



Preliminary Report Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendation

Regional Workshop on Accelerating Science and Technology to Foster the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific Launching of AP-FAST Project Timor Leste, 7-9 June 2017

Background:

UNESCO Office Jakarta as the Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific and Cluster Office of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Timor Leste is implementing a project to Facilitate in Accelerating Science and Technology (AP-FAST) in the region to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Funded by the Malaysian Funds in Trust, the aim of this project is to position AP-FAST as a major tool to address Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) challenges that governments of Asia and the Pacific region may face in implementing the 17 goals and related targets as defined in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

The AP-FAST was launched in conjunction with the Regional Workshop on Accelerating Science and Technology to Foster the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific on 7-9 June 2017 in Hotel Timor, Dili -Timor Leste. The workshop objective were:

- Bring UNESCO's programmes experts and Asia Pacific SETI experts together to open dialogue on the role of SETI in SDG in the region.
- Identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities of SETI capacities in the region to support SDG implementation at national level as well as to support regional cooperation with focus on UNESCO programme (IHP, MAB, and DRR).
- Identify initiatives to optimize the leverage of SETI for SDG implementation in the national development plan in the region with focus on UNESCO's programme.
- To build network of Asia Pacific SETI experts for AP-FAST

The opening of the workshop was attended by more than 105 participant including international experts from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia Korea, Pakistan, The Philippines. These participants representing government agencies concerns with SETI, Universities as well as UNESCO's programme activities (MAB, IHP, DRR) and UNESCO's Category 2 Centres: The Asia Pacific Centre for Eco-hydrology in Indonesia and the International Cooperation International Knowledge Centre for Engineering Sciences and Technology from China. The technical session, presentation and discussions was participated by 50-60 national and international participants.

Session 1: SETI and SDGs,

- 79 out of 169 targets of SDGs 37 out of 232 indicators relate to SETI. This includes targets and indicators which are: 1). explicitly refer to SETI; 2). issues that are most often largely discussed in SETI terms; and 3). where SETI is only one of the many means for implementation.
- A strong SETI capacity will accelerate the achievement of SDG targets.
- SDGs should also be catalyst in building SETI capacity.
- Engagement and commitment of all stakeholders and the importance in having strong champions on SDG (ICT for Health in Timor Leste; Sustainability Science and Sustainability Development in Davao.

- Customize and localize actions and plans to match existing conditions and capacities

Session 2: National lessons learned, challenge and opportunities.

- Common understanding among policy makers – SMART setting of prioritizing indicators and targets taking into account different challenges and national realities and capabilities and an agreement between stakeholders.
- Coordinated integration of SDGs into plans and programs at all level (National Provincial, and local) with strong ownership of those who actually implement the SDGs.
- Key factors: 1). International, national, public-private partnerships collaboration; 2). Data and monitoring and evaluation.
- Focus on SETI policy, capacity building and infrastructure to support achievement of SDG

Session 3: UNESCO Centres and Programmes.

- Asia Pacific Centre for Eco-hydrology – UNESCO Category II Centre focus on SDG-6, SDG-13, and SDG-15. SETI Capacity focus on: Watershed System, Peatland Hydrology System, Arid Zone System, Urban Hydrology System, and Small Islands Hydrology System
- International Knowledge Centre for Engineering Sciences and Technology – UNESCO Category II Centre focus on SDG-4, SDG-5, SDG-9, SDG-10, SDG-11 and SDG-17. SETY Capacity focus on: Disaster Risk Reduction Knowledge Service; Intelligent City Knowledge Service; Silk Road Sciences and Technology Knowledge Service; Engineering Education Knowledge Service
- Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme linked to SDG-6, SDG-13, SDG 14, and SDG-15.
- International Hydrological Programme (IHP) linked strongly to SDG-6 and SDG-13 with SETI support through IHP-WINS (Water Information Network System, Climate change, and World Water Forums and Panels
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) linked strongly to SDG-14 and SDG-11, with focus on healthy ocean and sustained ecosystem, early warning on tsunami and other ocean related hazards, ocean-based activities to increase resiliency to climate change, and enhancing knowledge on emerging ocean science issues.
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strongly linked to SDG-4, SDG-6, SDG-11, SDG 13, SDG-14 and SDG-15 focusing on Risk Assessment; Early Warning; Prevention-, Preparedness, and Risk Reduction, and Resilience and Sustainable Development.

Session 4: Discussions.

- Group Timor-Leste
 - For FAST to achieve SDG, Timor-Leste will focus on two SDGs
 - SDG-6. Water Resource Management, Water security (quantity and quality), water vulnerability (wastewater and solid waste),
 - Support from IHP, APCE, MAB and other UNESCO Category centres
 - SDG-14. Baseline data and information on Ocean Resource, Ocean Resource management, Ocean Pollution, Ocean Observation and Monitoring, Coastal Planning
 - Need of Ocean Studies and Programme in Universities to build human resource in Ocean Science.
 - Need of Engineering Capacity: Quantity of Qualified Engineers, Standards – Accreditation – and Competence, Engineering Education Quality (Facility, infrastructure, and programme).
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- Group Asia Pacific
 - The challenges that we found in related to these goals:
 - SDG-1. Man domination society 2. Low Literacy 3. Women safety on job, schools and social levels 4. Limited women participation in various sectors. Women is playing a better role in the development.
 - SDG-6. Water security (quantity and quality), water vulnerability (wastewater and solid waste), non-existing water policy in many countries, using UNESCO water policy to be adopted by the states (IWRM), hydro-hazards, transboundary conflicts

- SDG- 11. Sustainable infrastructure, Resilient to hazards, land scarcity, waste management (recycle), urban planning, land use management, regional guidelines on cities security.
- SDG-13. Deforestation, sea level rise, industrial pollution to seas
- SDG-14. Ocean pollution (IOC may help)
- SDG-15. Deforestation, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem
- SDG-17. Technology sharing, working as cluster countries (security, common economic policy), ICT platform (information and knowledge sharing).
- Actions or strategies:
 - Profiling through regional level ICT platform encompassing all six goals
 - Identification of gaps (policy/ strategy related), issues and way forward in general and also towards the pilot country (looking in terms of the complete ecosystem)
 - Water security (phase wise, ICT based monitoring)
 - Regional hazard mapping (Hydro hazards and others)
 - Taking best practices in the region or elsewhere (Pure Abdul Kalam Model, Sao Yuma Concept) to manage sustainable cities.