

Asia Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (APBON) Strategic Plan 2030

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Asia Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (APBON) was established in 2009 and it is contributing to Asia Oceania Group on Earth Observations (AOGEO) as well as GEO Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON). We are now moving to the next steps to address challenges in biodiversity observations and assessments in our region, based on our 10-year achievements (Takeuchi et al. 2021, Ecological Research DOI: 10.1111/1440-1703.12212).

The societal demands for the Earth observation have been increasing because of emerging environmental issues such as climate change and species extinction in both global and local scale. Our ecosystem and biodiversity monitoring activities as “Earth observation” and subsequent scientific analyses provide an essential data to understand the status, trends, and projection of the future earth system including under climate and societal change. Through the high-quality observation of biodiversity change, APBON will strive to provide scientific evidence to develop sound assessments and facilitate policy-making.

Regional networks, such as APBON, play an essential role in taking an initiative to gather, explore, and prioritize local issues and practices and link these over regions, scientific communities, and stakeholders. We cherish the bottom-up approaches and/or landscape-level approaches, which our members have used, as it matches with the scale of the biodiversity-issues and the goal setting to maximize the benefits to local people, regional ecosystems, and biodiversity. It also offers more opportunities to work with scientists and local stakeholders and facilitate problem-solving corporation using the available knowledge. Another target is to promote data sharing and data accessibility through and by strengthening the networking of the observation networks in local to AP regional scale and deliver our information and knowledge to global platform. APBON plays a role as a “hub” to link the local, national, regional, and global needs of biodiversity observations, customizing observation designs and tools, and matching science-policy interface.

In this presentation we are willing to share our implementation plans with the Earth observation communities to respond to the following new needs to the biodiversity observations: (1) Developing national BONs and networking them in the region to contribute to CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets and post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, (2) Filling observational and knowledge gaps for biodiversity status and trends to contribute to IPBES assessments, (3) Producing data and knowledge to address the issues particularly related to biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability by coordinated activities with GEO and AOGEO, (4) Contributing to achievements of SDGs by providing adequate and defensible biodiversity data that help developing policy for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and (5) Learning the challenges of biodiversity issues under COVID-19 pandemic and on-going climate change.

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