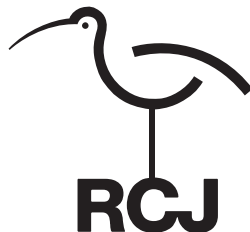


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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **International Workshop on Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands along the Coast of the Bay of Bengal**

6-7 June 2016

**Venue:** Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies,  
Mahidol University (Salaya Campus), Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

**Organizers:** Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ)

In collaboration with

Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University

**Supported** by Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF)

#### **Goal:**

This workshop is organized as one of the activities of the project “Building an International Wetland Cooperation Network across the Countries Sharing the Coast of the Bay of Bengal” which is supported by Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF). The ultimate goals of the project are a) formation of international cooperation network for wetland conservation consisted mainly of the environmental NGOs, b) formulation of a strategic plan for problem solving by working harmoniously across the countries/areas, and c) further promotion of the wise use of wetlands in the coastal zone of the Bay of Bengal.

#### **Background:**

The Bay of Bengal is a large triangular basin in the north eastern part of Indian Ocean. It is shared by Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. The bay has one of the finest biodiversity and bio productivity in the world.

The coast along the inner bay area that stretches across the eastern coast of India, Bangladesh and Myanmar is flooded by the international rivers such as the Ganges and the Indus and has expansive shallow water, mudflats and mangrove forests including the Sundarbans, one of the largest mangrove ecosystems in the world.

Historically, the coastal zone which provides various kinds of ecosystem services was preferably inhabited by people, but the current influx of immigrants from inland and mountainous areas caused explosive population increases in cities and conflicts between old residents in rural areas. It is said that some 400 million live in the Bay's catchment area (FAO).

A large number of people living in the coastal area are closed off from the benefits of economic development and obliged to live in poverty. Moreover, they suffer from recent climate changes, intensified damages by natural hazards, sea level rise, soil erosion, salt intrusion and loss of biodiversity.

In addition to the common problems mentioned above, the area is crisscrossed by a number of barriers including national borders, politics, religions, languages, ethnics and traditional cultures. As a result, the area is left behind from considerations and implementations of problem solving from a global or expansive perspective and struggles in an underdeveloped cooperation and collaboration system for it.

#### **Purpose and objective of the workshop:**

1. Information and experience sharing among NGOs working for wetland conservation of the Bay of Bengal
2. Introducing current global perspectives to wise use of wetlands along the Bay of Bengal
3. Discussion on project strategy and work plan
4. Formation of a working group
5. Developing a survey format for the inventory work

**Working language:** English

**List of participants:**

	Name	Organization
1	Ajit K.Pattnaik	Government of Odisha, India
2	Bishnu Bhandari	Nepal Wetland Society, Nepal
3	Durga P.Dash	Pallishree, India
4	Htun Paw Oo	Myanmar Forest Association, Myanmar
5	Mashhor Mansor	Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia
6	Mishra A. Chinmaya	Pallishree, India
7	Pyae Phyo Aung	BANCA, Myanmar
8	Sanowar Hossain	Bangladesh POUSH, Bangladesh
9	Sansanee Choowaew	Mahidol University, Thailand
10	Seung Oh Suh	Ramsar Regional Center for East Asia, Korea
11	Atsushi Tanabe	Kumamoto University, Japan
12	Emiko Nagakura	Wetlands International Japan, Japan
13	Hiroji Isozaki	Sophia University, Japan
14	Takayuki Musha	RCJ, Japan
15	Tamotsu Kameyama	RCJ, Japan
16	Toru Iwama	RCJ, Japan
17	Yoshihiro Natori	Wetlands International Japan, Japan
18	Yukihiro Shimatani	Kyushu University, Japan Wetland Society, Japan
19	Reiko Nakamura	RCJ, Japan
20	Ryo Fujikura	Hosei University, Japan

**Programme:**

5 June (Sun): participants arriving

6 June (Mon)

9:00 Opening

MC:

Opening remarks by Prof. Hiroji Isozaki, Vice President of RCJ

Introduction of the participants

Briefing on outline of the project “Building an International Wetland Cooperation Network across the Countries Sharing the Coast of the Bay of Bengal” and the aim of the workshop by Ms. Reiko Nakamura, S-G, RCJ

