

Regional Science Policy Dialogue: Science, Technology and Innovation for Bridging Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
16 November 2017, The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya, Malaysia

by Siti Amira Sariyathul Rusly



Professor Lord Julian Hunt of University of Cambridge (*left*) and Associate Professor Dr. Sarah Aziz of SEADPRI-UKM (*second from left*) co-moderated the session on Perspectives on Bridging DRR and CCA at the Regional Science Policy Dialogue: Science, Technology and Innovation for Bridging Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.

Understanding the linkage between disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) empowering the development of the solutions to climate change. A good scientific foundation is a key to smart position and synergies between DRR and CCA, and development can be promoted through integration into planning, policy design and decision-making. A critical element for promoting such synergy is strengthened institutions as well as coordination and cooperation in governance.

On 16 November 2017, a meeting on Regional Science-Policy Dialogue: Science, Technology and Innovation for Bridging Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation was held in The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya, Malaysia. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss the needs of the regions for innovative science products and services that could advance climate change adaptation through disaster risk reduction. The event was convened by the Asian Network on Climate Science and Technology (ANCST), UNISDR Asian Science Technology Academia Advisory Committee (ASTAAG) and Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) in conjunction with the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), Malaysia Meteorological Department (MMD) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative (SEADPRI-UKM). The opening remarks was delivered by Director General of National Disaster Management Agency Malaysia (NADMA) and followed by a speech from Professor Lord Julian Hunt, Fellow of Trinity College Cambridge and Senior Visiting Fellow at Malaysian Commonwealth Studies Centre (MCSC).

The keynotes of the event was delivered by Professor Datuk Mazlan Othman, Director of International Council for Science Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ICSU-ROAP). The dialogue was further continued with presentations by regional experts from the Philippines, Japan, India, Cambodia, Vietnam and Malaysia on their experiences and challenges in bridging DRR and CCA. Among the point highlighted was the importance to bring together all stakeholders to discuss issues and barriers and to come up with innovative solutions.

The findings of the Dialogue will be documented and disseminated to multiple end-users in the region. It will also serve as the basis for formulating future plans on advancing science, technology and innovation that supports both DRR and CCA in conjunction with public-private participation.