



KE4CAP EU-Japan Knowledge Exchange Event, 29 & 30 June 2021



National
Institute for
Environmental
Studies, Japan



KE4CAP
Knowledge Exchange between
Climate Adaptation Platforms



Introduction

There are a number of climate adaptation platforms being developed and operated in the Asia-Pacific region. As climate change impacts have become increasingly severe, accelerating collective action to push forward adaptation action is unquestionably important. The National Institute the Environmental Studies (NIES) of Japan is one of many platform developers who see the potential benefit of the “Stepping-up Knowledge Exchange between Climate Adaptation Knowledge Platforms” (KE4CAP) project as a means of sharing experience and learning between platforms.

In response to the Paris Agreement, Japan has endeavored to enhance adaptive capacity at home and abroad. In doing so, it sees climate change adaptation platforms playing pivotal roles for supporting action and strengthening resilience. The Japanese central government published its first National Adaptation Plan¹ in 2015 based on the first National Impact Assessment Report completed in the same year.²

To implement the plan, NIES and the Ministry of the Environment (MoEJ) jointly launched the climate change adaptation platform, or A-PLAT, in 2018. A-PLAT aims to provide information and data to support adaptation actions of local governments, businesses, and citizens. In cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies, it provides information for meeting users' needs; develops tools to promote adaptation action; and collects, organizes, and provides information on best practices.

The plan also promotes international cooperation and contributions by Japan. By referring to Chapter 24 of the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC, the plan recognizes that the Asia-Pacific region is increasingly vulnerable to floods, extreme weather events and other climate impacts. Considering today's globalization, cooperation and collaboration within the region are of importance to all.

In response, the AP-PLAT platform has been established to serve as the online go-to place for climate change risk information to support effective climate risk management through adaptation across the region. AP-PLAT is designed to be a place for sharing and collaboration among all relevant stakeholders. The official AP-PLAT launch took place during the G20 Ministerial Meeting in 2019 at Karuizawa, Nagano in Japan.³

In 2018, NIES hosted the first International Climate Change Adaptation Platform meeting in Tokyo. The purpose of the meeting was to learn from leading platforms in the EU and elsewhere. The idea started with a small discussion with Roger Street of University of Oxford at Adaptation Futures 2018 in Cape Town, South Africa. However, his kind consideration and broader network enabled us to organize a conference in which 12 national and international platforms participated. This highlights the importance of the network approach to maximize the effectiveness of all platforms.

The first UN FCCC Global stocktake is expected in 2023. To achieve global goals on adaptation, more collective action among platforms developers and operators is essential.

¹ Cabinet Decision (2015) [National Plan for Adaptation to the Impacts of Climate Change](#)

² Central Environment Council (2015) [Report on Assessment of Impacts of Climate Change in Japan and Future Challenges](#)

³ <https://www.unep.org/events/conference/launch-asia-pacific-climate-change-adaptation-information-platform>



Enhancing Connections across National and Local Platforms to Support Adaptation Action

KE4CAP EU-Japan Knowledge Exchange Event
DAY 1

29, JUNE 2021



National
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Highlighted Messages from Day 1

Climate adaptation knowledge platforms can play a valuable role in the capacity building of local governments. However, there are challenges related to differentiated capacity within local authorities, frequent personnel changes and limited familiarity with climate change adaptation.

Particularly under Japan's decentralized legislative framework, adaptation implementation relies significantly on action by local governments. There are gaps in the capacities of local governments in their understanding of climate change adaptation as well as their capability to analyse climate change impacts. These gaps pose challenges to the local climate change adaptation centres (LCCACs). Since the capacity of LCCACs varies, identifying and meeting demands at the local level is also a challenge for the national CCCA with its limited capacities and resources.

One approach adopted by some platforms focuses on 'training the trainers'.

This can be effective in building and sustaining capacity whilst overcoming the problem of local planners being regularly transferred. Continual 'training of trainers', who then provide centralised knowledge within the jurisdiction and possibly in neighbouring prefectures, can be an efficient approach for capacity development in the local governments. Local mitigation experts are valuable stakeholders for adaptation because they already have a good understanding of local context.

Information provided through platforms should be selected and developed according to the specific needs and capabilities of local authorities while maintaining consistency with national-level data and information.

Science sometimes delivers more than is needed, so platforms should be selective in what they offer and concentrate their resources on, for example, translation. Local stakeholders do not need to know everything so there is a balance to be achieved. In addition, scientific research should be designed according to user needs.

Platforms should act as knowledge brokers between local authorities and scientists as they have a good understanding of the needs of the targeted user communities.

There are limitations in users' cognitive capacity. Platforms should focus on understanding users including why and how the decision-making changes over time. 'User journeys' may be a useful approach to develop here and User panels can be an effective way to integrate user feedback into the process. Good decisions can be made with less complicated information.

DAY 1: ‘Enhancing Connections across National and Local Platforms to Support Adaptation Action’

Objective

To develop the role of CAPs in enhancing collaboration between national, regional, and local adaptation actions - sharing knowledge and experiences.

All presentations from the event are available to view [here](#). Biographies of presenters are given in the Appendix.

Overview

This event provided opportunities to learn how different approaches to enhancing connections have been taken in Japan, the Netherlands, and Ireland, and how these approaches can help inform the activities of A-PLAT. The first session started with an overview of Japan’s policy formulation and implementation of adaptation. The Netherlands then illustrated approaches to information sharing it has taken through linked national, regional, and local platforms. Ireland focused on the role of Climate Ireland in supporting the development of local adaptation strategies. The presentations highlighted similarities, differences and strengths of the various approaches taken by national platforms as they seek to support local adaptation, and illustrated how platforms take country context into consideration in the development and operation of their platform.

The second session explored the potential of the local climate change adaptation centers (LCCAC) in Japan as service providers and connectivity hubs working across national, regional, and local levels. Although scientific understanding is important, the discussion focused on developing the adaptive capacity of local authorities to enable them to provide information and services within their jurisdictions, and on approaches to encourage the local authorities to continue learning and improving.

Case of Japan

“Climate Change Adaptation Policies and Programmes in Japan”

Presenter: Mr. Kazuaki Takahashi, Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office, Ministry of the Environment, Japan. [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

This presentation provided an overview of adaptation policy formulation and implementation in Japan by focusing on the role of Ministry of Environment Japan (MoEJ). Japan has identified significant impacts of climate change in seven sectors and conducted National Impact Assessments in 2015 and 2020. Based on these assessments, horizontal coordination among ministries has been consolidated as well as vertical cooperation with local governments. MoEJ has organized regional adaptation consortium initiatives to support local governments in impact assessment. Based on this initiative, MoEJ launched an

adaptation action plan formulation project working with central and local governments, academia, and the private sector. Also, in support of the national adaptation programme, the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) operates the national climate change adaptation platform ([A-PLAT](#)) and provides technical advice and assistance including to local governments and LCCACs. LCCACs are established by individual municipalities and function as centres to collect and provide information on local impacts of climate change and suitable adaptation measures.

Following the presentation, a participant asked if there is any formal relationship between the Climate Change Adaptation Promotion Council and the seven regional councils. The presenter confirmed there is no formal linkage. Another participant further inquired if there is any soft linkage between the national and local adaptation actors. Yasuaki Hijioka replied to the question as a deputy director of CCCA and explained that although there is limited linkage between regional and local levels, NIES plays a central role to connect and communicate with regional and local levels by providing newsletters, meetings, and guidance.

Case of the Netherlands

“The role of CAS in enhancing the links between national and local adaptation action in the Netherlands”

Presenter: Kim van Nieuwaal, Climate Adaptation Services.

This presentation illustrated how Climate Adaptation Services (CAS) has linked adaptation actions at national, regional, and local levels in the Netherlands. CAS operates the [National climate adaptation platform](#) and the Dutch [Climate Impact Atlas](#), and has also developed a number of regional and local platforms and tools. Platforms at sub-national levels maintain alignment with the national platforms, and two-way exchanges of experience, knowledge and guidance helps ensure all information is tailored to local needs.

For example, CAS and partners also developed an interactive tool to visualize climate impacts identified in the Dutch National Adaptation Strategy. The tool allows users to customize the impacts according to their local or regional needs.

In its operation across levels of governance, CAS applies consistent language, offers similar entry levels, and synchronizes data across levels. User panels and a help-desk enhance links with users. With these approaches, CAS plays a pivotal role in linking adaptation actions at national and sub-national levels.

In the following Q&A session, a participant asked about the level of use of the Atlas. The presenter replied that the National Atlas has three or four hundred visitors on daily basis out of a population of 17 million population. Japanese researcher Makoto Tamura asked for examples of local experts and their involvement as well as information the experts are likely to provide. The presenter explained that he called the local experts local champions. They tend to be recruited from bigger cities but work is now underway to identify future champions in medium-sized municipalities. Although they can be hard to identify, they are often involved in existing programs and research. The presenter also indicated that they utilize the User Panels of the platform to identify champions, asking who could best provide

information at the local level.

Another question from Yoshiko Sano asked if responsibilities at the national and local government levels are significantly different and if CAS takes different approaches. The presenter then explained the governance in the Netherlands. Like Japan, the country has a decentralized system where the central government prepares the national adaptation strategy, and municipalities are asked to implement the policy. Although this makes sense, the presenter cast doubt about the efficiency of the approach by referring to the example of stress tests. For instance, all municipalities should undergo stress tests (e.g., for heat, drought, flooding) for sound operation. However, it may be too great a burden for small municipalities in terms of budget and capacity and it may be that a more centralized approach would better balance policy implementation at national and local levels in the future.

