

TRAVEL REPORT FORM

출장보고서

결 재	사원	부서장	원장	
	11/28 김보라	11/28 문상원	11/29 정홍상	
협 조				

I. Reporter 보고자

Department 소속	Position 직위(직급)	Name 성명	Travel Date 날짜	Note 비고
Climate Application Department	Head	Hyungjin Kim	11/14~11/17	
Climate Research Team	Research Fellow	WonMoo Kim	11/14~11/17	
External Affairs Department	International Project Manager	Bo Ra Kim	11/14~11/17	

II. Major Activities 주요업무 수행내용

1. Main Contents and Activities 주요내용 및 활동

Attend the Regional Focus Group Consultations on 15-16 November 2016, initiate the UNDP, UNESCAP, RIMES El Nino Lessons Learned project, and have side meetings with UNESCAP regarding potential Pacific Islands project collaborations.

2. Relevance to APEC Climate Center's Activities 결론 및 소감

This is in direct relation to the El Nino Lessons Learned project that APCC is participating in, and is in the interest of APCC in pursuing a potential project opportunity with UNESCAP.

III. References 참고사항

(with attachment of any information or report in case of attendance of conferences, workshops and meetings) 학술대회, 워크숍, 회의 등 참석 시 관련 정보 및 문서 첨부

1. Presented and Collected Materials 주요 수집자료

2. Suggestions and Remarks 건의사항

Regional Focus Group Consultations on El Nino in Asia-Pacific

Travel Report Document

23 November 2016

Travel Summary

I. Name and Position of Traveler(s):

Hyungjin Kim (Head, Climate Application Department) – [HJ Kim]

WonMoo Kim (Research Fellow, Climate Research Team) – [WM Kim]

Bo Ra Kim (International Project Manager, External Affairs Department) – [BR Kim]

II. Travel Dates: 14 - 17 November 2016

III. Destination: Bangkok, Thailand

IV. Purpose of Travel:

- i. Attend the Regional Focus Group Consultations: Moving forward with the Blueprint for Action for El Niño and Weather Events, and the SOPs 15-16 November 2016 (Tue – Wed)
- ii. Initiate the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNESCAP, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), and RIMES El Niño Lessons Learned project
- iii. Have side meetings with UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) regarding potential Pacific Islands project collaborations
- iv. Visit the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) and discuss potential collaboration activities, particularly focusing on the currently proposed project to the ESCAP Trust Fund
- v. Active networking to increase APCC network and strengthen already existing network

V. Major Outcomes:

- i. Potential APCC-RIMES general MOU
- ii. UNDP, UNESCAP, UN OCHA, and Rimes El Niño Lessons Learned project concept, roles & responsibilities, timeline, and next steps defined
- iii. Defined future project concept with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) for the Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Trust Fund

Meeting Outcomes

****Major outcomes in blue**

The purpose of the “Regional Focus Group Consultations: Moving forward with the Blueprint for Action for El Niño and Weather Events, and the SOPs” in Bangkok, Thailand was mainly to gain feedback on the draft “Blueprint for Action” and inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for future preparedness and early action

for El Niño and other weather events. [The workshop concept note and agenda is attached as Attachment 2]

However, it is important to note that APCC's attendance at the event was not the main objective of this trip, but more of an opportunity where all of the participating agencies of the El Niño Lessons Learned project would be gathered, so that APCC could have a meeting with all of these agencies to kick off the project. In order to take full advantage of this trip, APCC also scheduled side meetings with RIMES and UNESCAP to discuss potential collaboration opportunities in detail.

Re: Side Meeting with Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) [14 November 2016]

RIMES Meeting Participants:

- Dr. A.R. Subbiah, Director
- Dr. Govindarajalu Srinivasan, Chief Scientist, Climate Applications
- Mr. Itesh Dash, Team Leader, Systems Research and Development
- ✂ 2016 S2S Training Program participant
- Dr. Anshul Agarwal, Hydrologist
- Dr. HJ Kim
- Dr. WM Kim
- Ms. BR Kim

Dr. Srinivasan invited APCC to visit the RIMES campus on 14 November 2016. During this meeting, Dr. Subbiah personally greeted Dr. HJ Kim, Dr. WM Kim, and Ms. BR Kim and presented an introduction to their organization.

