

Summary of the session results – “Regional Cooperation for Water Security Research and Capacity Development” (IWRM9) organized by the Asia-Pacific Center for Water Security, 9 -12 am, 18 May 2013

Water environment in Asia has been deteriorating due to the fast economic growth and urbanization process. Water security issues draw more and more attention in the region. Due to the global economic integration, hotspot issues like water security require more and more regional cooperation work. In the workshop, the importance and urgency of promoting regional cooperation for water security research and capacity development was discussed first. The initiatives and efforts of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in promoting regional cooperation for water security research and capacity development was introduced. The publication of the Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) 2013 is one of the good examples. In the recent published AWDO 2013, the water security issues are discussed in five key dimensions: (1) household water security, (2) economic water security, (3) urban water security, (4) environment water security, and (5) resilience to water-related disasters. Composite indexes are developed to reflect the water security status of the countries in the region. Policy advices to improve water security are made according to the economic status and specific water security conditions. This work of AWDO 2013 has been done by the centers of excellence from the Asia-Pacific region. The involvement of organizations from various countries in the region made the AWDO report more complete as a regional water security status report. Another example of ADB's initiative for promoting regional cooperation in water security research and capacity development is to support the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Center for Water Security (APCWS).

APCWS's main objective is to promote the regional cooperation for water security research and capacity development. APCWS introduced its major works related to the regional cooperation, especially on AWDO and the Urban Water Security Learning Week which is designed for the water professionals from the developing countries in the region. Since the establishment of APCWS, the Center has been working on the regional cooperation for promoting water security research and capacity development. Major activities include building a network for collaborative research and information sharing, developing a database for AWDO, arranging a peer review journal for issues concerning water security, organizing workshops for discussion of water-food-energy security nexus issues, and organizing an Urban Water Security Learning Week for knowledge sharing and capacity development. The Urban Water Security Learning Week programme is designed by APCWS with the major purpose to share the experiences of China in managing urban water security issues. The learning week is planned to be organized in September of 2013. The target groups include participants from the government, industry, academic and financial sectors of the developing countries from the Asia-Pacific region and also participants from Chinese environmental protection agencies, enterprises, research institutes and universities. The topics of the learning week will cover the hotspot issues on urban water security

as listed below.

- Urban water supply security issues
- Risk management for urban drinking water
- Micro-pollutants in water
- Urban wastewater treatment technology
- The current wastewater treatment situation in China
- Urban stormwater control and management
- Water industry in China
- International management approaches for water pollution prevention and control
- Water sensitive cities framework

Technical tours will be arranged to showcase the successful projects on urban water security technology and management in China.