ ICM is a good approach to address climate change adaptation measures and development.
- ❑ Local adaptation, using existing ICM tools such as setbacks, hazard zones and permits should be implemented based on existing climate change science.
- ❑ Local governments and their constituencies to work together in planning the allocation of funds and budget specifications
- ❑ Scientists need be trained in communication with local communities and local governments and adjust to the local needs, adaptation being site specific.
- ❑ Awareness creation and capacity building at the local level
- ❑ Development of capacity to use new technologies, with technology exchange, including to generate and interpret high resolution data and computer modeling results, for users and dialogue with users



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WORKSHOP 3

Impacts of Climate Change at the Coastal and Ocean Areas of the East Asian Seas Region

- ❑ Impacts to the East Asian Seas region were discussed as they relate to sustainable development in Monsoon Asia, fisheries production, and shipping: the opening of northeast passage and Arctic meltdown
- ❑ Active discussion and sharing of experiences between natural and social scientists and policy makers make reaching a common understanding of global change issues as they affect vulnerability and adaptation in coastal regional settings.



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MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ East Asia's very rapid environmental change necessitates the utmost need for integrated coastal management
- ❑ A strategic and comprehensive national policies strengthens local policies and actions
- ❑ Disaster risk reduction strategies must be simultaneously consider all components of the ecosystems rather than specific functions in isolation.
- ❑ Poverty reduction decreases vulnerability
- ❑ In addressing global change issues, including climate change, as they affect coastal environments in East Asia, it is imperative to consider national frameworks but local implementation and enforcement.
- ❑ Allowing for "business-as-usual" and "science-as-usual" scenarios is no longer acceptable as the cost to ecosystems and human societies is too high.
- ❑ Integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning
- ❑ Re-commit to implement the MDG goals to reduce poverty



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WORKSHOP 4

Development and Advances on Marine Bio-safety in the Context of the Conventions on Biodiversity

The Workshop focused on translocation of invasive species arising from ballast water and biofouling associated with shipping, highlighting the adverse environmental impacts on marine biodiversity, public health and certain marine economic sectors, the potential transboundary and long-term impacts. It also highlighted international efforts to address the translocation of invasive species as well as to mitigate the environmental impacts.



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MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ There is an **urgent need to** recognize and address the economic and societal costs of marine bio-invasions in the EAS region
- ❑ Regional financial institutions and NGOs should be encouraged to participate in and support capacity building efforts
- ❑ Countries should be encouraged to **ratify relevant conventions.**
- ❑ Capacity building on compliance monitoring and enforcement
- ❑ Countries and key stakeholders should be encouraged to make use of **existing tools and guidelines** developed by relevant programmes .
- ❑ **Existing regional networks** should be encouraged to actively address the biosafety issues.
- ❑ Development of a database on invasive species, distribution and prior invasion history, environmental and ecological requirements.
- ❑ Regional and port-specific risk assessment should be carried out.
- ❑ Establishment of a regional network of biosafety experts.



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SEMINAR ON GREEN PORTS

- ❑ The seminar focused on various efforts and examples of policies, strategies, good practices and initiatives relating to green and sustainable port planning, development and operation.
- ❑ Port management systems relating to safety, health and environment were also reviewed including the drivers for investments in environmental initiatives.



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MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Considering that East Asia is the market place for shipping, it is recognized that ports provide significant economic contribution to national GDP. Therefore, the need for sustainable port planning, development and operation is imperative.
- ❑ There are existing models, practices, guidelines and programs that can be accessed to promote sustainable port planning and operation.
- ❑ There is a need to develop green policies supported by incentives for ports implementing green initiatives.
- ❑ Encourage the port sector to be pro-active and engage in voluntary approaches to greener ports.



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SPECIAL SESSION ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- ❑ The special session focused on science and technology for marine disaster prevention and management and good governance on disaster management.
- ❑ Discussions focused on various multi-coastal hazards such as floods, sedimentation, oil spill, marine incidents, cyclone Nargis and Indian Ocean Tsunami.
- ❑ Disaster management strategies such as decision support system on disaster management; participatory risk communication method using disaster risk scenarios, community-based early warning and mitigation system; adaptive management approach; and multi-agency and multi-level cooperation and good governance were highlighted.



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MAJOR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Immediate attention for countries and governments is to co-manage disaster management with local community in disaster management focusing on adaptive management approach.
- ❑ Sharing of knowledge and lesson learned, planning and implementation on community-based disaster management
- ❑ Civil society and academic institutions have important role to play in early warning, mitigation and preparedness at the national and local levels.
- ❑ A sustainable regional training course on multi-hazards disaster management cycle for middle level management
- ❑ Major challenges remains such as communication gaps among interagency departments and between governments and communities for effective early warning, mitigation, preparedness and response.
- ❑ Good practices have been developed and needed to be shared, scaled up and expanded to cover multi-hazard frameworks and communities
- ❑ Long term implementation plans for such recommendations should be developed



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