Based on the RIMES introduction presentation, it seems that the two main successful activities of RIMES is the provision of early warning systems for certain natural disaster and the introduction and organization of Monsoon Forums. [RIMES was primarily interested in opening a general collaboration agreement with APCC, and outlined 3 main levels of collaboration they would like:](#)

1. Data transfer: sharing of data and data products
2. Program/project based collaborations
3. If APCC needs support from member countries on various activities, RIMES may be able to utilize their networks to get those countries' support.

When APCC brought up the RIMES-WMO project proposed to the UNESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund entitled "Enhancing weather and climate resilience in RIMES Member States through capacity building on impact forecasting", RIMES was unwilling to directly discuss including APCC as an implementing partner. [Dr. Subbiah stressed that he would like RIMES and APCC to enter into a general collaboration MOU before further discussions on project-based collaboration opportunities.](#)

Therefore, Dr. Srinivasan committed to sending Ms. BR Kim a copy of a draft MOU for APCC's consideration.

Re: UNDP, UNESCAP, UN OCHA, and Rimes El Niño Lessons Learned project

Mr. Sanny Jegillos and Ms. BR Kim led the meeting on the interdisciplinary El Niño Lessons Learned project. In regards to the study's concept note, it was decided that each organization would send their separate sections to Ms. BR Kim after the meeting.

The group also determined their separate roles and responsibilities. APCC will be leading the writing of Section 1: scientific insights on historical El Nino events with a specific focus on the 2015-2016 El Nino, and will be participating in the writing of Section 3: information, early warning/action and preparedness to protect lives and minimize impact, and Section 5: economic costs of El Nino and ways to support long-term risk-informed economic development.

UN OCHA will be offering the use of their infographer for use when drafting the report. This will save on project costs, and also will bring high level infographs to the report, as UN OCHA's infographs are well-known for their quality. UNDP will be hiring a consultant to lead this project and provide an interdisciplinary review of our outcomes.

All members of the group also committed to getting the drafted Letter of Agreement signed by their respective organizations once Ms. BR Kim sends them the revised version including UN OCHA as one of the signatories.

Project completion is scheduled for April 2017, and UNDP expects to convene a final writing workshop with all participating organizations in March 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Re: Potential Collaborations with UNDP

Dr. WM Kim and Ms. BR Kim had an informal conversation with Sanny Jegillos, Senior Advisor, Disaster Risk Reduction during and after lunch on Day 2 of the workshop. Mr. Jegillos provided updated information regarding the UNDP proposals to GCF:

1. There are a few UNDP proposals to GCF that have already been approved. However, even though these have already been approved, GCF has not yet disbursed the funding for these proposals. Therefore, those proposals have not yet been moved to the implementation phase.
2. There are one or two UNDP proposals to GCF that are currently in the pipeline and will be discussed in upcoming GCF board meetings.

However, Mr. Jegillos emphasized that he would like to develop a long-term collaboration between UNDP and APCC, and not only do simple project-based collaborations, as that is not a sustainable model. He explained that as UNDP is primarily an organization that assists other organizations in creating project proposals for funding mechanisms (like GCF), that UNDP is rarely the project leader on international projects. Therefore, even if UNDP wants to work with us on one of the projects they are helping to propose, if the other main implementing party decides that they don't want to work with APCC, then there is little that UNDP can do.

Therefore, Mr. Jegillos stressed the importance of starting “proof of concept” initiatives. “Proof of concept” is conducting activities to establish “proof” that a certain “concept” or project strategy is successful. By establishing this type of “proof”, UNDP can use this “proof of concept” to propose full projects with APCC as an implementing partner to country governments or other international organizations interested in that type of project. Mr. Jegillos used APCC’s 3-part Tonga project as a good example of a “proof of concept” initiative.

However, Mr. Jegillos understands that APCC has limited funds to carry out this type of work. So he would like for APCC to think of a sustainable way for our two organizations to collaborate without it solely being project-based and dependent on APCC being included in an established project proposed by UNDP.

Re: Collaborations with UNESCAP

Dr. HJ Kim, Dr. WM Kim, and Ms. BR Kim met with Dr. Sanjay Srivastavas, Disaster Risk Reduction Section Chief, UNESCAP, and Mr. Sung Eun Kim, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP, on Day 2 of the workshop. During this meeting, we discussed potential options for the project to follow the ROK-PI CLIPS project¹ in the Pacific Islands region.

[It was determined that a project focused on creating an integrated forecast system to combine the SCOPIC and ROK-PI CLIPS Downscaled Seasonal Forecast System](#), which was identified to be a need during the ROK-PI CLIPS project. This project will operate under the Korean-ESCAP Cooperation Trust Fund.