A participant from Climate-ADAPT (Valentina Giannini) asked about the user panel. The presenter explained that the panel is not a formal organization but a flexible way of inviting local governments and experts to discuss ideas. Another participant (Julia Barrott) asked about local examples of adaptation and if the knowledge is incorporated into planning and also used to inspire others. The presenter explained the challenges of utilizing the examples in other contexts as well as of maintaining relevance in changing circumstances, which is a demanding task.

The final question was asked by the host, asking for explanation about the levels e.g., B1 or B2 of the Common European Framework. The presenter explained that the framework is used to standardize the proficiency of language in the EU.

Case of Ireland

“Climate Ireland’s support in linking local authority adaptation action with national adaptation objectives”

Presenter: Barry O’Dwyer, University College Cork. [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

This presentation elaborated on the role of the national adaptation platform, [Climate Ireland](#), in helping to implement the National Adaptation Framework (NAF), including at the local level. In the development process, Climate Ireland identified requirements for adaptation decision-making: scientific information; a requirement of national policy that it should be reflected at the local level; and practices in which science is employed to mainstream adaptation into decision making. In doing so, they identified two questions; what does the capacity of local authorities look like, and how can local adaptation planning align with the national framework? One common issue with the Japanese situation is the time line; local plans focus on the next eight years whereas most climate information extends to mid-century.

The presenter then explained how they support local adaptation planning. The NAF requires the 31 local authorities (LAs) to develop climate adaptation strategies in accordance with the nationally developed Local Authority Adaptation Strategy Development Guidelines. All the local authorities completed their first local adaptation strategies in 2019 with the assistance of Climate Ireland and the four Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO) that have

been established under the NAF. In the plans, all the key sectors are included. The process has also raised awareness of local authorities' understanding of climate change impacts as well as adaptation. The presenter stressed that adaptation planning is an iterative learning process; the first step is often a steep learning curve for local authorities and, based on this, building capacity is fundamental. For the second iteration, Climate Ireland is working to address challenges by providing bespoke training as well as developing specific tools e.g., a semi-quantitative risk assessment tool for use by local governments.

During the Q&A session, a participant from Austria (Markus Leitner) asked if the business sector is a target stakeholder for local activities, saying that Austrian municipalities have tried to work with the private sector. The presenter answered that LAs are linking with the business sector e.g., via the Chambers of Commerce, by developing guidance on economic benefits. He explained that local authorities are a gateway to local businesses for adaptation, but that Climate Ireland is not directly involved. Another question from Roger Street asked how linkages between universities and local authorities are helping to support capacity building. The presenter reported that the linkage is growing particularly with the CAROs, with universities developing tools and courses in particular areas. The final question was asked by Yasuaki Hijioka, about semi-quantitative risk assessment. The presenter explained that it is a combination of a qualitative and quantitative assessment approach because e.g., for vulnerability assessments some qualitative information needs to be included.

Plenary discussion 1: Feedback and suggestion to CCCA's adaptation platform activities from KE4CAP members

This session provided opportunities for A-PLAT to obtain feedback and suggestions to maximize the effectiveness of their current activities. Prior to the discussion, the latest activities of A-PLAT were presented. Discussion was facilitated by Roger Street of KE4CAP and focused on seeking perspectives on enhancing the supportive capacity of CCCA for climate change action at the local level.

Context setting

"Introduction to CCCA's adaptation activities linking to local action, and challenges faced"
Presenter: Yoshifumi Masago, NIES

This presentation explained the role of the Centre for Climate Change Adaptation of Japan (CCCA). Under the Climate Change Adaptation Act, NIES plays a key role in managing information for adaptation in Japan including via the A-PLAT platform. The duty includes collecting, organizing, and providing information as well as technical advice and support to local governments and LCCACs. With these, CCCA bridges the national, regional and local activities.

To enhance this work, six collaborative research programs with LCCACs have been undertaken, including the presenter's project on information design for regional climate change adaptation through co-creation with LCCACs. CCCA also manages A-PLAT Lab, a

closed online platform to communicate with local officials and for information and knowledge sharing, using existing tools such as ArcGIS which allows sharing of data with LCCACs own internal systems.

Finally, the presenter listed three main challenges. First, communication and collaboration between LCCACs as their backgrounds, capacities, and needs are all different. Secondly, maintaining up-to-date and high-quality scientific knowledge as different national research projects produce different data on the same impacts. Hence, maintaining consistency is challenging. Finally, the presenter pointed out difficulties in improving CCCA's own capacity and services to meet requirements from various stakeholders, while incorporating the latest IT technology and enhancing networks among institutes e.g., via open data policies etc.

Feedback session, moderated by Roger Street, KE4CAP

Following the presentation, Roger Street of KE4CAP moderated the first plenary discussion. He firstly focused on building capacity, needs, and interests at the local level, and invited a KE4CAP member, Barry O'Dwyer of Climate Ireland, to share his experience. As for different capacities in local authorities, Barry explained that he pays close attention to targeting different groups. For instance, he referred to a training program that has been developed to raise general awareness of climate change adaptation within local authorities at all levels. Beyond this, climate action planning teams within LAs need more specific information on adaptation planning and Climate Ireland has developed a specific hands-on training program to meet this need. He also added that his team have provided a specific training program for individual local development projects including guidance in e.g., risk assessments, using scenario analysis etc. Barry concluded that in Ireland there are a wide range of capacities at the local level, and his team has tried to meet each need while understanding the interrelationship between the needs and the expertise and resources needed within the platform team to deliver the requirements.

Roger highlighted the mutual benefits of the 'they are learning from you and you are learning from them' approach. Barry replied that this learning style contributes to the development of planning guidance and agreed, stating that his team need to understand both local authorities' objectives, which might be affected by climate change, and how decision-making within the local authorities works as new information e.g., on adaptation, becomes available. Roger summarized the discussion, referring to the case of Ireland, and highlighting that an inclusive and integrated approach to adaptation decision making is essential where governments, citizens, and the business sector are involved.

Next, Roger asked about CCCA's activities for local authorities, and the presenter confirmed that they provide annual workshops on local adaptation planning as well as a series of lectures that explain climate change and its impacts. Barry explained that Ireland started with basic training and has evolved over the last three years by focusing on particular challenges at the local level. Jeremy Gault of Climate Ireland added that originally Climate Ireland only trained adaptation planners, but that now all LA staff need to be aware of climate change as they are all involved in implementing actions which potentially include an adaptation component. Roger suggested the need for 'training the trainers' within the

jurisdiction, who would then promote adaptation in the organization. He also stated that this approach might work for promoting adaptation in the local business sector.

Further, Roger picked up on a challenge regarding keeping up-to-date with scientific knowledge. For this challenge, Roger introduced Valentina Giannini of ClimateADAPT and asked how the European platform manages the evolving state of knowledge. Valentina explained that ClimateADAPT has worked with a wide variety of sectors to provide information to inform policy sectors within the EU. ClimateADAPT has teams where experts from the various sectors work together to assess and update the information and data on the platform. ClimateADAPT has recently updated both the web pages regarding policy to include the new EU adaptation strategy issued in 2021 and the database with qualitative information on resources available externally.

After ClimateADAPT, Roger invited CAS to explain their approach to keeping up with scientific knowledge at the national level. Kim referred to his presentation, in which he explained that scientific information is like things that are stored in a 'refrigerator' – need to keep it fresh but eventually it will be outdated. Roger asked Kim how CAS keeps the data fresh. Kim answered that science delivers more than is needed, so platforms should be selective in what they offer as they need to have resources available for translation and also to avoid overwhelming users with too much information. Especially at the local level, there is usually no need to know everything so there is a balance to be achieved e.g. how many scenarios are useful to specific users. Roger highlighted the value of user panels as an effective way to determine this balance and suggested that although there are many models, scenarios, and impact models that researchers are concerned about, climate services should focus on understanding users: why and how the decision-making changes over time, and that 'user journeys' may be a useful approach to develop here. But Kim reported back on their latest discussion with users on this topic, saying that there are limitations of people's cognitive capacity to comprehend multiple, alternative structures when dealing with scientific information and that the users had rejected the need for an additional approach, in this case 'user journeys'. Good decisions can be made with less complicated information.

Roger also invited Markus Leitner from Austria by asking how they deal with local user needs with respect to different scientific models, scenarios, and impact models. Markus introduced an activity, 'climate change adaptation model regions', in which a handful of participating municipalities work together on a priority topic e.g., forest of the future, erosion etc. Markus and his colleagues as well as the local Met. Office supports the projects by providing climate scenarios for the municipalities, and involving local universities and other institutions as well as practitioners as necessary. With this support, the municipalities have developed adaptation measures. This program has now evolved into another project with financial resources to go beyond the capacity building to supporting implementation. In this process, Markus stated that the team recognized the continuous flow of inputs from science in the projects.

