



## **18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC)**

**Venue:**

**Jubilee Ballroom on the 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
The Berkeley Hotel, Pratunam  
Bangkok, Thailand**

# **Sustainable Anticipatory Actions for Resilient Development Goals**

**23-24 January 2025**

The Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) was established in 2000 by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). It was one of the early regional fora to promote consultation and cooperation in reducing disaster and climate change risk in Asia and the Pacific. As part of ADPC's transition to an international organization in 2018, the RCC has been adopted as one of its institutional organs, as stipulated in the *ADPC Charter*, making it a permanent, non-binding mechanism for the following measures:

- Develop action strategies for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate resilience (CR) in Asia and the Pacific region.
- Promote cooperative programs on a regional and sub-regional basis.
- Guide ADPC on its future work and strategies.

The RCC is part of ADPC's broader governance structure at the strategic level. It provides the organization with key inputs and guidance from member countries. The RCC helps identify DRR and CR needs and priorities, promote regional and subregional cooperation, and develop regional action strategies and programs.

Traditionally, the annual RCC meeting is co-hosted by an RCC member country, and the RCC Statement is issued at the end of each meeting, requesting ADPC to develop national and regional programs and projects and provide technical assistance to countries in pursuing their national DRR and CR strategies. The previous 17 RCC meetings were held in Thailand (2000, 2001 and 2020); India (2002); Bangladesh (2004); Viet Nam (2005); China (2006); Sri Lanka (2007); Philippines (2010); Cambodia (2011); Mongolia (2013); Myanmar (2014); Bhutan (2015); Pakistan (2016); Nepal (2018); Republic of Korea (2021); and the Philippines (2022).

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior of Thailand has partnered with ADPC to advance its existing projects in Thailand, especially those related to capacity building for local communities who gained relevant knowledge to better prepare for, cope with, recover from, and reduce disaster risks. The RCC mechanism has also promoted Thailand's role as a regional disaster management center, which is in line with the government's policy to position the country as the base of international organizations in Asia.

Aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other regional and global frameworks, and reaffirming and promoting an all-of-society approach to DRR and CR, the RCC mechanism has created an enabling environment for sharing good practices, hosting policy dialogues and regional cooperation through the participation of government and non-government representatives from national and sub-national levels in a bid to harness peer advocacy and exchange of experience.

Co-hosted by the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), the 18th RCC meeting will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, between 23-24 January 2025. Guided by the overarching theme of **Sustainable Anticipatory Actions for Resilient Development Goals**, Day 1 of the meeting will discuss the technical aspects of advancing risk reduction through technology and innovative solutions, supporting the localization of priority actions, and exploring options for mobilizing disaster and climate financing from global, regional, and national mechanisms. Day 2 will have the 5th Brian Ward Memorial Lecture, followed by the ADPC's Development Partners' Forum 2025.

The 18<sup>th</sup> RCC meeting will build on the key outcomes of the APEC 2022 meeting under the Thailand presidency and the recent Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) hosted by the Government of the Philippines in October 2024, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), and the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) held in Baku during 11-22 November 2024. It will also draw insights from many events organized by Thailand and other countries to commemorate the 20th year since the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami.

The objectives of the 18<sup>th</sup> RCC meeting include the following:

1. Understanding the current state and challenges around systemic risks, emphasizing the need for increased funding, innovative approaches, and multi-stakeholder engagement to enhance resilience.

2. Accelerating existing national strategies for RCC member countries to access finance and enhance investments to support the implementation of priority actions of the Sendai Framework for DRR.
3. Highlighting the importance of systemic risk governance, risk analytics, and preparedness actions to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs)
4. Exploring practical solutions such as integrating global frameworks into national planning, strengthening disaster risk governance, promoting climate change adaptation, and enhancing international cooperation.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Brian Ward Memorial Lecture

Col. Brian Ward was instrumental in establishing ADPC in 1986, and during his time as the director (1986-1992), he provided vision and insight, motivating all he worked with. He especially encouraged young professionals and sought to enable government authorities to reduce possible disaster losses proactively. He managed, taught, and traveled widely, conducting numerous disaster-related technical advisory and liaison missions throughout Asia-Pacific.

