

## **Stockholm World Water Week 2025: Asia Pacific Focus**

### **3. Asia's Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Future: Harmonizing Hydropower with Nature-Based Solutions**

**26 August (Tues) 11:00 - 12:30 CEST (Room C1, Level 2 and Online)**

#### **Session Description**

This session examines the interplay between hydropower and nature-based solutions (NbS) within the water-energy-food-ecosystem (WEFE) nexus, focusing on ecosystem services, climate risks, and the management of floods and droughts in Asia. It highlights the importance of land use planning at the river basin and regional levels, as well as governance approaches that balance WEFE trade-offs while protecting biodiversity and safeguarding vulnerable communities.

Across Asia, water, energy, and food security challenges are intensifying under the pressures of climate change, with floods and droughts becoming more frequent and severe. Hydropower remains a key contributor to renewable energy, irrigation, and water management, yet poorly planned projects can damage ecosystems, displace communities, and undermine long-term sustainability. Integrating hydropower development with NbS offers a pathway to resilient, equitable, and environmentally sound growth.

This session will explore how to move from sector-specific strategies toward a truly integrated WEFE nexus approach—one that accounts for climate risks, socio-cultural resilience, and ecological sustainability. Speakers from each Asian subregion will share practical experiences, tools, and innovations that demonstrate how hydropower and NbS can work together to enhance WEFE security and strengthen community resilience and secure Asia's long-term water, food, energy, and environmental future.

#### **Conveners:**

- APWF
- Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
- Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB)
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- IUCN Asia
- UNESCO Beijing

## Program

11:00-11:02 CEST	<b>Session Introduction:</b> Ms. Yumiko Asayama, Chief Manager, APWF Secretariat c/o Japan Water Forum
11:02-11:05	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Mr. Mark Smith, Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) (TBD)
11:05-11:30	<b>Lightning Interventions from each speaker (5 min each)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Mohshin Hafeez, Strategic Program Director – Water, Food and Ecosystems Lead AoW- WEFE Nexus Policy, Policy Innovations Science Program International Water Management Institute (IWMI)</li> <li>• Dr. Senaka Basnayake, Program Lead, Climate Services Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)</li> <li>• Mr. Chengchen Qian, Senior Manager Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB)</li> <li>• Dr. Olivier Chassot, Senior Programme Officer Protected, Conserved, and Heritage Areas, Asia Regional Office, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</li> <li>• Dr. Ai Sugiura, Natural Science Program Officer, UNESCO Beijing</li> </ul>
11:30-12:05	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panelists: Above all speakers</li> <li>• Onsite Moderator: Prof. Taikan Oki, Special Advisor to the President, Professor, University of Tokyo c/o Vice President, JWF/APWF Secretariat (2024 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate)</li> <li>• Online Moderator: Mr. Raymond Valiant, GWP-SEA Regional Coordinator</li> </ul>
12:05-12:20	<b>Interaction with Audience Q&amp;A</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onsite Moderator: Prof. Taikan Oki</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Moderator: Mr. Raymond Valiant, GWP-SEA Regional Coordinator</li> </ul>
12:20-12:27	<p><b>Wrap up: Call for Actions</b></p> <p>Final remarks from each speaker</p>
12:27-12:30	<p><b>Closing Remarks:</b></p> <p>Mr. Mark Smith, Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) (TBD)</p>