

## TG1: GEOSS ASIAN WATER CYCLE INITIATIVE (AWCI)

Human factors, such as globalization, population growth, poverty, urbanization and changes in land use, are aggravating the negative consequences of climatological, hydrological and meteorological hazards. Extreme climate events are also increasing water-related disaster risks faced by populations living in vulnerable areas. Losses are increasing in both developed and developing countries, and in this inter-connected world, the impact of an event can immediately cross borders, leading to cascading consequences, even in areas that are remote from the event. Repeated exposure to disasters is hampering sustainable development in vulnerable localities.

In 2015, the international community agreed on three major accords: the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (Paris Agreement). These agreements collectively present an urgent need and opportunity for action now and beyond. There are important connections among these agreements. The SDGs on water and its related targets capture many ways water is utilized, managed, treated and protected throughout the entire water cycle. These targets address pressing water-related issues including social vulnerability and water-related hazards due to intensified climate change as well as poverty, hunger and cities. These water issues are inter-related and interdependent and must be addressed in a systemic and global way to create a more water-secure world.

GEOSS/AWCI has stepped into the second phase as one of Task Groups of AOGEO and a part of GEOGLOWS. Based on the series of discussions at the Asia Water Cycle Symposium (AWCS2016) in Tokyo, March 2016, the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposiums in Tokyo 2017, Hanoi 2018 and Kyoto 2018, respectively, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> UN Special Thematic Sessions on Water and Disasters in New York in July 2017 and June 2019, respectively, and the plenary meetings in Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Indonesia, AWCI in collaboration with the International Flood Initiative (IFI) established a Platform on Water Resilience and Disasters in each country and has launched its activity.

The session this year will discuss concerted actions in the Asia-Oceania region to be taken for effectively contributing to the three global key agendas, i.e., the Sendai Framework, the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, and successfully implementing the UN Decade of Action "Water for Sustainable Development" (2018-2028)

### **Co-Chairs:**

Dr. Srikanth Herath, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development, Sri Lanka

Dr. Angelica Gutierrez, Chair of GEOGLOWS, NOAA, USA

Prof. Toshio Koike, International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM)

**November 3, Sunday at Common Room, University House, National University of Australia**

- 9:00-9:30**      **1. Opening GEOSS/AWCI Breakout Session**
- 1) Opening Address Co-Chairs
  - 2) Opening Remarks
    - GEO Secretariat Director Gilberto Camara
    - APN (submitted ppt) Linda Anne Stevenson
  - 3) Report on the AWCI Session of the 11<sup>th</sup> GEOSS-AP and the related activities Toshio Koike
- 9:30-10:20**      **2. Keynote Lecture**
- Angelica Gutierrez, NOAA, USA  
Dushmanta Dutta, New South Wales Government, Australia
- 10:20-10:30**      *Break*
- 10:30-10:40**      **\*5. Introductions to the International Activities on Water**
- 1) JAXA Shinichi Sobue
- 10:40-12:00**      **3. Water (TG1)-Agriculture (TG5)-Droughts (TG6) Joint Session**
- 1) TG6 inputs Jia, Li
  - 2) TG5 inputs Shinichi Sobue
  - 3) TG1 inputs Toshio Koike
  - 4) Discussion towards coordination and integration
- 12:00-13:00**      *Lunch Break*
- 13:00-14:20**      **4. Report on the Platforms on Water Resilience and Disasters**
- 1) Myanmar
  - 2) Philippines
  - 3) Sri Lanka
  - 4) Indonesia
- 14:20-14:40**      **5. Introductions to the International Activities on Water (WebEX)**
- 2) WMO Johannes Cullmann
  - 3) UNESCO Shahbaz Khan
- 14:40-15:00**      *Break*
- 15:00-15:40**      **6. Summary on Practical Contributions to the Global Agendas**
- 1) SDGs
  - 2) Sendai Framework
  - 3) Paris Agreement
- All

<b>15:40-16:20</b>	<b>7. Regional Cooperation during the UN International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”</b>	All
	1) Hydrometeorology 2) Disaster Management 3) Infrastructure Design and Management	
<b>16:20-16:50</b>	<b>8. Inputs into the Canberra Statement</b>	All
<b>16:50-17:00</b>	<b>9. Closing Remarks</b>	Co-Chairs
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	