



Theme 6

Pollution Reduction and Waste Management

Theme Chair: Prof. Rudolf Wu

Key Issues

- Pollution—from a range of sources from municipal areas to industries and agriculture—is a major threat to sustainable development in the region
- Impacts on health, quality of life, and ecosystems imposes large economic costs
- Major constraints include lack of: political will; access to innovative and affordable technologies; capacity to access financing and engage private sector
- Climate change adds additional challenge—threat of increased pollution, need for climate-proofed infrastructure, imperative to reduce vulnerability
- There are many successful experiences on pollution reduction in East Asia and other regions to learn from, replicate, and scale up



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Workshops

- Workshop 1: Transboundary Pollution Reduction in River Basins and Coastal Areas
- Workshop 2: Innovative Policies and Practices in Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Management
- CSR Workshop: PPP in the Rehabilitation of Manila Bay



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Workshop 1: Transboundary Pollution Reduction in River Basins and Coastal Areas

Through the analysis of best practices from the Northwest Pacific, East Asia, Europe and North America, workshop participants agreed that the following actions are deemed necessary for transboundary pollution reduction in river basins and coastal areas:

- Close cooperation of neighboring countries in economic policies, including coordinated use of natural resources, environment protection and ensuring sustainable development of river basins and coastal areas.
- Political leadership; legislation and enforcement; financial resources; political agreement (commitment); bringing together academics and decision makers.



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Workshop 1: Transboundary Pollution Reduction in River Basins and Coastal Areas

- National laws and regulations aiming at coordinated economic, investment and social policies related to environmental protection and sustainable development .
- More active role of civil society in conservation of natural resources and wildlife.
- Establishment of international commissions to manage transboundary river basins and coastal areas (such as Mekong River Commission; Yellow Sea Commission; etc.).
- Establishment of joint monitoring systems (including water quality standards and criteria) for transboundary river basins and coastal areas.



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Transboundary Pollution
Reduction in River Basins and
Coastal Areas



Workshop 2: Innovative Policies and Practices in Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Management

The workshop discussed the applications of strategic integrated planning, regulatory/ policy/ institutional framework, innovative approaches and technologies, and financing mechanisms for water supply, sanitation and pollution reduction, and recommended to:

- Use strategic planning approaches and strategic environmental assessment more systematically, to optimize investments
- Focus on a small number of demonstration projects that can deliver development outcomes
- Provide incentives for innovation and systematic learning from their implementation



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Workshop 2: Innovative Policies and Practices in Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Management

- Replicate and scale up successful examples/pilots through programmatic financing
- Build capacity for engaging the private sector to improve efficiency
- Develop capacity of local governments to develop bankable projects and implement cost recovery mechanisms
- Need champions for sustained implementation



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CSR Workshop: PPP in the Rehabilitation of Manila Bay

The workshop highlighted the importance of public-private partnerships in addressing pollution and other issues, particularly the application of CSR in the rehabilitation of the Manila Bay, and recommended:

- The corporate sector to confirm commitments, set specific targets, and take an active part in initiating programs to support the implementation of the Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy.
- More active participation from the local governments, and closer interactions with the corporate associations and chamber of commerce.



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