

# Science and Technology Pre-session of the 4th APWS - Water and Disaster/Climate Change

Date &  
Time

15th February 2022 (Tue)  
3:00PM-4:30PM (Japan Time)  
6:00AM-7:30AM (UTC)

## Tentative Agenda:

1. Opening: Toshio Koike, ICHARM (4min)

2. Local and National Reports: (5min each)

- 1) Rajendra Sharma, National Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Authority, Nepal
- 2) Youichi Ishikawa, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, Japan
- 3) Janaki Meegastenna, Department of Irrigation, Sri Lanka
- 4) Liu Jiahong, Institute of Water Resources & Hydropower Research, China

3. International Reports: (5min each)

- 1) Amarnath Giriraj, IWMI
- 2) Mandira Shrestha, ICIMOD
- 3) Valentin Aich, GWP
- 4) Riko Oki, JAXA

4. Panel Discussion (40min)

Key questions:

-How should the science and technology community develop a system to integrate knowledge on climate systems, the water cycle, and water management systems by enhancing capacities?

-How should the science and technology community foster human resources who can work as catalysts by providing interdisciplinary knowledge, experiences and methods suitable to target areas and supporting local staff?

-How should stakeholders work together to provide end-to-end solutions in gender equitable and socially equitable manner in cooperation with governance and finance at different spatial scales and in thematic and functional terms to take concerted and collaborative actions?

5. Closing: Toshio Koike, ICHARM (5min)

## Registration:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NoXZZBLeSTGGggo1wrHAqQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NoXZZBLeSTGGggo1wrHAqQ)

Please Join Us!

Contact: APWF Secretariat (Japan Water Forum) : office@apwf.org

## Overview

Water-related disasters intensified by climate change can affect artificial and natural environments directly. Through the Covid-19 pandemic, the world has learned that complex, cascading and systemic risks that are usually implicit in social, economic and environmental systems can suddenly emerge and threaten humanity beyond boundaries in space and time.

All stakeholders will need to undertake concerted and collaborative actions through tripartite cooperation across science and technology, governance, and finance at different spatial scales and in thematic and functional terms. By getting support from all stakeholders, the science and technology community should develop a system to integrate knowledge on climate systems, the water cycle, and water management systems by enhancing capacities. The science and technology community should also foster human resources who can work as catalysts by providing interdisciplinary knowledge, experiences and methods suitable to target areas and supporting local staff in introducing experience and resources from the outside to local communities.

To make a design for the science and technology component of the Theme-1 on Water and Disaster/Climate Change of the 4th APWS in Kumamoto, this pre-session will review the local, national and international experiences and on-going activities and seek directions and actions to be taken.

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# Overview of the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS)

Date	23-24 April 2022
Venue	Kumamoto Jo Hall, Kumamoto City, Japan <b>(Physical conference combined with hybrid arrangement*)</b> * The format of the Summit will be finalized in January based on the COVID-19 situation.
Co-organizers	<b>the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) and Kumamoto City</b> * Cooperation of the Government of Japan to conduct the necessary cooperation under the Cabinet approval by ministers concerned to implement the 4th APWS.
Countries	<b>9 countries of Asia and the Pacific</b>
Participants	<b>Head of States and Governments, Ministers and high-level government representatives, Heads of the UN and International Organizations, research institutions, NGOs, and others</b>
Theme	<b>"Water for Sustainable Development-Best Practices and the Next Generation"</b>
Structure of the Summit	<b>9 Parallel Thematic and 4 Integration Sessions, Adoption of the Declaration, and high-level leaders' statement</b>
Outcome document	<b>Kumamoto Declaration, Chairs Summary, the collection of showcases, and Final reports</b>

APWS is the largest summit-level conference focusing on water and development in the region. At the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico in 2006, the region's water ministers agreed to establish the Summit to encourage more collaborative efforts on water resources management and accelerate integrating water resources management into the socio-economic development process.

The Summits, organized three times to date, bring together leaders of 49 Asia and Pacific countries. The Summits showcase leadership in decision-making, excellence in practice, and innovation to translate into concrete actions in each country by pushing the issue towards the top of their political agendas.

## Background

The COVID-19 Pandemic has severely impacted countries' socio-economies worldwide, disrupting efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG). The Asia Pacific region is no exception. On the other hand, the pandemic has enhanced our recognition that securing clean water and safe sanitation are fundamental elements for our livelihood, tackling any risks and impacts of multi-hazards. Water genuinely contributes to a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive society and helps build peace and maintain regional stability. It is thus fundamental to mainstream water resilience into political and development agendas towards quality growth in post-Covid-19 societies in Asia and the Pacific. Governance, finance, and science & technology are crucial elements to enhancing water security and achieving water-related SDGs.

## The objectives of the 4th APWS are to:

- Share forward-looking solutions and practices to Heads of State and Government and support their policy decisions to accelerate actions to conduct quality growth towards a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable society by resolving various water-related issues in the recovery of COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific, and
- Encourage further collaborations to deploy quality infrastructure to support quality growth

## The outputs of the 4th APWS:

- Contribute to the Midterm Review of the Decade of Action for Water in 2023 by providing the action proposals to promote quality growth in Asia and the Pacific, and
- Support the achievement of water-related SDGs and other international targets, such as the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

The dialogue with various leaders facilitates finding a shared direction for the region's future actions to address the growing water crisis.

We are very much looking forward to your county's participation in the 4th APWS!

## ***The topics of parallel thematic sessions and integrated process sessions of the 4th APWS***

### **Nine parallel thematic sessions**

- Water and Disasters / Climate Change
- Water and Food
- Water Supply
- Water and Sanitation/ Wastewater Management
- Water and the Environment
- Water, Culture, and Peace
- Water and Poverty / Gender Issues
- Sound Water Cycle Management
- Leadership by youth & inter-generational collaboration through the innovation by youth

### **Four integrated process sessions**

- Governance
- Finance
- Science & Technologies
- Water-related SDGs and Post- COVID-19

### ***49 countries in Asia and the Pacific***

Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Niue, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, East Timor, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam, and Japan

### ***Overview of Kumamoto City***

The host city of the 4th APWS, Kumamoto City, supplies drinking water for its 740,000 citizens entirely from groundwater, which is quite a rarity in the world. The city manages a sound water cycle in cooperation with its residents, businesses, government agencies, and other stakeholders to conserve its precious groundwater resources for the next generation. The city is conducting innovative recovery from the devastating Kumamoto Earthquake in April of 2016. Kumamoto City and its efforts embody the critical message we would like to disseminate through the Summit: ensuring a sound water cycle while building a resilient country.

## *International Organizations, etc., who cooperate with the APWF activities*

- Asian Development Bank (ADB),
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP),
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),
- United Nations- Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT),
- Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea,
- Global Water Partnership (GWP),
- GWP China,
- GWP CACENA,
- GWP South Asia,
- GWP Southeast Asia,
- High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP)
- International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHARM),
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD),
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asia,
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI),
- International WaterCentre (IWC),
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA),
- Japan Sanitation Consortium (JSC),
- Japan Water Agency (JWA),
- Korea Water Forum (KWF),
- PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency (PUB),
- Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC),
- World Toilet Organization,
- Alliance for Water Stewardship Asia-Pacific,
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Representative Office Japan
- Freshwater Action Partnership for South Asia,
- Global Water Institute University of NSW, Australia,
- WaterEd Australia,
- Water Integrity Network (WIN),
- United Nations Centre for Regional Development, (UNCRD)
- Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

### *Contact*

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