As for scientific information, Barry highlighted the role of platforms as acting as a knowledge broker with the scientists as they have a good understanding of the needs of

user communities. Scientific research should be designed according to user needs before starting it. For example, Ireland has been developing a set of standardized projections, in which Climate Ireland is a project partner with responsibility for explaining local authorities' needs. Roger also highlighted the value of using standardized sets of scenarios as way of overcoming excess scientific information and of guiding the work of local users. A participant (Takahiro Oyama) raised the issue of local authority employees being transferred to other departments after a couple of years, and their expertise being lost. This is true in many countries and needs to be addressed e.g. by training teams rather than individuals and by recognizing there is value as employees will take their knowledge on adaptation to other departments to inform their work etc.

Another challenge raised by CCCA was how to improve the capacity of the team that is developing the platform, including in understanding new science and working with increasingly diverse local stakeholders. The platform in Taiwan (Joyce Chang) addresses this challenge by hosting international conferences and maintaining close collaboration with international research communities to exchange scientific knowledge and understand user needs so the team can really focus on condensing relevant scientific knowledge. In Finland (Sanna Luhtala), they aim to identify and involve users in research projects at an early stage to help ensure delivery of useful and useable outputs. In Canada (Valerie Côté), the team struggle with capacity on a regular basis, but have responded in part by building a continuum of climate information portals, supported by a collaborative network of regional experts, practitioners and users.

On the issue of open data sharing, using the latest technology etc. WeADAPT projects (Julia Barrott) shared information on experiences with standardizing how data is structured and described to enable efficient data sharing across websites, and on recent advances in using artificial intelligence e.g. 'chat bots' to help users find what they need on platforms thus reducing the need for flexible structuring of platforms to support varied user needs (but this approach can be expensive).

Plenary discussion 2: Focused on questions from Local Climate Change Adaptation Centers (LCCACs) in Japan

This session provided opportunities for local officials responsible for adaptation planning or operation of the (LCCACs) to seek lessons learned from KE4CAP. Prior to the event, NIES asked local officials and A-PLAT/AP-PLAT operators if they have challenges or difficulties in their duties or any questions for platform experts outside of Japan. The questions were sent via email from NIES, and 31 items were received within a week. The questions were then selected by NEIS based on the priority in the Japanese context as well as the scope of the discussion.

Context setting

“Questions from Local Climate Change Adaptation Centers (LCCACs) in Japan”

Presenter Tomohiro Fujita, NIES

In this presentation, the objectives of this discussion were explained:

1. desirable attributes for LCCACs in Japan.
2. supporting the business sector.

The legislative framework for LCCACs was then introduced, together with their background and establishment. Subsequently, the questions selected were introduced as follows:

Q.1 LCCACs in Japan are in their initial stage. The centers have sought duties to work on. What should be done to push forward their activities? What does a desirable local adaptation center (and the roles to play) look like? Advice with cases outside of Japan would be appreciated.

- ✓ There are silos among departments. What do you think to create an effective collaboration network among relevant departments?
- ✓ What expertise is essential for LCCACs? What would help LCCACs that are solely operated by the environment department of prefectures?
- ✓ What financial mechanism would support LCCACs? How could the central government / business sector financially support them?
- ✓ To what extent local adaptation centers should bear the responsibility for collecting, organizing, and analyzing scientific findings?
- ✓ What knowledge or practice is required to mainstream adaptation? What is needed to effectively disseminate adaptation?
- ✓ Do you have any good practices of collaboration with NGOs or NPOs?
- ✓

Q.2 Do you set indicators regarding activities of LCCACs, adaptation plans, or implementation of adaptation measures? Japan has been seeking to establish the indicators.

- ✓ Do you have metrics to measure the activities or contributions of local adaptation centers? Are there any international key performance indicators?
- ✓ Do you know any practical indicators that measure the progress of adaptation plans or measures?

Q.3 How do you support business sectors in adaptation to climate change? Good practices are appreciated.

- ✓ Do any platforms have feedback from business sector? If so, in what framework?

- ✓ What do you do to disseminate adaptation in small-medium-sized companies?
- ✓ Do you have any good practices of cooperation or collaboration with companies?
- ✓ Do you collect, organize or analyze technologies for adaptation that are developed and owned in the business sector? If so, what does the scheme for information collection look like?

Feedback session, moderated by Kim van Nieuwaal, KE4CAP

Kim van Nieuwaal of CAS moderated the session by inviting the KE4CAP members and platform experts to contribute. He asked ClimateADAPT (Valentina Giannini) to share experiences of linking platforms in the EU.

Valentina provided her opinions on the three questions from the European perspective. Firstly, she reported that her team is careful not to duplicate effort and focuses on complementing national adaptation activities e.g. by including case studies from the national platforms. ClimateADAPT interacts with the national representatives in annual workshops and through this interaction, aligns ClimateADAPT work with their expectations including the differentiated speed of planning, designing, and implementing adaptation across Europe.

Valentina highlighted two activities of ClimateADAPT. One is Use cases that showcase about 20 examples describing how national or local users have used information on ClimateADAPT to meet their mandates. She added that ClimateADAPT provides not only knowledge but also how users utilize the knowledge, which is beneficial in sharing experiences for others. Another is the Urban Adaptation Support Tool¹ that comprises a six-step iterative process: from assessing impacts and vulnerabilities to monitoring for feedback.

The moderator commented on community building, and suggested that the LCCACs could position themselves to be more accessible to local users as compared to the national CCCA, and that one of the opportunities for the LCCACs could be to serve as help desks to facilitate and support greater engagement and use by local users.

Roger Street stated that developing tools (and guidance etc.) is important, but the development should start with working with users. And once the tool is being used, the development team can work with users to recognize strengths and weaknesses of the tool as a focus for a continual improvement process to avoid the tool becoming less usable and less relevant.

The moderator then moved to the question regarding supporting the business sector. Roger Street introduced a tool BACLIAT² that assists businesses in following steps to understand appropriate actions and was developed by working with the business community. In addition, the moderator presented his experience in the Netherlands with the development process of the Impact Atlas which involved local user groups and also the business sector.

¹ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/knowledge/tools/adaptation-support-tool>

² <https://www.ukcip.org.uk/wizard/future-climate-vulnerability/baciat/>

By doing so, the tool was designed specifically to meet local needs and also provided a stepping stone for the business community to more detailed information. Finally, Roger Street highlighted the value of peer-to-peer connections, and the use of peer-to-peer forums to connect people in the same community.

The moderator then asked Valerie Coté to explain the Canadian system and how local representation is encouraged. Canada established an adaptation platform which brings together the Canadian Adaptation Community (governments, academia, indigenous peoples, practitioners, professional and industry associations) at the national level yet provides an opportunity for local representation. Within the community, priorities and ways to address the priorities are identified and it is supported by a 'workspace', creating an online network where members can exchange and advance work under themes³. In addition, the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS) has numerous ties with municipal associations across provinces and territories, and works with a number of knowledge broker and expert organizations to jointly deliver services.

Valerie also mentioned about silos between ministries in the chat box: *"Also, for Q1: to breakdown silos across federal departments, we have a number of governance structures (i.e., Working groups and committees) that look to facilitate collaboration and coordination. It's a bit tricky at times, as many departments have very defined mandates, but for Climate Services, we have a broad mandate and often act as a convener of departments to advance work broadly."*

Based on the above discussion, the moderator suggested that LCCACs can also offer connections of use to those working at the national level e.g., to local networks working on the ground. In the Netherlands, the ministry appreciates the close ties CAS has at the local level which allows feedback on how national policies and strategies are working. He also concluded that local centers have the potential to monitor the progress of adaptation action on the ground and to report it at the national level, which would be a very important role in tracking the implementation of actions.

The moderator then invited Markus Leitner from Austria to share his experience on the (future) role of local centers including on monitoring and reporting systems. In Austria, local adaptation centers in general do not need detailed scientific information; what the local centers need is trends and signals because local authorities are accustomed to working with uncertainties. Therefore, the Austrian team try to help local authorities in translating scientific information into local contexts. Markus also highlighted the need for staff e.g. in LCCACs, dedicated to working with municipalities and who can continually train local users. This is an approach that has been used successfully in Austria as the staff understand both the local contexts and adaptation needs but also the additional duties of the municipalities e.g. in water management, flooding etc. that all contribute to overall local responsibilities.

Barry O'Dwyer shared experiences from Ireland. Climate Ireland has focused on increasing local authorities' capacity to deliver services on their own by strengthening the essential partnership between the national adaptation platform, regional adaptation centers and local

³ <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/climate-change/impacts-adaptations/adapting-our-changing-climate/10027>

authorities. As adaptation is a continual learning process, increasing local authorities' capacity can avoid the need to hire external consultants and helps ensure the expertise remains in-house. The moderator also added his perspective from the Netherlands regarding business services who use the open-source information in the Climate Impact Atlas to make money from consultancy work without adding any value to it. He suggested it must be made very clear to both consultancies and users what information is freely available, how it can be used, and how using the information can add to the overall knowledge infrastructure. Roger Street agreed and suggested a transparent peer-to-peer-forum, including between the public and private sector, can be an effective measure to help deal with this and related issues.

On the issue of using consultancies, and related to financial models for platforms, Julia Barrott shared information that many businesses are using consultancy services to inform their climate and adaptation strategies. For example, in Europe, this is happening in response to policy requiring climate-related financial disclosures. In some cases, the consultancy firms are using climate adaptation platforms to gain information. This can be problematic if the consultancy firms do not have the depth of knowledge to provide high quality advice. One financial model could be the development of a consultancy service as part of the platform, with fees for services provided going towards supporting the platform. Finally, Roger Street addressed the need for indicators to measure LCCACs progress as well as for the monitoring of adaptation plans and measures. He said that indicators are being developed and that work would accelerate over the next couple of years, including in support of the global stocktake. But the most important thing is to set up a process for engaged and constructive scrutiny of the indicators, plans and measures as they develop. As a member of the Adaptation Committee in Ireland, he and fellow members scrutinize local and sectoral plans and work with the local authorities as they take the ownership of the plans and measures and are encouraged to keep improving the planning based on continuous learning.