UNESCAP would like to develop the full project proposal by June 2017 so that they can ensure the funding disbursement by January 2018 for the project to begin. This means that they would like to develop an initial project concept note by February 2017. So they have requested [APCC to write a summary of how the integrated forecast system would be developed as well as a rough budget](#).

Action Items & Next Steps

1. Send RIMES a reminder to ask for the draft general MOU between RIMES and APCC
2. Send El Nino Lessons Learned Study Project implementing partners the revised LOA and a reminder to send in their sections for the Concept Note
3. Write a summary of how the integrated forecast system would be developed with the project draft budget for UNESCAP
4. Send Dr. Srivastavas and Dr. Sang Eun Kim (UNESCAP) a thank you email with the timeline for the draft summary and project budget

¹ Republic of Korea-Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Services Project (2014 ~ 2017)
PI = Dr. Jinho Yoo, PM = Ms. Bo Ra Kim



**On behalf of the Secretariat of the
UN Special Envoys for *El Niño* and Climate**

Moving forward with the *Blueprint for Action* for *El Niño* and Weather Events, and the SOPs

Bangkok, 15-16 November 2016

**Venue: UNDP Pacific Room A & B, 4th floor, Service Building, UNESCAP
Compound**

The 2015/16 *El Niño* event severely affected more than 60 million people worldwide, causing 23 countries to appeal for US\$5 billion in humanitarian assistance. The long-term impact of the 2015-16 *El Niño* has yet to be fully assessed, but the 1997-98 *El Niño* caused at least US\$33 billion in damage. The current *El Niño* may be at least as devastating, with impacts felt into 2017 and beyond.

The United Nations Special Envoys for *El Niño* and Climate, Mrs. Mary Robinson and Amb. Macharia Kamau, are tasked with calling attention to the severe global human security impact of the current *El Niño*, supporting the mobilization of resources required to address the immediate needs, and mobilising an integrated response to prepare for future needs related to the impact of climate change on weather conditions. Their work is fully in line with SDG 13, which calls for urgent action to reduce the human and economic toll of climate events.

The Regional Focus Group consultation for Asia is designed to create awareness and solicit feedback on the draft “Blueprint for Action” and inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for future preparedness and early action for *El Niño* and other weather hazards. Participants will be managers and technical practitioners in UN entities, and interested Development Partners based in Bangkok.

The first half-day session will provide a conceptual overview of the “Blueprint for Action”, and the SOPs; this session is designed for managers and interested technical practitioners. The second half-day session will review in depth the draft SOPs; this session is designed for technical practitioners.

Regional Focus Group Consultations

Moving forward with the *Blueprint for Action* for *El Niño* and Weather Events, and the SOPs Bangkok, 15-16 November 2016

I. Introduction

The Regional Focus Group consultations for Asia and the Pacific is a two-day event designed to create awareness and solicit feedback on the draft “Blueprint for Action” and inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for future preparedness and early action for *El Niño* and other weather events.

Participants will ideally be composed of managers and technical practitioners in UN entities, NGOs and interested Development Partners based in Bangkok. The first half-day will provide a conceptual overview of the “Blueprint for Action”, and SOPs; this session is designed for managers and interested technical practitioners. The second half-day will review in depth the draft SOPs; this session is designed for technical practitioners.

II. Background

The 2015/16 *El Niño* event severely affected more than 60 million people worldwide, causing 23 countries to appeal for US\$5 billion in humanitarian assistance. The long-term impact of the 2015-16 *El Niño* has yet to be fully assessed, but the 1997-98 *El Niño* caused at least US\$33 billion in damage. The current *El Niño* may be at least as devastating, with impacts felt into 2017 and beyond. The humanitarian response to *El Niño* is providing lifesaving assistance to vulnerable people and communities, while development work is tackling underlying vulnerabilities and risks which will improve communities’ and countries’ resilience to *El Niño* and similar weather events.

The United Nations Special Envoys for *El Niño* and Climate, Mrs. Mary Robinson and Amb. Macharia Kamau, are tasked with calling attention to the severe global human security impact of the current *El Niño*, supporting the mobilization of resources required to address the immediate needs, and mobilising an integrated response to prepare for future needs related to the impact of climate change on weather conditions. Their work is fully in line with Goal 13 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which calls for urgent action to reduce the human and economic toll of climate events.

