

The 8th Ministers' Forum on Infrastructure Development in the Asia-Pacific Region

GEOSS and APWF



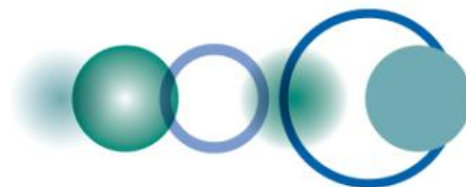
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Global Earth Observation System of Systems



**A Global, Coordinated, Comprehensive and Sustained
System of Observing Systems**



GEO, the Group on Earth Observations

**An Intergovernmental Body with 82 Members and 58
Participating Organizations**

The 1st Earth Observation Summit

U.S. Department of State, Washington DC, July 31, 2003





Asia-Pacific
Water Forum



The Steering Group on Water and Climate Change

established by the Governing Council in June, 2009

Objectives:

- i. advising leaders on policies and practices;
- ii. guiding knowledge networking in the region;
- iii. reporting progress annually to the leaders in the Asia-Pacific region with recommendations for action.

Members:

- Scientists
- Practitioners from international organizations
- Governments
- Civil society
- Experts from development funding agencies

Principle 1 - Usable Knowledge

Scientists and practitioners working together must prioritize the development of knowledge that supports effective actions and increases public awareness.

Recommended Actions

- ✓ Develop data infrastructure and networking for sharing data, information and knowledge to support decision-making and to raise public awareness.
- ✓ Accelerate scientific efforts to quantify and to reduce the uncertainty related to climate projections for countries, river basins and cities.

Principle 2 – No Regrets

We must identify and implement approaches that improve water security over a wide range of potential conditions, including current climate variability.

Recommended Actions

- ✓ Plan for incremental adaptation actions in tandem with improving climate projections
- ✓ Use an appropriate mix of structural and non-structural measures.



Principle 3 – Resilience

We must build the capacity of society to demonstrate resilience* in the face of changing climate.

Recommended Actions

- ✓ Strengthen the adaptation capacities of water managers, communities, scientists, and of society as a whole.
- ✓ Improve community-based water risk management capacities.

** recovery capability
invulnerability*

Principle 4 – Mitigation and Adaptation

We must adopt optimal combinations of measures.

Recommended Actions

- ✓ Promote integrated water resources management (IWRM) and use the river basin as the framework for planning and investments.
- ✓ Engage in dialogue for taking coordinated adaptation actions involving water, energy, health, agriculture, and ecosystems.



Principle 5 - Financing

Substantial increases in dedicated financing are required.

Recommended Actions

- ✓ Conduct economic impact assessments for various adaptation options.
- ✓ Mobilize significant investments today (e.g., 1% of GDP) to prevent greater damages later (e.g., 5% of GDP) as advised by the Stern report.