The session was closed with gratitude of the moderator and the host, and Roger Street introduced the KE4CAP synthesis workshop in September 2021, which will be virtually organized.

Day 2



Exploring the Potential for Linking Platforms to Enhance Action, including in the Asia- Pacific Region

KE4CAP EU-Japan Knowledge Exchange Event
DAY 2

30, JUNE 2021



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Highlighted Messages from Day 2

In terms of the mandates and operations of platforms in the Asia-Pacific region, a key difference between these and platforms in Europe is the absence of an overarching policy framework.

Joint efforts, joint publications etc. can have significantly more impact than working individually. Regional collaboration may be particularly important to developing countries within the region as a means of enhancing their capacity and ability to access and use relevant climate information.

Linking platforms within a region enables new developers and those with less mature platforms to advance rapidly based on the shared experiences and lessons learnt from other more mature / experienced platforms.

By leveraging capacities within a region, new platforms do not need to invest in resources already developed by other platforms. Linking across platforms will also enhance technical capacity such as downscaling, which is especially important for smaller and island countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Innovative approaches introduced by new developers can accelerate adaptation action within a region.

Networking of platforms in a region can provide opportunities to consolidate and integrate existing data, information, and approaches.

There are numerous datasets available within the Asia-Pacific region and consolidating these resources can make them more widely accessible and understandable while avoiding replication and duplication.

An additional advantage from partnership work at the regional level is the opportunity to transcend boundaries to more effectively address common climate change adaptation challenges.

Collaborating across countries at the operational level between experts working on climate adaptation platforms may provide the potential to inform the regional policy agenda and to highlight ambitions and needs more effectively.

DAY 2: ‘Exploring the Value of Linking International and National Platforms to Enhance Action, Including in the Asia-Pacific Region’

Objective

To enhance the utilization of CAPs for promoting adaptation action at the transnational level (e.g., Asia-Pacific and Europe).

All presentations from the event are available to view [here](#). Biographies of presenters are given in the Appendix.

Overview

This event firstly explored how diverse climate adaptation platforms in the Asia-Pacific region are designed, managed, and operated in different contexts and capacities as well as stages of development, and considered the need and potential value of a regional network. It was agreed by the participating platform developers and operators that such a network could help avoid duplication of effort, provide an opportunity to drive development including helping new platforms, provide opportunities to establish standardization of information and data, and create a unique context and central focus for supporting adaptation action in the region. Within a regional network, the potential for specific collaborative tasks such as a region-specific risk assessment report or a joint project using the CMIP6 scenario were also discussed.

The plenary discussion focused on sharing information and lessons learned of working at a regional level in the Asia Pacific, Europe and elsewhere. One of the major challenges identified was the diversity in the levels of development, national interests, politics, cultures, languages in the Asia-Pacific region. However, this diversity is not unique to the region and can be recognized elsewhere including in the EU and in Canada. Although other difficulties were identified, particularly political issues, the participants agreed that the many benefits of a regional network (sharing information and learning from each other), could outweigh the challenges involved.

By working collectively, a potential network could strive to influence policy and practice by exhibiting strong partnership within the region and close linkages with Europe and beyond, thus demonstrating a shared commitment to supporting adaptation action across the region.

Context setting for the plenary discussion 1 and 2

Presenter: Yuji Masutomi, NIES

In the context setting, two key discussion topics were presented: how participants see the

value to CAPs of linking across the region and how CAPs can inform and promote action at the regional level e.g., Asia-Pacific, Europe.

The first discussion session addressed the first question. To understand the current state of the adaptation platforms within the region, representatives of platforms in six countries submitted pre-recorded presentations and participated in the discussion. Summaries of the platforms are given in the the Appendix.

The presenters were asked to explain their platform and its function and target users and then state their perspectives on the potential linkages across the region by focusing on the benefits and challenges of such a network. The following discussion was designed to explore the potential of such a network for climate adaptation platforms within the Asia-Pacific region, drawing on experiences from other regions and platforms and based on three questions:

1. What are the benefits of having connections with other platforms in the Asia Pacific region?
2. What do you see as the challenges of working in a regional network setting?
3. To what insights has working in a regional setting lead?

Country presentations

Japan

“Introduction to A-PLAT & AP-PLAT”

Presenter: Kazutaka Oka (NIES). [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

A-PLAT was developed and is operated by CCCA under the Climate Change Adaptation Act of Japan to promote adaptation activities nationwide. AP-PLAT was launched in 2019 and aims to contribute to supporting climate action in the Asia-Pacific region.

On the questions:

- Q1. Would welcome additional links and connections across the region to share information widely and to exchange ideas and feedback on possible platform developments. Recognize that there are many differences across the Asia Pacific region, but note there are also many common climate impacts (e.g. typhoons etc.), so a regional platform would be useful to coordinate and consolidate information to minimize such impacts.
- Q2. Important to clarify the purpose and objective of such a regional network in the short, medium and long-term to ensure collaboration is efficient. Bridging the gap between national and regional platforms will not be easy but is important.
- Q3. Hopefully, regional working would help better understand the full range of users and their requirements; and support coordinated work to help meet those needs.

Australia

“A platform-based approach to delivering climate intelligence at scale for informing risk & resilience in the western tropical Pacific”

Presenter: Geoff Gooley (CSIRO). [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

The presentation centered around the development of the INDRA-Pacific platform - a new

digital platform designed to deliver climate information and data at scale across the region. It builds on current work in Australia on climate resilience working with the private sector and, in particular, the financial services sector. Now looking to reach out into the Asia-Pacific, including with partners at SPREP.

On the questions:

- The overall benefit of working across the Asia-Pacific region would be the ability to facilitate and enhance user experience. Currently, there is a proliferation of climate portals and websites where users can find information but it is a confusing landscape. Need to aim to “provide a coordinated approach to new governance arrangements for development and delivery of best-practice web-based climate intelligence platforms in the Asia-Pacific.” This could benefit all through e.g. reduced transactional costs, improved standards of content and delivery etc. – and ultimately ensure a better path to climate adaptation.
- The scope for such work would need to include consolidation and rationalisation of existing portals. This would require collaboration, alignment and leveraging across on-going projects and initiatives in the region to realise synergies and to facilitate innovation. In practice, this will probably mean fewer, more effective and efficient platforms but that will only work if a new governance arrangement is developed. Other aspects to be considered include looking at better ways of linking across portals/websites, improving co-design and co-production etc., building on the evolving AI/machine learning aspect, and agreement on how such an arrangement is to be managed, administered, funded etc.
- Australia is very supportive of using the existing AP-PLAT partnership as a forum for exploring such new governance arrangements and collaborations.
- One early possibility could be to integrate INDRA-Pacific with work by NIES/AP-PLAT on CMIP6 project which would be a good example of bringing expertise from two agencies to provide a consolidated digital platform capability that would benefit users.

The Pacific

“Pacific Climate Change Center”

Presenter: Yvette Kerslake (SPREP) with Ofa Ma’ asi-Kaisamy. [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

The Pacific Climate Change Centre is the regional centre of excellence for climate change information, research and innovation. It is hosted by SPREP and works with 21 Pacific islands and territories. The four key functions are knowledge brokerage, applied research, innovation, and capacity building addressing adaptation and mitigation. There is an urgent need for a climate knowledge platform to help interact with users and to enhance knowledge management and brokerage functions.

On the questions:

- Keep the needs of the very diverse range of users at the forefront.
- Avoid a proliferation of portals.
- Challenges include enhancing accessibility (video captioning, screen readers, news feed etc.) and productivity.

- Sustainability is a key issue as most portals depended on short-term project funding. Hence the Pacific island and territories have requested a 'one-stop shop' to ensure sustainability of all data and information.

The Philippines

“Sites for Co-Production and Collective Climate Action - CAPs for regional adaptation”

Presenter: Perpi Tiongson (Oscar M. Lopez Center) with Marianna Vargas-Morada. [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

The Philippines are one of the most climate vulnerable countries in the world. The privately-funded Oscar M. Lopez Center is currently working on a suite of decision support tools for climate adaptation planning: the climate knowledge portal is available, but due for an update, the ECCET helper supports the government to use a risk-based approach to budgeting and planning, while Project Upturn is still in development but will provide an array of context-specific adaptation solutions.

On the questions:

- Regional collaboration provides a real opportunity to learn from earlier platform models and to avoid pitfalls. This could lead to greater integration and more efficient approaches by avoid duplication (and reducing the number of platforms).
- Such work would recognise the possibility of developing a specific regional hub to better share the unique experience and shared vision of climate change across the Asia-Pacific region (rather than looking to the west). It could also act as a focus for co-production of knowledge and co-production of collective action.
- While understanding that there are challenges as each country has its own priorities, there would be value in working towards a regional common goal, while actions remain at the local level. But can leverage each other's varying expertise and capabilities.
- Providing all the information needed by policy and practice can be challenging. But this limitation also presents an opportunity as platforms can work across the various mandates to serve as a bridge between and across communities.
- One challenge for a regional integrated hub/platform would be the need to take account of the various stages of development and functionalities of existing platforms. But, until now, there has not been an opportunity to address this issue so such a project could act as a starting point to drive shared understanding to support adaptation.