The Brian Ward Memorial Lecture is annually held to honor the memory of Col. Brian Ward for his vision of a safer Asia and the Pacific, as well as his outstanding personal dedication and commitment to the field of sustainable development through DRR and CR. The lecture features distinguished guests who share their experiences that would contribute to innovative resilience-building initiatives in the region.

Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, Global Director, Water Global Practice, the World Bank, will be the keynote speaker delivering the 5th Brian Ward Memorial Lecture focusing on the theme: **“A Water Secure Future: Pathways to Resilience and Risk Reduction.”**

The details are provided in Annex-1

## ADPC Development Partners' Forum 2025

The Development Partners' Forum is a strategic event to inform and engage in dialogue with ADPC member states and development partners on DRR and CR priorities and where ADPC can play a collaborative role in addressing them sustainably. The overall objectives are to:

- Inform and update about ADPC's Strategy 2030 and the strategic action plans for ADPC member states.
- Align development partner strategies and priority actions with the ADPC 2030 strategy and strategic action plans of ADPC member states.
- Explore approaches for a more effective development partner's engagement and cooperation with ADPC and its member states.

Participants include representatives of embassies in Bangkok, development partner organizations, ADPC member states, and the ADPC Board of Trustees.

The details are provided in Annex 2. This is a by-invitation-only event.

## Agenda

Day 1 : 23 January 2025 (Thursday)		
0845-1030	<b>Inaugural Session</b>	<p><b>A. Opening Remark by Ms. Sabeeda Thaised</b>, Deputy Minister of Interior, Government of Thailand</p> <p><b>B. Welcome Remarks by</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Chair of the ADPC Board of Trustee</b></li> <li><b>H.E. Milicent Cruz Paredes</b>, Ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in Thailand</li> <li><b>Mr. Paisan Rupanichkij</b>, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand</li> </ul> <p><b>C. 25 Years of Regional Consultative Committee</b>, Mr. Aslam Perwaiz, Executive Director of ADPC</p> <p><b>D. 40 Years of Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre</b>, felicitating the Founding Directors of ADPC Group Photo</p>
1030-1100	Tea Break	
1100-1230	<b>High Level Panel</b>	<p><b>Intergovernmental and International Organizations on Regional Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Resilience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: <b>Dr. Bhichit Rattakul</b>, Advisory Council, ADPC</li> <li>Co-chair: <b>Aslam Perwaiz</b>, Executive Director, ADPC</li> </ul> <p><b>Special Messages by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>H.E. Kamal Kishore</b>, Special Representative of United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction &amp; Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)</li> <li><b>H.E. Dr. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana</b>, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations &amp; Executive Secretary of United</li> </ul>

		<p>Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p><b>High Level Panel Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Indra Mani Pandey</b>, Secretary General of The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)</li> <li>• <b>H.E. San Lwin</b>, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Dawa Tshering</b>, Director, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Marco Toscano-Rivalta</b>, Chief, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Asia Pacific Region</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tiziana Bonapace</b>, Director, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)</li> </ul> <p><b>Floor Interventions by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H. E. Mr. Faiyaz Murshid Kazi</b>, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</li> <li>• <b>H. E. Mr. Mr. Kim Virak</b>, Secretary General, National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. LI Xiaodong</b>, General Engineer, Ministry of Emergency Management of the People's Republic of China</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Eung Beom Lee</b>, Director, Disaster Management Policy Division, Ministry of Interior and Safety, Republic of Korea</li> <li>• <b>Ms. OHASHI Makiko</b>, Director, Disaster Management Bureau, Cabinet office, Government of Japan</li> <li>• <b>Pawan Kumar</b>, Director, Disaster Management Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India</li> </ul>
1230-1400	Lunch Break	

