

# Summary Report

## APBON 12<sup>th</sup> Web Seminar

1. Date: 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2022

Time: 15:00-17:00 in Japanese Standard Time

(13:00-15:00 in Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam), (11:45-13:45 in Nepal)

(14:00-16:00 in Malaysia, Philippines, China),

2. Location, Participants

- Webex Meeting Room
- 22 participants (18 participants and 4 from secretariat) from 7 Nationalities
- MC: Dr. Yongyut Trisurat (Kasetsart University)

3. Program:

### **Opening and Announcement:**

Secretariat of APBON (Ms. Neagari: Biodiversity Center of Japan)

- Greetings from Ms. Neagari from APBON Secretariat
- Welcomed all of the participants to join this 12<sup>th</sup> APBON web seminar
- The agenda and rules of the meeting were proposed
- Introduced today's MC

### **Presentation1:**

Dr. Nirunrut Pomoim (Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation)

“How Can Thailand Protect 30% of Its Land Area for Biodiversity, and Will This Be Enough?”

### **Summary of presentation**

Dr. Pomoim introduced a biodiversity conservation overview at Protected Areas (PAs) in Thailand. Her presentation reported 29.5% of the Protected Areas in the Indo-Malayan tropics area were already achieved aiming for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework 2030, and the remaining 0.5% would be covered by smaller and isolated forest and coastal areas. She also emphasized the importance of connectivity among those PAs, those protected patches were less isolated than the current system. She also emphasized 30% was not enough because it did not cover especially lower land, which

was only 8% protected and still remained as vulnerable. Dr. Pomoim concluded that Thailand needed to expand it for the reduction of the impact from climate change with additional actions such as achieving Biodiversity corridors and transboundary PAs.

### **Q&A Session**

Q: How can OECM contribute to this remaining 0.5%?

A: Now we are mainly conducting with the Ramsar site because it is contributing to many births of species, of course, we recognize the OECM is also important.

Q: Local and indigenous people's area can declare as OECM in Thailand?

A: I think the community forest area is not included in this 30%. It was a part of the Royal Forest department.

Q: Thailand had a lot of fragmented landscapes, especially in highly elevated zone. Please explain the main reason for this specific landscape.

A: My presentation showed that PAs covers a high fragmented area. we can use the concept of the corridor to cover those fragmented pieces.

Q: In India, we do an agroforestry initiative because many local people were logging illegally in PAs but they now live outside, it results in increasing of the size of PAs.

A: Thank you for your information. I will consider that point in the future.

### **Presentaton2:**

Dr. Charlie D. Heatubun (Provincial Government of West Papua)

“Conservation Province: Using Science for Policy Making in West Papua Province, Indonesia”

### **Summary of presentation**

Dr. Heatubun mentioned the aim of this presentation is to report how to describe what is the contribution of biodiversity forest and climate research to the implementation of sustainable development in West Papua Province. After a brief overview of the history of this area, Dr. Heatubun pointed out that the biodiversity in this area is seriously threatened by the development policy from the Central government. Since New Guinea has the world's richest island flora, West Papua declared the first Conservation Province

in Indonesia 2015 and followed by Manokwari Declaration 2018. In this trend, He also reported that PAs in the West Papua Province were increased from 36.4 to 69.4% by Spatial Planning Map, which is named “Sustainable Development Areas.” He also introduced “green investment” such as a promotion of local products for deforestation.

### **Q&A Session**

Q: I think the various policies in West New Guinea are underestimated. And the many new species are found, how you can fill the gap of identification between plants and biodiversity in West Papua New Guinea.

A: Now many people from different backgrounds such as NGOs and research institutions are working to fill the gap and now going to establish the National History Museum. We are also speeding up our process of data and information even from overseas.

Q: You have a good publication accepted by NATURE journal. I just want to know the secret to be accepted by NATURE.

A: Secret keyword is corroboration. Many people, almost 99 persons gathered and made active discussions for data information.

Q: Recently GEO is paying an effort to reach out to the Pacific Island and indigenous people to make them engage for seeking sustainable society and nature. I want to ask you to share your publication by PDF, ASIA Oceania GEO is trying to promote cooperation of islands and societies, it is a good successful case. I appreciated your achievement.

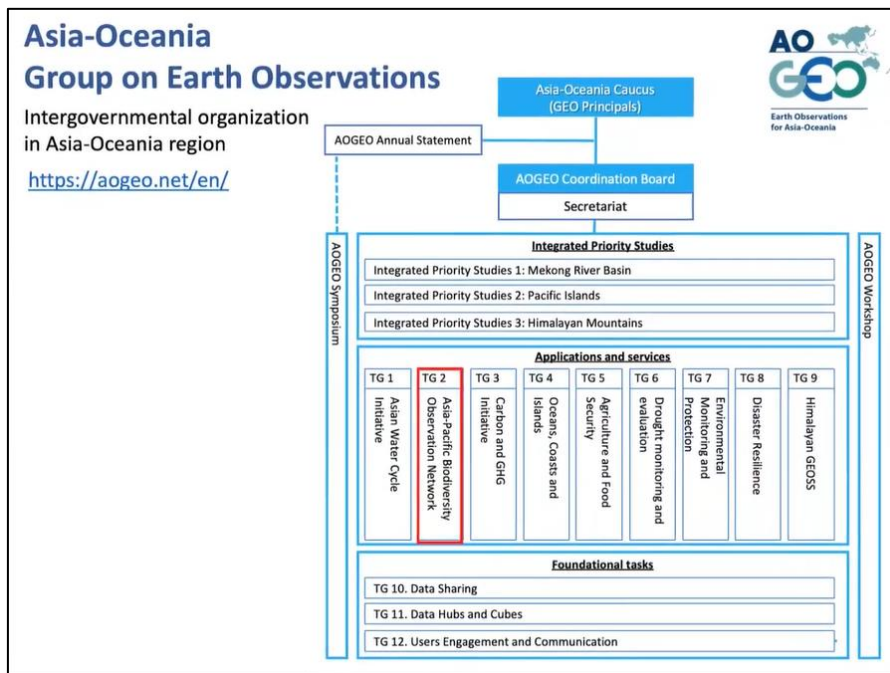
A: Thank you for your kind suggestion. It is my pleasure and honor to become a member of APBON. I will share my publication through today’s MC Dr. Yongyut.