South Korea

“Model of Integrated Impact and Vulnerability Evaluation of Climate Change - MOTIVE”

Presenter: Young-II Song (KACCC). [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

The MOTIVE project supports the South Korean National Adaptation Plan, and provides integrated assessment models by sector reflecting South Korean circumstances and for use in designing and implementing adaptation action.

On the questions:

- Q1. Would welcome the opportunity to increase connection with platforms across the

region. It is recognized that the probability of natural disasters caused by climate change is particularly large in the Asia-Pacific region so urgently need to respond collaboratively and maximize the availability of data and information needed to understand and respond to climate impacts.

Q2. South Korea has much data and information all produced by different Ministries and organizations. But it is not standardized which limits its usefulness; this issue would be greater when working across countries.

Also, need agreement on a mechanism to decide what information is made available. The region is diverse in geography, sectors, cultures etc. so would need to agree priorities (e.g. forestry v fisheries).

Q3. South Korea does not currently engage of climate adaptation issues across the region, but is keen to learn from others and welcomes work towards a common climate adaptation goal.

Taiwan

“Taiwan Climate Change Projection Information and Adaptation Platform (TCCIP): An Integrated Climate Change Platform”

Presenter: Chia-Wei (Joyce) Chang (TCCIP). [Pre-recorded presentation](#)

The TCCIP platform is an integrated climate change service platform serving a wide range of users. It was originally focused on the provision of local climate change data but then transitioned to include climate change impact assessments and climate services. So, the team have experience of changing priorities and adjusting service provision.

On the questions:

Q1. See an opportunity for a regional network to build capacity on both scientific knowledge and technical aspects within the TCCIP team thus helping them provide more meaningful knowledge management, e.g. a better understanding of down-scaling techniques to support local level adaptation.

Q2. Challenges to knowledge sharing include overcoming language barriers, using common definition of terms, and avoiding the use of specific terms and technical jargon to ensure knowledge is not lost in translation. Culturally specific content needs to be properly interpreted and integrated.

On starting the process, one approach maybe be to group countries with similar backgrounds, cultural settings, climate impacts etc. as a first level of discussion to highlight initial priority issues.

Need to ensure all participants are engaged and are benefiting from the proposed regional-level knowledge-sharing process. This ties in to the suggested grouping of countries to better reflect common local contexts and experiences, and help ensure that all collaborators are learning from each other.

Plenary discussion

To share information and lessons learnt, with a focus on how CAPs can inform and promote action at the regional level:

1. What are practical uses of international/national adaptation platforms for promoting adaptation action in the Asia-Pacific region?
2. What functions and content should/could be included in international/national adaptation platforms to promote adaptation action across the Asia-Pacific region?
3. What are effective ways of collaboration between national adaptation platforms and international organizations?

As the KE4CAP project is focused on knowledge exchange including between Europe and other regions of the world, ClimateADAPT was invited to contribute experiences of working across a region from the European perspective:

- On practical uses, ClimateADAPT ensures they are working with all member countries and capture general national information for the country profiles from the regular reporting countries are required to submit from the EU.
- In addition, ClimateADAPT helps peer-to-peer learning by providing synthesized information for transnational regions with similar climates e.g. the Baltic Sea, Alps, Mediterranean, Balkans etc., and also links to external sites with further information.
- A new feature is the European Climate Data Explorer which is an interface connecting to the EU Copernicus Climate Change Programme and allows users to select indices, time frames, regions etc. There are also links to relevant projects within the EU Interreg programme which promotes cross-border and transnational cooperation, and features to encourage exchange of information across the region e.g. newsletters, online events etc.

As noted by the moderator, Kim van Nieuwaal, a key difference between Europe and the Asia-Pacific region is the presence of an overarching policy framework provided by the Europe Union. There is nothing similar within the Asia-Pacific, but it may be that by collaborating across countries at the operational level between experts working on adaptation platforms, this may provide the potential to inform the regional policy agenda. Joint efforts, joint publications etc. can have a bigger impact than working individually. Although both regions have a range of cultures, geographies and languages, unlike Europe, many countries in the Asia-Pacific are developing countries. Regional collaboration may be particularly important to these countries as a means of enhancing their capacity and ability to access and use relevant climate information.

There seems to be real interest in working together across the Asia Pacific region to build capacity etc., but the question remains as how best to structure the work. Two examples of similar efforts were shared by participants:

- The Canadian national platform (CCCS) has a Regional Coordinating Committee which convenes the five regional platforms in Canada on a monthly basis to share good practices, coordinate and align efforts, help standardize outputs, share resources and avoid duplication. Such work also helps build trust.

- Although Canada has not actively engaged in international collaboration to date, it recognizes its importance. The recent national knowledge assessment¹ includes a section on international dimensions for the first time looking at how climate change is affecting connections between Canada and the rest of the world, such as trade, transboundary issues, and human migration.
- In Europe, the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET) runs by the European Environment Agency brings together various communities within 38 European countries, including the adaptation platform community, on a regular basis.

Dealing with boundaries

Given the large number of island nations within the Asia-Pacific, are there any examples of how to deal with maritime borders? This also links with how to deal with Areas beyond National Jurisdictions (ABNJ).

The Philippines (Perpi Tiongson) acknowledged that maritime issues can become very political, but maybe climate change can be the point at which we transcend politics. Climate change does not respect national borders so we need to elevate the discussion by considering 'systems' rather than individual countries, put aside political, cultural & geographical differences and consider common impacts and adaptation. Avoid starting with each countries' limitations, mandates, politics, differences etc. and use a network approach to develop a shared understanding of what regional adaptation is, and what can be achieved through collaboration and coordination.

Integrating existing activities and resources

How to deal with the ever-increasing amount of data and information, whilst also trying to streamline access to information, limit the proliferation of platforms etc.?

From the Australian perspective (Geoff Gooley), there is a need to start by self-organizing and finding like-minded individuals and organisations. The availability of data and information is not a limitation, but there continues to be a need for enhancing its accessibility, utility, application, functionality etc. This work then evolves over time into a much richer body of knowledge. For example, INDRA-Pacific was built to meet a specific need, but the structure was kept deliberately flexible and versatile so open-source aspects of it can be developed further by other users. Then portals can start leveraging off each other, data can be exchanged more easily, ultimately leading to a structured and strategic approach across platforms.

With respect to aspirations for data usage, Taiwan (Joyce Chang) is currently developing climate information datasets within country to ensure they are applicable for the different sectors and users. A major challenge is to provide guidance for the range of users on how to use the datasets (thresholds, trends etc.) and incorporate them within their own adaptation assessments. In terms of international linkages, this is for the future.

On opportunities for offering new projects/platform to use e.g. microsites² that are incorporated within wider platform initiatives, and taking the example of WeADAPT, Julia

¹ <https://changingclimate.ca/national-issues/chapter/9-0/>

² <http://weadapt.org/microsites>

Barrott explained that this service provides websites that are fully customizable at the front-end but that the back-end is incorporated within the WeADAPT structure and database, and microsites can pull through any functionality or technology as required from the main site. And sites can share data, link content etc. (see Geoff's comments above) to reduce replication and add value to the overall knowledge management. By building on existing infrastructures costs are reduced. And this type of connectivity tries to address the need to avoid a proliferation of platforms, and build on existing structures to add value to the whole. They could also be used by national platforms to e.g. provide microsites that are tailored to local needs and contexts, while keeping all the data and knowledge on adaptation centralized and connected.

Depending on the needs and wishes of Asia-Pacific partners, tools that help connect relevant knowledge (for example adaptation projects and options/solutions) could be a neutral early option while deeper collaboration and governance models are being explored. The Connectivity Hub³ is an example of such a tool, and the development of such a tool could help kick-start needed collaboration on standardization (as mentioned by Young-II Song and others). Julia and colleagues at SEI can share learning on how the Connectivity Hub was developed.

Conclusion

From a personal perspective, the moderator summarized the benefits identified during the discussion by focusing on the value and relevance of a potential Asia-Pacific regional network.

He first recognized that such a network can provide inspiration to all platforms at whatever stage of development, and that by joining forces, (e.g. as a forum or advisory committee such as EIONET in Europe), it would be possible to take collaborative work to the next level in the future and to better influence international policy and practice on adaptation.

Participating platform developers could present their ambitions, challenges, and needs to the world as a collective force.

Collaboration to avoid reinventing or replicating what is already available was recognized as a significant advantage (for potential funders too) as was the opportunity to build on valuable personal relationships that have enabled adaptation networks to push forward even in the pandemic. Other key advantages included a framework to develop a shared understanding of adaptation in the region and the opportunity to leverage each other's expertise, capacity and resources, including to support the smaller and less developed countries.

The meeting closed with an invitation from Kim van Nieuwaal for all participants to share ideas for knowledge-sharing and activities going forward to meet evolving and emerging international policies: e.g. SDGs, disaster risk reduction, climate action initiatives etc.