1400-1500	<b>Technical Session 1</b>	<p><b>Advancing Risk Information – technology and innovation for decision-support systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: <b>Dr. Winai Wangpimool</b>, Director of Foreign Affairs Division, Office of the National Water Resources, Thailand</li> <li>Co-Chair: <b>Dr. Peeranan Towashiraporn</b>, Director, ADPC</li> </ul> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mr. Jeon In-seung</b>, Deputy Director, Disaster Management Policy Division, Ministry of Interior and Safety, Republic of Korea</li> <li><b>Dr. ZHOU Hongjian</b>, Director for Disaster Risk Reduction and Assessment, Department of Integrated Disaster Reduction and Reform Coordination, Ministry of Emergency Management of China</li> <li><b>Ms. Victoria Leat</b>, Pacific Disaster Center (PDC)</li> </ul>
1500-1600	<b>Technical Session 2</b>	<p><b>Localization of Priority Actions – locally-led adaptation, anticipatory action and disaster risk management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: <b>Dr Valerie Bemo</b>, Gates Foundation</li> <li>Co-chair: <b>Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma</b>, Director, ADPC</li> </ul> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mr. Ibrahim Shameel</b>, Manager, Programmes &amp; Services, Maldivian Red Crescent Society, Maldives.</li> <li><b>EK Sothea</b>, Country Representative, Church World Service, Cambodia</li> <li><b>Tran Viet Kim Chi</b>, Official, Science Technology and International Cooperation Department (STICD), Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority (VDDMA)</li> </ul>
1600-1630	Tea Break	
1630-1730	<b>Technical Session 3</b>	<p><b>Financial Mechanisms and Investments – Climate Finance, Investment for Resilience Building, Disaster Risk Finance</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Sanjay Srivastava</b>, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction UNESCAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-chair: <b>Mr. Irfan Maqbool</b>, Director, ADPC</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote Speaker: <b>Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik, Chairman</b>, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Pakistan</li> <li>• Spotlight: <b>Ms. Sushmita Mandal</b>, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute</li> <li>• Future Vision Talk: <b>Ms. Ranjini Mukherjee</b>, Director-Research, Knowledge &amp; Capacity Development, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure</li> </ul>
1730	Closing of Day 1	
1830-2030	<b>Gala Dinner Reception</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by Aslam Perwaiz, Executive Director, ADPC</li> </ul>	

**Day 2: 24 January 2025 (Friday)**

0930-1030	<b>5<sup>th</sup> BrianWard Memorial Lecture: "A Water Secure Future: Pathways to Resilience and Risk Reduction"</b>  <b>Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha</b> , Global Director, Water Global Practice, the World Bank  <b>Details are provided in Annex-1</b>	
1030-1100	Tea Break	
1100-1300	<b>ADPC Development Partner Forum ( by Invitation)</b>	
1100-1200	<b>UpFront Session 1</b>	<b>Regional and Transboundary Cooperation</b>  Chair: <b>Dr. Veena Vidyadharan</b> Moderator: Dr. Homolata Borah, ADPC Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Veena Vidyadharan</b>, Feminist Lead, Oxfam Asia</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Nayeem Rubaiyet</b>, Counsellor (Political), Embassy of Bangladesh, Bangkok</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Vishwa Ranjan Sinha</b>, Senior Project Officer, IUCN</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Sunil Acharya</b>, Regional Policy and campaign Coordinator, Nepal</li> </ul>
1200-1330	Lunch Break	
1330-1430	<b>UpFront Session 2</b>	<b>Innovation and Localization</b> Chair: <b>Mr. Hisan Hassan</b> , CEO, NDMA, Maldives Moderator: Ms. Ronilda Co, ADPC Speakers:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Innovator: <b>Mr. Thurein Aung</b>, Director of Community Engagement, Doh Eain, Myanmar</li> <li>• Technology Innovator: <b>Ms. Ishrat Shabnam</b>, Country Director, Practical Action (i-CARE recipient) (TBC)</li> <li>• Process Innovator: <b>Ms. Veronica Gabaldon</b>, Executive Director, Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), Philippines</li> <li>• Community Innovator: <b>Ms. Nion Sirimongkonlertkul</b>, Air Quality Advocate, Rajamangala University of Technology, Thailand</li> <li>• Approach Innovator: <b>Mr. Damien Riquiet</b>, Regional Anticipatory Actions Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP), Thailand</li> </ul>
1430-1530	<b>UpFront Session 3</b>	<p><b>Gender and Social Inclusion in DRR</b> Chair: <b>Ms. Ranjini Mukherjee</b>, CDRI Moderator: <b>Ms. Momota Hena</b>, GESI Mainstreaming Officer, ADPC Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Jeeranuch Sakkhamduang</b>, Senior Researcher, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Aisha Gul</b>, Humanitarian and DRR Analyst, UNWOMEN</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Mak Srikhao</b>, Director, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand</li> </ul>
1530-1600	Tea Break	
1600-1730	Closing Ceremony	<p><b>RCC Outcome Summary</b> <b>Mr. Aslam Perwaiz</b>, Executive Director, ADPC</p>

