

Report of the Follow-up Workshop on 'IWRM Guidelines for Practitioners'

I. Background and Outline of the Workshop

Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) jointly organized a session on 'Better Governance' as one of the thematic sessions at the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit between 13:30-15:00 on 11 December, 2017. The discussions in the above session were summarized into 3 key messages and reflected to 'Yangon Declaration'¹.

[3 Key Messages to 'Yangon Declaration']

- *Water Governance is a foundation of sustainable development*, determining the efficiency and equity of water resources management and use. Improved water governance requires the building of mutual trust at all levels through cooperation, transparency, sharing of experiences and the adoption of integrated approaches as introduced at 'OECD Principles on Water Governance'.
- Data, approaches and their application by considering Ecohydrology, international cooperative platforms have the potential to play an indispensable role in promoting and supporting water governance and the achievement of SDG6.
- Necessity of development of 'Quality Infrastructure' for sustainable development through best-mix of structural and non-structural approach which fits with local conditions.

To facilitate implementation of what we agreed at the session, the follow-up workshop on "IWRM Guidelines for Practitioners" was held at the Central Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar on 13 December, 2017. The workshop included the field visit to Thilawa Special Economic Zone (Thilawa SEZ) to see the water gauge station as one of the practical methods in the field and how Myanmar Japan Thilawa Development Ltd (MJTD) established and keeping good relationship with residents in the region.

¹ http://apwf.org/apwf_wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Yangon-Declaration.pdf

II. Report by the Speakers

The workshop had 10 speakers from invited NARBO member organizations and WLE MK 30 project² fellows and all the participants shared their experiences on water governance or research activities.

Firstly, we invited Prof. Swe Swe Awe, Chair of Ayeyarwaddy River Basin Research Organization (ARBRO). He offered keynote remark and introduced WLE MK 30 project and its relationship with NARBO. Prof. Swe Swe Awe stressed the effectiveness of the fellowship program of WLE MK 30 project. Following the opening remarks, 10 speakers gave presentations, and Mr. Tadashige Kawasaki, secretariat of NARBO moderated the workshop.

Mr. Vishwa Ranjan Sinha, Programme Officer, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) talked on IUCN's hydrodiplomacy programme in Asia such as strategic process towards water cooperation in transboundary basins by bridging the gap and building the river dialogue and governance.

Mr. Mahendra Siti, Perum Jasa Tirta I Public Corporation, Indonesia introduced PJT1's applicable and appropriate approach in the field such as community participation activities for river health and low cost and sustainable hydro-information systems. Mr. Siti shared the keys to success of their actions and stressed the importance of community participation and introduction of applicable approach in the field.

Daw Ei Hnin Khaing, WLE, MK30 introduced the study on awareness raising of stakeholders and inclusive governance aiming to achieve sustainable surface water distribution. Ms. Khaing summarized the discussions by telling the necessity of capacity building and community building.

Dr. Aung Za Ya, WLE, MK30, YTU and Minister of Education shared the study on operation of hydropower plant which aims to achieve high-quality national grid, sufficient local grid and optimum power system in Myanmar. Dr. Za Ya proposed some possible solutions and stressed the necessity of stakeholder engagement and capacity development of stakeholders concerned in many aspects.

Dr. Kyaw Zaya Htun, WLE, MK30 introduced the study on Disaster Risk Reduction in Mandalay by focusing on land use and legal framework. Dr. Htun recommended that

Mr. Ponh Sachak, Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, Cambodia shared the situations and explained the challenges taken on water resources management in Cambodia and stressed the necessity of Water Science including installation of 'easy low cost' technology and application of practical and appropriate approach in a real work environment.

Mr. Thatsakone Chounlamouny, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao PDR introduced the situation of water resources management in such a way as categorizing rivers into 3

² <https://wlemekong.wikispaces.com/MK30>

levels and application of IWRM at different levels and the current IWRM in Situation in Lao PDR such as updated Water Resources Law in 2017.

Ms. Dolores Mayor Hipolito, Department of Public Works and Highways, Philippines introduced the flood management in Philippines through introduction of Master Plan of flood control and Drainage projects and stressed the necessity of quality infrastructure. Mr. Hipolito also emphasized the importance of stakeholder involvement in decision making and alternative measures such as non-structural measures and summarized by telling the keywords such as 'Divergence and Convergence'

Ms. Beniaflor Gondraneos Ada, Laguna Lake Development Authority, Philippines shared experience of sharing LLDA's knowledge such as ILBM (Integrated Lake Basin Management) to the seven crater lakes. Ms. Ada also shared the key to success and lessons learnt and especially stressed the necessity and importance of participation and coordination mechanism and information sharing.

Mr. Udien Yulianto, Perum Jasa Tirta II Public Corporation, Indonesia shared PJT2's activities for 'Water Resources Conservation by using Renewable Energy and Public Participation' which used biogas generated by easy and low cost facilities. He emphasized that those facilities also should contribute to water quality management in upstream areas and that action should offer benefits to the communities concerned and economy in the upstream areas. He also stated to the effect that such actions should be shared and applied at other areas.

At the end of the workshop, Mr. Seiji TOMIOKA, Secretary General of NARBO offered closing remarks and summarized the contents of the discussions at the workshop. Mr. TOMIOKA emphasized the necessity and importance of effective platforms of sharing practical experiences including easy and low cost approaches for improvement and self-reliant efforts for capacity development.

III. Output of the Workshop and Way Forward

NARBO will develop proposed IWRM guidelines by adding more information and experiences which were obtained at the workshop and consult on the 2nd draft with the organizations concerned. The guidelines will then be released at the session of the 8th World Water Forum after circulation as one of the concrete actions of the 3 APWS and its 'Yangon Declaration'³.

Concrete actions based on the proposed guidelines are expected to be developed and implemented by NARBO members. Eventually, water governance in the region is expected to be improved and goals and target on water in SDGs will also be achieved.

³ http://apwf.org/apwf_wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Yangon-Declaration.pdf