³ The Connectivity Hub: <https://www.weadapt.org/knowledge-base/adaptation-decision-making/new-search-and-discovery-tool-for-cca-and-drr>

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Appendix

KE4CAP EU-Japan Knowledge Exchange Event

29-30, JUNE 2021



National
Institute for
Environmental
Studies, Japan



KE4CAP

Knowledge Exchange between
Climate Adaptation Platforms



Center for Climate Change Adaptation

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Post-event survey

The NIES conducted a post-event survey with participating countries:

Australia (RCCAP)
 The Pacific (PCCC)
 Ireland (Climate Ireland)
 Philippines (Climate Knowledge Portal, eCCET Helper, Project Upturn)
 South Korea (MOTIVE)
 Taiwan (TCCIP)
 Japan (A-PLAT, AP-PLAT)

Question 1. Without a transnational framework like the EU, what are the challenges of the absence of multilateral collaboration among platforms in the Asia-Pacific region?

Summary of the comments

Opportunities expected from the regional framework included links among platforms that shared knowledge and lessons learned to leverage capacities among experts in the region. However, there were difficulties with issues such as who would take the lead. There was a suggestion that the International Climate Change Adaptation Platform (ICCAP) meetings and the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) partnership organized by NIES, Japan could play this role.

Comments:

- Transcending national agendas and boundaries to rally behind climate change priorities is a shared issue at the regional level.
- Avoid duplication.
- There is a challenge related to formal collaboration.
- Opportunities to share experience would be lost if there was no bilateral/multilateral communication between countries.
- There is a lack of frameworks, institutes, and organizations.
- Sharing latest scientific knowledge on climate change impact adaptation will be difficult.
- There are difficulties with developing climate change adaptation plans based on scientific evidence.
- Who will be the organizer? What is the motivation to contribute to multilateral collaboration among platforms in the Asia-Pacific region?
- There is a lack of responsible entities although some international frameworks, such as the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) and Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN), do exist; we are partly involved with these, however they do not aim to build networks among platforms. The ICCAP meetings held by the Center for Climate Change Adaptation (CCCCA), in addition to the AP-PLAT partnership, could be a good place.

Question 2. Does your platform participate in an international consortium or the like?

The Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (A-PLAT), Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), Korea Environment Institute (KEI), and Taiwan Climate Change Projection Information and Adaptation Knowledge Platform (TCCIP) did not focus on participating in any international consortium.

The Oscar M. Lopez (OML) Center and AP-PLAT have been involved in KE4CAP. AP-PLAT joined the APAN and the GAN. RCCAP has worked with APAN and ADB in addition to the AP-PLAT, PMC, and WMO RAV RCC.

The operators whose platforms did not focus on participating in any community stated the reason that the platforms were for domestic use only or too new to join such communities. It was also stated that there were concerns regarding political complexities.

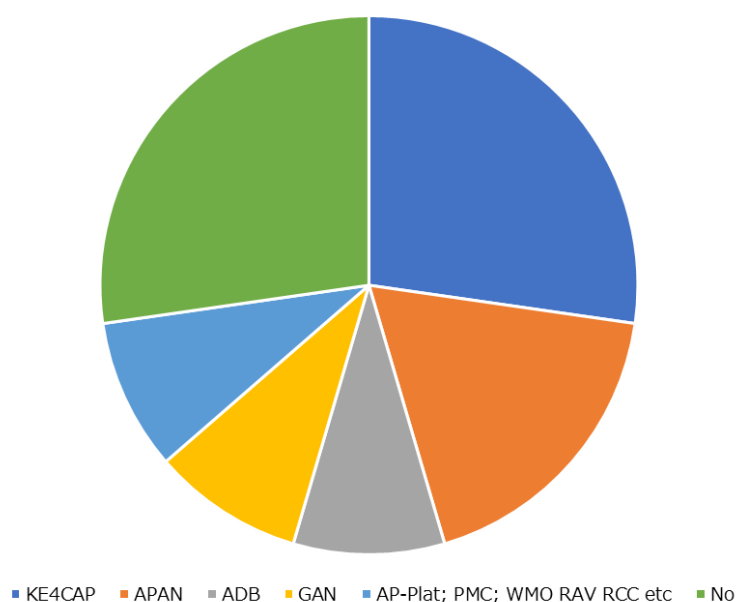


Fig 1. International adaptation community that the platforms belong to

Question 3. Do you think if there is a need to develop a network like KE4CAP but specific in the Asia-Pacific region?

All respondents answered that they needed a network of climate adaptation platforms. Collaborative research and knowledge co-production were commonly identified as needs for the network. The respondents also expected opportunities for discussion and personnel exchange for capacity building to be part of the network.

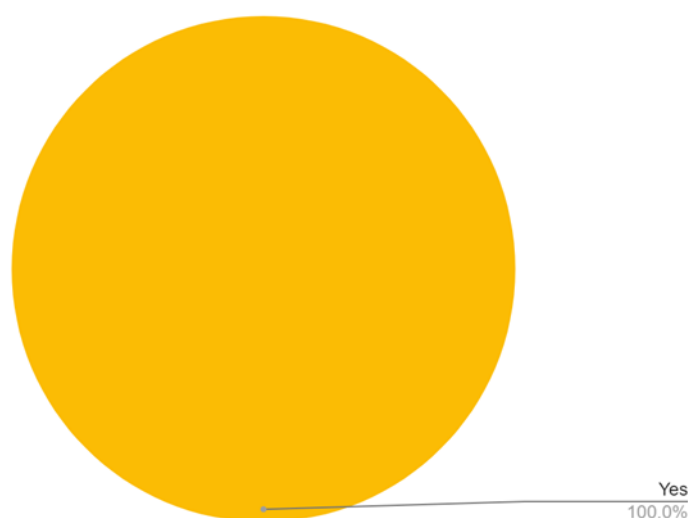


Fig 2. Platforms within the Asia-Pacific region that would like a regional network

Comments (What types of collaboration would you appreciate?):

- Discussion on regional needs, data sources available, best practices from national platforms, and more general adaptation actions that can be taken in the Asia-Pacific.
- Discussion on how to tackle adaptation challenges, exchange human resource and training, collaborative research and climate change action.
- Knowledge co-production, sharing, and exchange; capacity building; interoperability of platforms.
- Promotion of regional adaptation, collaborative research, exchange of human and knowledge.
- Discussion between partners in the first instance followed by collaborative research.
- Collaborative research, knowledge exchange, coordinated regional governance.
- Collaborative research, share experiences on CC adaptation plan
- Collaborative research, exchange human resource.

Profile of the Platforms

Overview

1. Launch year

Platforms in the Asia-Pacific region are relatively young. The oldest were the TCCIP while the newest were the e-learning platform from the PCCC and eCCET Helper from the OML Center.

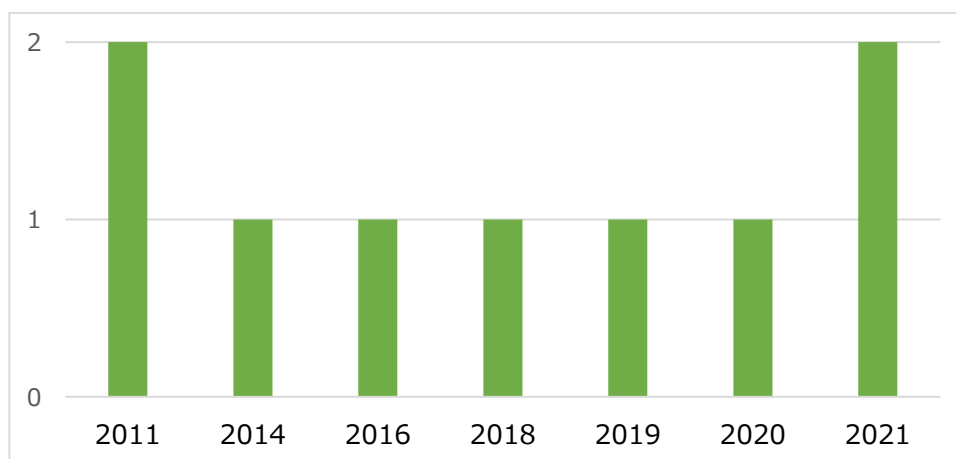


Fig 3. Launch years for the platforms

2. Operation of the platform

The A-PLAT, AP-PLAT, PCCC, and three platforms of the OML Center were operated as a part of the business of the institutes responsible for them. MOTIVE, TCCIP, and RCCAP were operated as project bases.

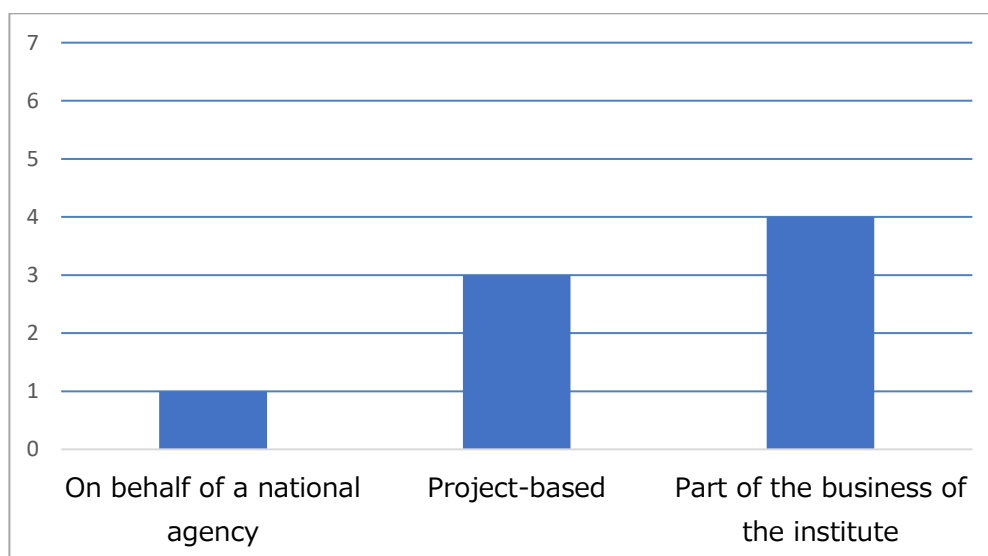


Fig 4. Operation of the platform

3. Use of the information

Users utilized information mainly for planning but also for research and analysis. One platform was used for budgeting.