### **APBON discussion on the Management Committee and future activities (Dr. Muraoka)**

#### **(1) Introduction of Asia-Oceania GEO activities**

- Briefly introduced the structure of AO-GEO and the commitment of APBON
- Announced the forthcoming 15<sup>th</sup> AOGEO Symposium in September 2022 and explained the APBON commitment and contribution expected. Research outcomes and Activity reports as TG2 shall contribute AOGEO symposium.

- Also announced the next 13<sup>th</sup> AOBON Webinar. There were two options for next APBON Webinar, one is the APBON webinar around the AOGEO symposium or normal webinars. Any feedback and comments from members are highly welcomed.



**Nov. 10-12, 2021 #ONLINE**

**14th AOGEO SYMPOSIUM**

**AO GEO**  
Earth Observations for Asia-Oceania

**Special Session 1: Biodiversity for Addressing Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction**

Watch Recording

Asia-Oceania region contains high biodiversity which provides various ecosystem services including natural resources, environmental regulations, and cultures, but they are susceptible to drastic climate change and human impacts. This session focuses on learning the challenges in biodiversity issues under climate and societal changes, and identifying needs of biodiversity and ecosystem observations, requirements to data and knowledge, and stakeholder engagement to address climate change issues and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction by focusing on sustainability of biodiversity and ecosystems, namely nature-based solutions. The findings will be delivered to further planning in cooperative activities in the region as well as with GEO Work Programme.

**Session Co-chairs**

- Dr. MURAKAMI Hiroyuki**, Professor, River Basin Research Center, City University Group Leader, Biodiversity Collaborative Research Group, National Institute for Environmental Studies
- Dr. Rani Syahmeer Pungka**, AFSON Co-chair, Forest Department Sarawak, Malaysia

**1. Introduction by the co-chairs** (5 min)

**2. Keynote presentation** (20 min, incl. Q&A)

**Dr. YAMANO Hiroya**, Deputy Director General, National Institute for Environmental Studies

- Interdependency between Biodiversity and Climate Change
- Dr. YAMANO Hiroya**, Director, Division of Biodiversity, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

**3. Challenges, needs and opportunities** (10 min for each)

- Dr. Paul Anderson**, Regional Director of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (PREP)
- Dr. Alex C. Hughes**, Australian National University, Australian National University
- Dr. Peter Wheravan**, Program Director, Environment Canada

- Challenges assessing biodiversity necessary for addressing climate change in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Dr. Paul Anderson**, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
- Understanding data needs for reaching conservation targets in Southeast Asia
- Dr. Alex C. Hughes**, Australian National University, Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), APFSON
- How Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) could harmonize biodiversity monitoring across scales
- Dr. Peter Wheravan**, Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), GEO BON

**4. Discussion** (20 min)

**5. Session wrap-up**

# The 15<sup>th</sup> AOGEO Symposium



● **Date, time and conference format**

**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Time:** 11:00-15:30\*[Beijing]; 12:00-16:30\* [Tokyo & Seoul]; 13:00-17:30\* [Canberra] \*Tentative  
**Format:** Hybrid (Note: Japan GEO will prepare a venue in Tokyo for CB-CC, TG co-leads, and session speakers who wish to participate in person.)

● A special session on biodiversity is under preparation by the [JapanGEO](#) secretariat and Hiroyuki.

● **TG co-leads are asked to:**

- **Organize the sectorial meeting (= TG meeting) by 16<sup>th</sup> September** to prepare
  - TG inputs for AOGEO statement,
  - Report TG's activities update in TG activity report session, and
  - Participate in statement meeting.

**Co-chairs' proposal to APBON members:**

Having a half-day focused meeting as the 13<sup>th</sup> APBON webinar

1. to review the recent research/engagement outcomes (2020-2022) and discuss activity plan (2023-2025);
2. to discuss what and how do we strengthen the biodiversity observation in our region
3. to discuss the engagement of broader community (academia, data-users, etc.)

**Candidate date:** Aug. 23, 24, 25, 26, or Sep. 9, 12, 13, 14, 15.

Or, we will have the normal webinar (13th webinar).

But to prepare for the AOGEO Symposium, Co-chairs will ask APBON members to give their inputs (outcomes in the last 3 years and research / engagement plans in the next 3 years) by responding to a written questionnaire.

- Then the Co-chairs and Management Committee will consolidate the items to be sent to AOGEO Symposium.
- Implementation of these plans will be partly supported by future funding resource of APBON.

**Photo session:**

