

Stockholm World Water Week 2025: Asia-Pacific Focus

2. Early Warnings in Asia-Pacific: Bridging Science with Action

26 August (Tues) 9:00 - 10:30 am CEST (Room C1, Level 2 and Online)

Session Description

Despite advancements, only 65% of the global population has access to early warning systems (EWS), with gaps particularly pronounced in developing regions. The "Early Warnings for All" initiative aims to close these gaps by 2027, ensuring timely, actionable, and locally relevant disaster risk information. In Asia and the Pacific, where climate-induced disasters threaten lives and economies, integrated management approaches are critical for enhancing resilience.

This session explores solutions to closing EWS gaps, emphasizing multi-stakeholder collaboration, digital and space technology innovations, and governance reforms. It highlights community-led, impact-based approaches and science-society linkages to boost climate resilience. Experts will share cases and proven strategies aligned with the four pillars of the "EW4All" initiative, contributing to improved preparedness and the delivery of clear, actionable, and inclusive warnings that leave no one behind.

Conveners:

- APWF
- Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
- Australia Water Partnership
- International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- Korea Environment Institute (KEI)

Program

9:00-9:02 CEST	Session Introduction Ms. Yumiko Asayama, Chief Manager, APWF, c/o Japan Water Forum
9:02-9:10	Keynote Presentation Mr. Stefan Uhlenbrook, Director, Hydrology, Water and Cryosphere, WMO

9:10-9:35	<p>Panel 1: Science, Technology, data, and Infrastructure</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Giriraj Amarnath, Research Group Leader - Water Data for Climate Resilience / Principal Researcher – Disaster Risk Management and Climate Resilience, IWMI • Dr. Senaka Basnayake, Program Lead, Climate Services, ADPC • Dr. Riko Oki, Space Technology Counsellor, Directorate I, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency <p>Main Moderator: Mr. Keran Wang, Oic, Disaster Risk Reduction Section, Chief Space Applications Section, ICT and DRR Division, ESCAP</p>
9:35-10:10	<p>Panel 2: Communication, Community engagement, locally-led actions, Governance, and Investment</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sarah Ransom, General Manager, Australia Water Partnership • Dr. Ik Jae Kim, Chief Research Fellow, Water and Land Research Group, Korea Environment Institute • Dr. Neera Shrestha Pradhan, Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist/ Cryosphere and Water Lead, ICIMOD • Dr. Giriraj Amarnath, IWMI <p>Main Moderator: Dr. Thanapon Piman, Senior Research Fellow, SEI Asia</p> <p>Joint Discussion among Panel 1 and 2 Speakers, and the keynote speaker</p>
10:10-10:25	Q & A, interacting with audiences
10:25-10:30	Final key messages from speakers and closing remarks by moderators