

Stepping up Actions on Delivering a Resilient Future

3 September 2019
09:00 - 17:30
Bangkok, Thailand
Room: Theatre

Convened by the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP), with partners, and supported by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID)

Open to all participants attending Asia Pacific Climate Week.
Registration required: [SteppingUpActions2019.eventbrite.com](https://steppingupactions2019.eventbrite.com)



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Objectives and Ambitions

Later this month, world leaders will gather in New York to meet the UN Secretary General's call for ambitious action to combat climate change. "Stepping up Actions on Delivering a Resilient Future" is an important step in this process where stakeholders from Asia and the Pacific have the opportunity to not only raise the need for urgent action, but also to share how this particularly vulnerable region is finding unique and effective ways to build resilience to climate change. The proceedings of this day builds on and complements an event convened by the Global Resilience Partnership at Africa Climate Week, [Stepping Up Action on Building Climate Resilience Agriculture and Food Systems in Africa](#).

Event Objectives

1. Explore transformative resilience-building actions, initiatives, policies, technologies, and financial innovations taken by governments, grassroots organizations, CSOs, businesses, insurers and investors to ensure climate just transition in the Asia Pacific context.
2. Set out how the latest knowledge and understanding on resilience can be used to build and invest in adaptive, resilient and transformative communities and economies.
3. Raise awareness and deepen the knowledge on inclusive and intersectional resilience-building approaches among government officials, practitioners, academia and the private sector, to ensure no one is left behind

Background

We are in a period of increased volatility and unpredictability. Climate-related disasters and shocks are occurring more frequently, accounting for 91% of all major recorded events between 1998 and 2017. The exposure to more complex, frequent and intense climate extremes is threatening to erode and even reverse development gains. Over the last 10 years, climate extremes affected an average of 152 million people and caused USD 127 billion in damage in Asia and the Pacific each year. In 2018 alone, climate and natural disasters pushed 29 million people into situations of acute food insecurity.

There is an urgent need to scale up action and investment into climate resilience within and across sectors worldwide and, in particular, in Asia and the Pacific. Asia contains 10 of the world's 16 countries most vulnerable to climate change and 5 of the Small Island Development States that are most at risk worldwide. This urgency was reinforced by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5 Degrees with a call to strengthen the global response and to enhance climate resilience of all societies, but especially of those that will be hardest affected such as the poorest and most vulnerable.

Therefore, a shared understanding of climate resilience with a suite of risk and sector specific interventions is essential so that all levels of society can formulate and implement climate actions at scale and hand in hand with mitigation efforts. This is why climate resilience continues to be a cross-cutting theme essential for inclusive and sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region and around the world.

The event is being convened by the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP), and its partners, under the Climate Resilience Network on behalf of the Marrakech Partnership on Global Climate Action.

The session organizers include: Asia Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Concern International, UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Mercy Corps, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Practical Action, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), UNDP. The event is supported by UK's Department for International Development (DFID).

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Programme

9.00–10.00 Welcome & Opening

Setting out the challenge in Asia Pacific for building resilience and opportunities to advance action through the UN Climate Action Summit and beyond.

Keynote: **H.E. Brian Davidson**, UK's Ambassador to Thailand

Panelists:

- **Ancha Srinivasan**, Principal Climate Change Specialist, Asian Development Bank
- **Wanum Permpibul**, Executive Director, Climate Justice Thailand
- **Mohammed Mukhier**, Deputy Regional Director, IFRC
- **Kundhavi Kadiresan**, FAO Assistant Director-General for Asia and the Pacific (tbc)
- **David Howlett**, Head of Policy, Global Resilience Partnership

Moderator: **Aditi Kapoor**, Climate and Resilience Advisor, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

10.00–11.00 Session 1: Connecting the Dots - Early Action for Rapid Decision-Making to Prevent Disasters

Global climate change has already had observable effects on both people's lives and environment. To save lives, early warning system is an adaptive measure for climate change, using integrated communication system to help communities prepare for multi-hazards. This session will discuss challenges, gaps and innovative and practical approaches (policy, governance and technical) of strengthening local level early warning systems to build early action to prevent disasters and build resilience for the future.

