

Report on the Asia Water Resource Management Capacity Building Workshop,  
Oct 26, 2006/11/02

The Asia Water Resource Management Capacity Building Workshop was held on Sep 26 to 28 in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop was held in response to the GEO 2006 work plan.

121 participants from 22 countries, including policy makers, water resource managers and researchers attended the workshop.

The first day was the workshop for the policy makers. Activities of GEO, IGWOC, Asia Water Cycle Initiatives were presented. Then national reports on best practices and capacity building activities were presented. The national presentation indicated that in this region there are emergent capacity of integrated water resource management, flood modeling and application of satellite data.

The second and third day was the workshop for the water resource managers. Activities of the international observation and research programs and capacity building activities in the region were presented, identifying available data, tool and opportunities for capacity building.

Three working group break-out sessions were held for flood, drought, and water quality and groundwaters. They reviewed the regional issues, status, and proposed recommendations on actions and regional capacity building projects.

Flood and drought WG sessions recommended preparing inventories on observation systems for floods and drought. WG sessions recommended regional demonstration projects. Water quality WG drew attention by reporting that more than 50 % of Bangladesh people are drinking arsenic contaminated water which is under the world safety standard. They proposed immediate action to propose a new task to GEO for the Asian Water Quality initiative which include proposal development on demonstration projects.

The workshop summary and WG reports, and all the presentation materials are posted on the workshop home page (<http://www.a-a-r-s.org/ws-eowm/>).

The workshop outcomes will be reported to the 20<sup>th</sup> CEOS Plenary, GEO-III in November. And follow-up of the workshop will be discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Water Cycle Workshop to be held in January 2007.