**Session 1: Current Situation of the Coastal Wetlands over the Bay of Bengal and Conservation Efforts for Sustainable Development**

Chairman: Hiroji Isozaki,

Co Chair:

Rapporteur:

9:30-10:00

Current Situation and Challenges over the Bay of Bengal (tentative)

- Dr. Bishnu Bhandari, Nepal Wetland Society
- 10:00-10:30 Coastal Wetlands in Myanmar and Conservation Works by BANCA (tentative)  
Mr. Pyae Phyo Aung, Program Manager, BANCA
- 10:30-11:00 Conservation of Irrawaddy Delta in Myanmar and Activities by Myanmar Forest Association (tentative)  
Mr. Htun Paw Oo, Myanmar Forest Association
- 11:00-11:20 Tea Break
- 11:20-11:50 Participatory Wetland Conservation Projects over the Coast of Odisha, India: Experiences of Pallishree (tentative)  
Mr. D.P.Dash, Pallishree
- 11:50-12:20 Status of Wetlands in Cox's Bazar District and the Conservation Efforts by Bangladesh POUSH (tentative)  
Mr. Sanowar Hossain, Bangladesh POUSH
- 12:20-12:50 Conservation of the Ramsar Sites along the coast of the Bay of Bengal (tentative)  
Dr.Sansanee Choowaew, Mahidol University
- 12:50-14:00 Lunch

### **Session 2: Wise Use of the Wetlands in the Bay of Bengal and Global Environment**

Chairman: Toru Iwama

Co- Chair:

Rapporteur:

- 14:00-14:30: Ramsar Convention - A tool for the Sustainable Development/Use  
Prof. Hiroshi Isozaki
- 14:30-15:00: Climate Change Adaptation and Wetland Wise Use  
Prof. Ryo Fujikura, Hosei University
- 15:00-15:30 Green Resilience from the Experience of Kumamoto Earthquake, Japan  
Prof. Yukihiro Shimatani, Kyushu University
- 15:30-16:00 Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project in the Coast of Odisha, India (tentative)  
Dr. Ajit K. Pattnaik, Government of Odisha, India
- 16:00-16:30 Roles and Works of Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia  
Mr.Seung Oh Suh, RRC-EA
- 16:30-16:50 Tea Break

### **Session 3: Discussion Session**

16:50-19:00

Chair: Ryo Fujikura,

Co-Chair:

Rapporteur:

19:30 **Welcome Dinner**

### 7 June (Tue)

- 8:30-10:00 Discussion about the Future work plan  
Facilitator : Bishnu Bhandari      Rapporteur:
- Project and work plan
  - Formation of a working group
  - Developing a survey format for the inventory work
  - AOB

**SATELLITE MEETING**  
**Preliminary Meeting for Asian Wetland Symposium 2017**  
7 June 2016

**Venue:** Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University  
**Organizers:** Wetlands International Japan (WIJ), Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ)

10:30-12:00

Chairman: Yoshihiro Natori      Co-chair: Yukihiro Shimatani      Rapporteur:

Subjects for information sharing and discussion

- Current Situation of Preparation for the AWS2017
- Establishment of International Steering Committee (ISC)
- Others

**12:00- Lunch**

**Participants leaving**

**Accommodation:**

The accommodation during the workshop for all participants will be arranged at the Salaya Pavillion Hotel in the campus of Mahidol University.

Address: Mahidol University (Salaya Campus),999, Phutthamonthon 4Rd, Nakhon Pathom 73170, Thailand

URL: <http://www.salayapavilion.com/>

**How to access to the Mahidol University (Salaya campus) from the airport:**

The organizer will arrange a transportation to and from at the Suvarnabhumi Airport for the international participants according to their arrival/departure times, but some of the participants will be asked to take a taxi from the airport to the venue by themselves. It will cost some TB800 + TB150 (Express fee) by a Taxi Meter. The cost will be reimbursed by submitting a receipt/evidence of expenditure.

The details will be suggested individually.

**Contact person:**

Ms. Reiko Nakamura

Secretary-Ggeneral, Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ)

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e-mail: [reiko.nakamura@nifty.com](mailto:reiko.nakamura@nifty.com)