### Annex-1

## 5<sup>th</sup> Brian Ward Memorial Lecture A Water Secure Future: Pathways to Resilience and Risk Reduction

### Venue:

**The Berkeley Hotel, Pratunam  
Jubilee Ballroom on the 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bangkok, Thailand**

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Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, Global Director, Water Global Practice, the World Bank, will be the keynote speaker delivering the 5th Brian Ward Memorial Lecture focusing on the theme: **“A Water Secure Future: Pathways to Resilience and Risk Reduction.”**

Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha is the Global Director for the World Bank Group’s Water Global Practice. In his current assignment, Mr. Jha leads the Global Practice Leadership team, which drives the policy direction of the Practice, oversees a portfolio of \$27 billion in water-related investments, analytical work, multi-donor trust funds and global partnerships. Under Mr. Jha’s leadership, Water Practice is accelerating global and country level water action agenda for green, resilient, and inclusive growth, creating good jobs, and taking the water-climate-conflict nexus in shared river basins around the world.

Time	Agenda
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Arrival of their Excellencies and Dignitaries</b>
09:30 – 09:35	Introduction of the Event
09:35 – 18:40	Welcoming remark: ADPC and Pathways to a Resilient Future <b><i>Aslam Perwaiz, Executive Director, ADPC</i></b>
09:40 – 10:20	Keynote speech: <b>A Water Secure Future: Pathways to Resilience and Risk Reduction</b> <b>Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha,</b> Global Director, Water Global Practice, the World Bank
10:20 – 10:30	Open forum for discussion
10:30	Closing remark <b><i>Aslam Perwaiz</i></b> <i>Executive Director, ADPC</i>



**Annex 2:**

# **ADPC Development Partners Forum**

**(Special Event: By Invitation)**

## **ADPC Development Partners Forum (ADPF-2025)**

**Chelsea B Conference Room**

**The Berkeley Hotel, Pratunam, Bangkok, Thailand**

**24 January 2025 (11.00 hrs. – 13.00 hrs.)**

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), together with the Government of Thailand and its other member states, is hosting the Development Partners Forum (ADPF-2025), a strategic meeting to foster dialogue and collaboration among ADPC, its member states, and development partners, who are working in the broader Asia Pacific Region and the countries. This forum serves as a unique platform for the partners to discuss critical development and resilience-building priorities and gaps, positioning ADPC and its member countries to play a key role in addressing these issues sustainably. The forum offers a crucial opportunity to enhance synergy, collaboration, and coordination among the development partners, ADPC member countries, and the ADPC in advancing disaster risk reduction and climate resilience in the region. Through engaging in meaningful dialogue and aligning strategies, ADPC and its member states will be better equipped to tackle the pressing development challenges and resilience-building needs in a sustainable and cost-effective manner at scale. The outcomes of this forum are designed not only to inform ADPC member states but also to inspire collective action toward creating a safer and more resilient future for the region in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement, and other regional frameworks.