The Special Envoys believe that *El Niño*/La Niña and other weather events do not need to lead to humanitarian disasters. With sufficient early warning and a commitment to early action, the consequences of these events can be mitigated, and timely adaptation measures can help communities to be more resilient. The Special Envoys will develop, in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, a “Blueprint for Action” (see concept attached). The aim of the Blueprint will be to significantly mitigate the impact of future *El Niño*/La Niña and other weather events by catalysing and guiding the development of robust multi-stakeholder commitments, at the national and regional levels, to build resilience and embed an approach based on prevention and early action in the most vulnerable countries.

While the Blueprint for Action is aimed at the strategic level and will be focused on the broad and continuing challenge of climate resilience, there is also a need for a more robust inter-agency commitment to turning ‘early warning into early action’ in more operational terms. For this reason group of UN partners, NGOs and the IFRC, under the rubric of the IASC, have begun a process to develop a set of ‘Standard Operating Procedures’ to help catalyze and guide future responses to *El Niño* episodes and other predictable, slow onset weather events. The SoPs are aimed at setting out the steps that relevant agencies agree to take, within specified timelines, whenever there is an elevated risk of an *El Niño* episode or similar weather event likely to have significant humanitarian impacts. The SoPs will lay out a graduated approach that escalates action and investment as certainty about approaching events increases

and agreed thresholds are crossed. They will also aim to outline a methodology for comment risk assessment and review the appropriate financing options at each stage of risk.

III. Objectives and Outputs of the Regional Focus Group Consultations

The objective of the Regional Focus Group consultations for Asia and the Pacific is to engage a broader range of UN and other stakeholders in the formulation of the Blueprint concept and SOPs, thereby fostering awareness and incorporating additional perspectives and ideas.

The outputs for the two half-day sessions are:

15 November

- Greater awareness of the “Blueprint for Action” concept, and how it fits in with other global and regional agreements
- Generate and document feedback on the “Blueprint for Action” and SOPs, including elements for inclusion and messaging
- Document feedback on the “Blueprint for Action” and SOPs, to maximize its utility for UNCTs/HCTs in affected and at-risk countries

16 November

- Greater in-depth knowledge of the four sections of the SOPs, and how they complement other UN initiatives and working arrangements
- Generate and document detailed feedback on the SOPs, including elements for inclusion or clarification/extrapolation
- Document ideas for rollout of SOPs following IASC endorsement, likely targeting first quarter 2017, including the methodology(s) which are most likely to be successful

IV. Draft Agenda

15 November/Session 1

Target participation: Managers in UN entities and NGOs, interested Development Partners

Target outputs: Feedback on the Blueprint concept; advice on how the Blueprint could be most useful to support UN work at country level

Time	Session
8:00 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 9:15	Opening remarks Welcome remarks (Convener/host agency in Bangkok) Welcome remarks (Co-convener/host agency, if applicable) Introduction of participants Introduction to consultation objectives <i>Security Briefing (if some participants come from outside of Bangkok)</i>
9:15 – 10:45	Blueprint for Action History of the initiative Overview and analysis of current status Proposed elements for the <i>Blueprint</i> Roundtable discussion (SWOT) – From participants’ perspectives, what are the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges of the Blueprint approach? What could be included to make the concept/approach stronger and more useful?
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:30	Blueprint (II) :

	Report back on the Roundtable/SWOT Facilitated discussion on how the Blueprint could be constructed in order to be most useful for UNCTs/HCTs, e.g. (a) strategies for engaging with national governments, including selection of “early mover” countries; (b) mobilizing partnerships and financing; (c) results reporting in the context of other agreements; (d) applying innovation; or (e) enhancing visibility
11:30-12:30	Standard Operating Procedures History of the SOPs Brief overview and analysis of current status Next steps on SOPs
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch

16 November/Session 2

Target participation: Technical representatives of Bangkok-based UN entities and relevant NGOs and Development Partners

Target outputs: In-depth feedback on the draft SOPs, including additional areas to include; ideas for rollout of SOPs in affected and at-risk countries

8:30 – 8:45	Welcome Welcome remarks and re-cap Day 1(Convener/host agency in Bangkok) Welcome remarks (Co-convener/host agency, if applicable) Introduction of participants (if different from Session 1) Introduction to workshop objectives
8:45 – 11:00	SOPs for El Niño Overview and analysis of current status Review of current sections of the SOPs Discussion of key requirements for inclusion, and emerging common themes
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 1:00	SOPs (II) Facilitated discussion in plenary or groups on the SOPs, soliciting feedback and ideas for rollout of SOPs in 2017 Agreement on next steps and mechanisms for ongoing engagement and follow-up Evaluation
1:00 – 2:00	Lunch