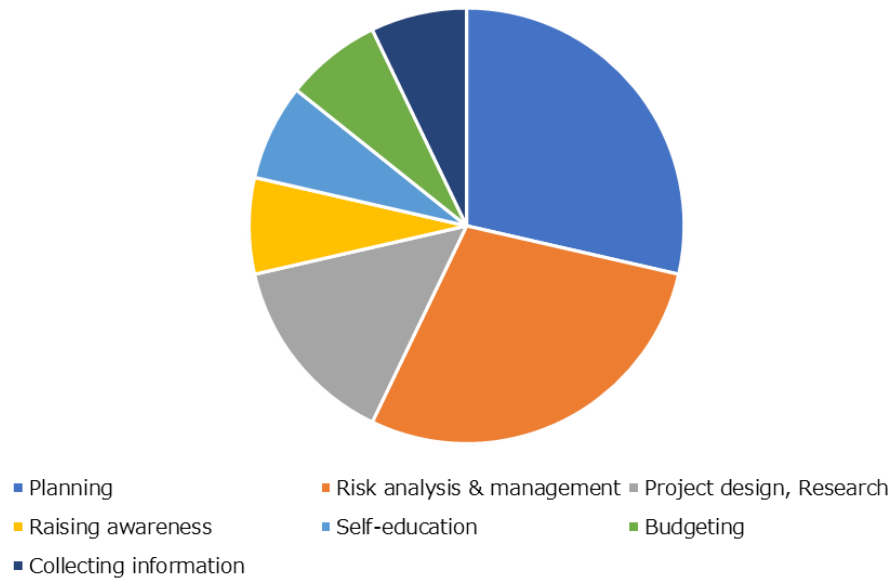


Fig 5. Use of the information on the platforms

Contributing platforms in the Asia-Pacific region

Center for Climate Change Adaptation/National Institute for Environment Studies, JAPAN (<https://ccca.nies.go.jp/en/>)

Platform 1

Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (A-PLAT) launched in 2016

<https://adaptation-platform.nies.go.jp/>

- Target users
Local government officials responsible for adaptation policy and national and local stakeholders on adaptation, both of whom used it to collect and share data and information related to adaptation.
- Potential users
Local stakeholders (e.g., local governments and LCCACs), the private sector, and citizens.
- Information sources
Products from other institutes or some research project outputs, direct and indirect communication with national and local institutions, and research projects.
- Evaluation of the platform and the criteria
Part of the activities of the Center for Climate Change Adaptation in the annual institutional evaluation of NIES.
- Network within the country
The CCCA is responsible for managing the network among relevant national research institutes while the Ministry of the Environment manages the network among relevant ministries. The CCCA also maintain networks among LCCACs and local governments and are initiating communication with the private sector.

Platform 2

Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) launched in 2019

<https://ap-plat.nies.go.jp/index.html>

- Target users
Policy makers and the public who would like to understand the impacts of and adaptation for climate change as well as policy making.
- Potential users
People in the business sector.
- Information source
Research projects, reports, and academic papers.
- Evaluation of the platform and the criteria
Number of visitors and number of updates per year.

Korea Environment Institute, KEI, SOUTH KOREA (www.kei.re.kr)

Platform

MOTIVE launched in July 2020

<http://motive.kei.re.kr/>

- Target users
Government officials, researchers, and students researching the impacts of climate change on seven different sectors: health, water, agriculture, forests, ecosystems, the ocean, and fisheries.
- Information source
The platform equipped with modeling programs and the information is produced from model simulations.

National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), TAIWAN (<https://www.ncdr.nat.gov.tw/>)

Platform

Taiwan Climate Change Projection Information and Adaptation Knowledge Platform (TCCIP) launched in 2011

<https://tccip.ncdr.nat.gov.tw/>

- Target users
Majority of the users of the platform are from research and educational institutions usually to download the quantitative downscaled data the platform provides to perform their own analysis in different areas of study (including biodiversity, agriculture, health, disaster management and others). The knowledge content, however, is more often referred by the students and researchers in their thesis or analytical papers. Sometimes media houses and new media outlets will utilize the information the platform offers to create their news piece regarding climate change.
- Information source
On the data side, our project team produces its own climate change downscaled data using GCM models around the world. The information and knowledge are either translated/summarized version of the content of the IPCC, NASA, or other renowned climate institutes, or the synthesis of the experience and methodologies that we developed in our adaptation experiments.
- Evaluation of the platform and the criteria
Since TCCIP is project-based, we have project evaluation committee in place. They will evaluate the performance and content of the platform annually. Although there's no set criteria for the evaluation, their main concerns lie in: (1) the relevance and accuracy of the information and data provided, (2) the number of data users, and (3) actual examples of the spillover effects of our climate change service towards policy-making and ministerial decision on adaptation.

The Oscar M. Lopez Center, THE PHILIPPINES (www.omlopezcenter.org)

Platform 1

Climate Knowledge Portal launched in 2014

<https://www.omlopezcenter.org/climateknowledge/>

- Target users
Planners, researchers, decision makers for project development, risk management, research
- Information source
National meteorological office

Platform 2

eCCET Helper launched in 2021

<https://eccethelper.omlopezcenter.org/create-project-plan>

- Target users
Government planners (local and national) for climate adaptation planning and budgeting
- Information source
Philippine Climate Change Assessment Reports, Climate Change Commission, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council

Platform 3

Project Upturn

Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), SPREP, PACIFIC REGION

(<https://www.sprep.org/pacific-climate-change-centre>)

Platform

Pacific Climate Change Centre e-learning platform launched in 2021

<https://www.sprep.org/pacific-climate-change-centre/training>

- Target users
Local communities, Government, NGOs, private sector, youth, students, researchers, partners, donors, agencies, and anyone who would like to take action on climate change for Self-paced learning, use for live discussion, use to put together a log frame and problem trees, objective trees that will inform the development of a climate change funding concept/proposal
- Information source
Policy review, consultations with countries, past studies, national data, projects, experts, pacific journals, research etc.

Contributors to BKE Event Japan-Europe (in the order of the country name)

Asia-Pacific

Australia

Geoff Gooley

Program Manager,

**Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research
Organisation (CSIRO), Australia**



PhD in fisheries & aquatic science with > 35 yrs in environmental research across multiple domains, and >20 yrs senior Project/Program Management experience in public sector science delivery in Australia with both state and federal government including associated strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, knowledge brokering, communication, capacity development and evaluation planning; most recent experience with CSIRO managing development and delivery of climate change science and services as Program Manager for the Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning (PACCSAP) Program (2012-2018), the Australian Climate Change Science Program (ACCSP) (2015-2016) and the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub (2015-present)

The Pacific region

Yvette Kerslake

**Technical Adviser - Science to Services
Pacific Climate Change Centre**



Philippines

Perpi Tiongson

Associate Director

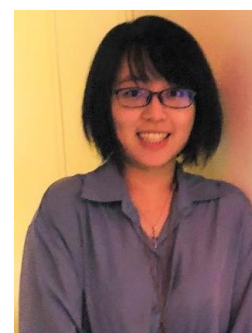
**Oscar M. Lopez Center for Climate Change Adaptation
and Disaster Risk Management Foundation, Inc.**



Perpi Tiongson is currently Associate Director at the Oscar M. Lopez Center for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management Foundation, Inc. (OML Center). She manages the research, translations, knowledge resources, communications and partnerships programs of the Center to do its mission of harnessing science to produce actionable knowledge to promote climate resilient thinking and action. She is certified by the Smith School of Business and Environment at the University of Oxford.

South Korea**Young-II Song, South Korea****Chief Research Fellow,****South Korean Adaptation Center for Climate Change
(KACCC)**

Dr. Song Young-II has worked at KEI for the past 25 years. While working, he conducted research on environmental impact assessment and water quality management, and for the past 10 years, he has carried out a number of projects related to climate change adaptation at the Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change. For the past 7 years, he has been the head of the MOTIVE Project and successfully completed the project on 2020. He also conducted a research projects for establishment of National Climate Change Adaptation Plan and M/E for the NAP.

Taiwan**Chia-Wei (Joyce) Chang****Assistant Researcher,****National Science and Technology Center for Disaster
Reduction**

Joyce is a policy analyst with a background in finance and sustainable development. Her research mainly focuses on climate change adaptations and socioeconomic response to policy change. Her experience working in Belize, South Korea, and Taiwan in multidisciplinary research projects provides her with unique artistry in assisting research integration, cross-sectoral communications, and international collaboration. She joined the TCCIP project in 2019 and coordinates the development and content curation of the Adaptation Resources Kit (ARK) for the project platform. Through the TCCIP project, she supports the technical development of the climate risk assessments, adaptation knowledge, and climate fact sheets for Taiwan.