ADPC Board of Trustees, comprised of ADPC founder member countries, approved its 2030 strategy in July 2024, which has been developed in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and various other global and regional frameworks, as well as country-specific national strategies and priorities. This comprehensive approach has enabled ADPC to identify critical challenges and establish priority actions that member countries need to invest their resources and efforts in reducing disaster and climate risks. A key aspect of the development partners forum will be to ensure that ADPC's strategy remains in harmony with country priorities and the strategies and objectives of development partners, facilitating effective partnerships in tackling these pressing issues in a timely and sustainable manner.

## Objectives of the Forum:

The Development Partners' Forum has three overarching objectives:

1. **Inform and Update:** The forum will provide participants an overview of ADPC's Strategy 2030, including strategic action plans tailored to ADPC member states. This briefing will cover key priorities, initiatives, goals, and the anticipated impact of these strategies on disaster risk reduction and climate resilience across the region.
2. **Align Strategies:** A core purpose of this gathering is to facilitate alignment between the strategies and priority actions of development partner organizations and ADPC's 2030 strategy. This alignment is crucial in optimizing resources and efforts to ensure that the initiatives supported by development partners effectively meet the needs of ADPC member states.
3. **Explore Engagement and Sustainable Partnership Approaches:** Lastly, the forum aims to identify and discuss methods for enhancing the effectiveness of partnerships between development partners, ADPC, and member states. By exploring innovative approaches to cooperation, stakeholders can find synergies that lead to more impactful results in disaster risk reduction and climate resilience.

## Participants (by Invitations Only):

The forum will gather a diverse group of participants, including:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Thailand.
- H.E. Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Embassies of the ADPC Charter Member countries based in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Representatives from Development Partner Organizations.
- Executive Management of ADPC.

This diverse assembly of stakeholders will enrich the discussions, bringing various perspectives and expertise to the forum while establishing synergies and partnerships in advancing resilience-building efforts in the ADPC member countries and the region.

## Structure and Format:

The discussions will be conducted in a structured manner, ensuring that all participants could contribute their perspectives. This format is designed to facilitate an inclusive dialogue that remains focused and productive, aligned with the objectives of the forum.

### Discussion Topics:

The structured and facilitated discussions are organized around the following key topics to drive the discussions:

- ADPC 2030 Strategy and its implementation priorities within ADPC member states.
- Areas of mutual interest and collaboration between ADPC, its member states, and development partners.
- Strategies for building stronger, more resilient communities through targeted interventions with impacts and scale.
- Opportunities for innovative partnerships and collaboration to advance disaster risk reduction and climate resilience initiatives in the region and specific countries.

Time	Discussion Sessions
11.00 – 11.15 hrs	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
11.15 – 11.45 hrs	<b>ADPC 2030 &amp; Beyond: Strategy and Strategic Priorities</b> by Mr Aslam Perwaiz, Executive Director, ADPC.
11.45 – 12.45 hrs	<p><b>Reflections and Synergizing Strategies, Partnerships, and Financing Opportunities by the Development Partners, and ADPC Member Countries</b></p> <p><b>Reflections by Development Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha and Melinda Good, World Bank</li> <li>● Dr. Valerie Bemo, Gates Foundation</li> <li>● Ms. Dinah Zeltser-Winant and Mr. Todd Hammer, USAID</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendations by H.E. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● H.E. Faiyaz Murshid Kazi, Embassy of Bangladesh, Bangkok</li> <li>● H.E. Hun Saroeun, Embassy of Cambodia, Bangkok</li> <li>● H.E. Dhan Bahadur Oli, Embassy of Nepal, Bangkok</li> <li>● H.E. Rukhsana Afzaal, Embassy of Pakistan, Bangkok</li> <li>● H.E. Millicent Cruz-Paredes, Embassy of Philippines, Bangkok</li> <li>● H.E. A.S Wijayanthi Edirisinghe, Embassy and Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka, Bangkok</li> </ul> <p><b>Reflections by the Development Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Ohashi Makiko, Director, Disaster Management Bureau, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan</li> <li>● Mr. Marco Toscano-Rivalta, Chief, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Asia Pacific Region</li> <li>● Representatives from other Development Partners</li> </ul>
12.45 – 13.00 hrs	<b>Closing Remarks</b> ADPC