Moderator: **Chinaporn Meechaiya**, Senior project coordinator/Hydrologist, ADPC

Speakers:

- **Hans Guttman**, Executive director, ADPC
- **Madan Pariyar**, Program Development and M&E Director, iDE Nepal
- **Sunil Acharya**, Regional Advisor, Climate and Resilience, Practical Action
- **Hang Thi Thanh Pham**, Senior Resilience Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia Pacific
- **Senaka Basnayake**, Director of Climate Resilience Department, ADPC
- **Piyanud Siri**, City Planner, Senior Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand

11.00–11.15 Coffee Break

11.15–12.45 Session 2: Driving Scale and Sustainability for Climate Action Programs and Policies through a Systems Approach

This session will highlight the need for systems thinking to climate change programs and policies. A facilitated discussion led by national government policymakers and practitioners will walk participants through case studies to demonstrate how a systems lens can be applied to understand interactions and linkages between actors and across scales to deliver high impact, sustainable programs to the most vulnerable.

Moderator: **Jeremy Stone**, Regional Resilience Director South, South East Asia, Mercy Corps.

Speakers:

- **Arif Wibowo**, Deputy Director for Identification and Assessment of Climate Change Vulnerability, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Government of Indonesia
- **Sudhiani Pratiwi**, Deputy Director for Climate Change and Environmental Quality, Deputy for Maritime Affairs and Natural Resources, National Development Planning Agency, Government of Indonesia
- **Afsari Begum**, Senior Specialist, Disaster Risk Reduction, Practical Action Bangladesh
- **Zakia Naznin**, Programme Manager, Flood Resilience Project, Concern Worldwide Bangladesh

12.45–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.00 **Session 3: Building Resilience for All: Intersectional Approaches to Vulnerability Reduction in Asia**

People's experiences of natural hazards vary depending on socio-economic, cultural, political and environmental contexts. This session explores how different factors intersect to create exclusion, inequalities and vulnerabilities. Panelists will share approaches for understanding intersecting inequalities – including gender, age, ethnicity, economic status and disability – and how effective intersectional approaches to vulnerability reduction and resilience-building can be developed in policy and practice.

Moderator: **Emma Lovell**, Research Fellow, Risk and Resilience Programme, ODI

Speakers:

- **Asha Hans**, Executive Vice President, Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre and Member of the Rehabilitation Task Force on Disability Armed Conflict and Disaster
- **Madan Pariyar**, Deputy Team Leader, Anukulan/BRACED Project, International Development Enterprises (iDE) Nepal
- Representative from **SEI Asia Centre** (tbc)
- Representative from **YOUNGO**, the official youth constituency at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (tbc)

15.00–16.00 **Session 4: Re-Naturing through Nature based Solutions for a Resilient Future**

Climate Change is a major threat to the global ecosystem and Nature based Solutions (NbS) are currently fundamental in enhancing adaptive capacity by providing a vital link between sustainable socioeconomic development with biodiversity and ecosystem conservation to achieve climate resilience. The session aims to share evidence from the field and explore strategies to mainstream NbS into climate resilience narratives, policies and actions.

Moderator: **Senaka Basnayake**, Director of Climate resilience department and **Chinaporn Meechaiya**, Senior project coordinator/Hydrologist, ADPC

Speakers:

- **Hans Guttman**, Executive director, ADPC
- **Anshuman Saikia**, IUCN Regional Focal point Asia, IUCN
- **Piyanud Siri**, Department of City Planning and Urban Department, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand
- **P. H. C. H. Rathnasiri**, National Building Research Organisation (NBRO), Sri Lanka/ADPC
- **Thanapon Piman**, Research Fellow, SEI

16.00–16.15 **Coffee Break**

16.15–17.15 **Session 5: Strengthening Climate Resilience through Financial Innovation in Asia-Pacific**

This session will explore how different stakeholders in the micro-lenders ecosystem, comprising micro and small businesses, agricultural smallholders, microfinance institutions (MFIs), their regulators, and government policymakers, can take action to catalyze the role of MFIs to strengthen climate resilience in Asia-Pacific through financial innovation. It will look at opportunities and challenges and a climate action agenda to scale-up green microfinance.

Moderator: **Aditi Kapoor**, Climate and Resilience Advisor, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

Speakers:

- **Andrew Kruczkiewicz**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and International Research Institute for Climate and Society at Colombia University
- **Yoko Okura**, Regional Program and Advocacy Manager, Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance, Mercy Corps
- **Yossef Zahar**, SEI Associate, MFIs Financing Innovations for Resilient Communities
- **Asad Maken**, Climate Finance Networks, UNDP

17.15–17.30 **Closing Remarks and Next Steps**

In closing, all stakeholders will be invited to reflect on the priority actions and the road towards the UN Climate Action Summit (and beyond).