Japan/Host**Yasuaki Hijioka****Deputy Director****Center for Climate Change Adaptation, National
Institute for Environmental Studies**

Dr. Yasuaki Hijioka is the Deputy Director of the Center for Climate Change Adaptation. His research topics cover modeling analysis for environmental issues related to climate change impacts and adaptation, and he is involved in the development of the Asian Pacific Integrated Model (AIM) to estimate climate change impacts and to assess policy options for stabilizing global climate. He was a Coordinating Lead Author (CLA) in the IPCC Working Group II's Fifth Assessment report (AR5), Chapter 24 "Asia", is a Lead Author (LA) in the IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, Chapter 3, and is a member of UNEP PROVIA (The Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation) Scientific Steering Committee (2014-2018). He was a Convenor of ISO/TC207/SC7/WG12(2017-2020).

Yoshifumi Masago**Head of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Research
Section, Center for Climate Change Adaptation, National
Institute for Environmental Studies**

Dr. Masago joined the Center for Climate Change Adaptation, National Institute for Environmental Studies in April 2019, and serves as the Head of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Research Section since April 2021. Before joining NIES, he was a Research Fellow in the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability where he managed research projects on the effects of rapid urbanization and climate change on water-related issues in Asian megacities. He has more than 20 years of research experience in water quality assessment, health-related water microbiology, and effects on climate and social changes on water-related issues in both developed and developing countries.

Yuji Masutomi

**Head of Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation
Research Section, Center for Climate Change Adaptation,
National Institute for Environmental Studies**

Yuji Masutomi is a section head in CCCA at NIES. Prior to joining CCCA on April in 2020, he had been an associate professor at Ibaraki University. He obtained Ph.D. in global environmental studies from Kyoto University in 2007, and M.S. in physics from Nagoya University in 2001. His current research interest is climate change impact and adaptation assessment on agricultural sector from local to global scales. He is also engaging the development of AP-PLAT, which is a web-based information platform on climate change adaptation for Asia-Pacific region.

**Kazutaka Oka**

**Senior Researcher of Climate Change Adaptation
Strategy Research Section, Center for Climate Change
Adaptation, National Institute for Environmental
Studies**

Dr. Kazutaka Oka is the Senior Researcher of National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan (NIES). He has been conducting researches on climate change impact and adaptation. He is also engaging in the development of A-PLAT and AP-PLAT. Before he joined NIES in 2018, he worked as a manager in a consulting company where he gained 14 years' experience, and he mainly engaged in researches on climate change mitigation, impact, and adaptation. He received the doctor degree in theoretical astrophysics from Kobe University. He also has various activities such as giving visiting lectures at the University of Tokyo and for events related to climate change adaptation.

**Tomohiro Fujita**

**Researcher of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
Research Section, Center for Climate Change
Adaptation, National Institute for Environmental Studies**

Dr. Fujita joined the CCCA, National Institute for Environmental Studies in April 2019. Prior to joining NIES, he was a postdoctoral researcher at Center for Environmental Biology and Ecosystem Studies, National Institute for Environmental Studies where he examined the effects of climate change and population change on future land use in Japan. He has more than 10 years of research experience in forest ecology in both Japan and African countries. He also analyzes climate change adaptation measures at local level in Japan.



Contributors from around the world

Austria

Markus Leitner

Head of Team Climate Change Adaptation and Impact Assessment / Team Member Green Finance, Umweltbundesamt, Austria



Markus Leitner is a specialist for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation as well as for Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic environmental assessment. His main fields of expertise and interest range from project coordination and management to research management and development like the FP6 project CIRCLE (Coordinator 2008/2009) and FP7 project CIRCLE-2 (WP Leader) in the field of Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCIVA) in Europe and especially in mountain areas. He is involved in the European Topic Centre on Climate Change Adaptation (ETC/CCA) since 2011 and consults different institutions like DG Clima in different projects and He is a Member of the Working Group 6 on Adaptation.

His current contributions from his adaptation experience feed into diverse projects such as a work package leader in the EU Horizon 2020 Project PLACARD, different topic-center reports (e.g. CCIV Assessments, Monitoring and Evaluation and Health issues), RESPECT project on Climate-Risk Management with regards to concept and report development, stakeholder interaction and policy briefs.

Canada

Kim Olson

**Environmental Policy (climate change), Natural Resource Management (protected areas) and Public Engagement Practitioner
Environment and Climate Change Canada**



Kim Olson is a geographer with experience in conservation, climate change and sustainable resource management. Her work has focused on public engagement, collaborative research/processes, and policy development; particularly as they apply to climate change adaptation, protected areas, natural resource management, fisheries, and regional and rural development. She has experience working with a variety of Indigenous governments and organizations, stakeholders from various sectors and levels of government, and citizens at large.

The European Union

Valentina Giannini

Researcher, deputy manager of the European Topic Center on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerabilities, and Adaptation for the European Environment Agency Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC), Italy



Her main research focus is to foster decision-making based on science, integrating local knowledge, for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, urban and land-use planning, and urban design. Valentina developed this interest after graduating in Architecture and Planning (1996) working in a multidisciplinary planning office. She refined this through specific studies (MEM 2007, PhD 2012).

KE4CAP members (in alphabet order)

Ireland

Barry O'Dwyer

Lead Research Scientist, Impacts and Adaptation Group MaREI centre, University College Cork



Dr Barry O'Dwyer has worked in the area of climate change science, policy and practice for over a decade. Barry is leading the development and delivery of the EPA-funded Climate Ireland Programme, recognised through the Ireland's National Adaptation Framework (NAF, 2018) as the key national resource for climate change adaptation information. Barry has worked closely with the national government providing advice on the development of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act (2015) and NAF (2018). Barry has authored Sectoral and Local Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation in accordance with international best practice and the requirements of national climate policy (e.g. NAF, 2018). Barry plays a proactive role in increasing capacity for adaptation decision making in Ireland through the development and delivery of bespoke adaptation capacity building programmes targeted at Ireland's local authorities and government departments. Barry also leads the impacts and adaptation research group at the Centre for Marine, Climate and Energy (MaREI) at University College Cork (UCC). In this role, Barry acts as principal investigator on a wide range of nationally and internationally funded research projects which address the science of climate change and adaptation with a particular focus on developing fit-for-purpose decision making tools and supports for adaptation planning.

Jeremy Gault
Funded Investigator
MaREI centre, University College Cork



Under the EU H2020 programme he is a Workpackage Leader on the AquaSpace Project and RiCORE projects. At national level, in addition to MaREI Centre projects, he is co-ordinator of the long-term funded Beaufort Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management and the Irish Climate Information Platform (ICIP) project (now in its third stage).

He currently on the Royal Irish Academy, Future Earth Ireland committee and coordinator of the Future Earth Coasts International Project Office, which was embedded in MaREI after UCC successfully bid to host this global initiative.

The Netherlands

Kim van Nieuwaal
Strategic Advisor
Climate Adaptation Services



Kim van Nieuwaal is a specialist in science-policy interactions, particularly in the field of adaptation to climate change. As a seasoned knowledge broker he has been advisor to ministries, provinces, municipalities, universities, knowledge institutes, ngo's and businesses. He has an extensive network in academia, policy and practice. Currently, Kim is strategic advisor at Climate Adaptation Services foundation. He is director of Delta Alliance International.

Kim is also chairman of the board at the Dutch Wadden Sea Society. Kim was program manager of the Netherlands national research program Knowledge for Climate (90 mln. Euros). Kim was one of the lead authors of the National Adaptation Strategy of the Netherlands which was published in 2016. Also, Kim has been involved in climate adaptation strategies for Rotterdam, The Hague, Mainport Schiphol Airport, the South-west Delta, the Wadden Sea and the major rivers in the Netherlands.

Kim has been teaching on public administration, strategic management and adaptation to climate change. He has also published in those fields. Kim van Nieuwaal holds an MA in Public Administration from the Erasmus University Rotterdam and a PhD in Public Administration and Organization Studies from VU University Amsterdam.

The United Kingdom

Julia Barrott

**Research Fellow and weADAPT Knowledge Manager
Stockholm Environment Institute**



Julia Barrott joined SEI Oxford in December 2015 as a weADAPT knowledge Manger and part-time Research Fellow. Julia manages and curates content for and supports the development of the weADAPT platform, fostering current and new collaborations with internal and external partners. She has contributed towards research outputs related to the COBAM project and she is currently involved in research relating to SEI's initiative on Climate Finance.

She holds a master's degree in Environmental Geoscience from Imperial College London and a DPhil in Earth Sciences (past climate reconstruction over northwest Africa) from the University of Oxford. Her undergraduate master's degree includes modules in systems science, environmental engineering hydrology, waste management, natural resources, and both geological and geochemical (water contamination) mapping. Her postgraduate research focused on reconstructing past climate change in NW Africa, where she led several week's fieldwork. Inspired by her time in the field and the current global state, she is now looking to pursue a research path relevant to sustainable development, climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Roger Street

**Research Associate
The University of Oxford**



For over 35 years, Roger has engaged in providing and improving knowledge and evidence that can support adaptation planning and implementation in Europe, North America and the Pacific-Asia Region. Through working with policy and decision-makers, knowledge and data providers, researchers and funders he focuses on enhancing the relevance and quality of that available to guide and support actions.