



Summary of the 2nd Asia CliC Symposium

The 2nd Asia CliC Symposium—The State and Fate of Asian Cryosphere was held at Lanzhou, China, 22-26 Oct., 2007. The symposium was to communicate among scientists about the status and activities in cryospheric studies in Asia regions.

Totally 148 scientists from 15 countries discussed in one key plenary presentation, 8 scientific topics and 6 split sessions, outstanding scientific results were presented (51 oral and 33 poster presentations), covering a range of cryospheric topic including glaciers, snow cover, hydrology and water resources, frozen ground including permafrost, land surface and atmosphere processes, cold regions ecology, data issues etc.

The Symposium identified that the progresses in the study and cooperation after the 1st Asia CliC Symposium, and amount of existing data on meteorological, cryospheric, and hydrological variables related to the Asian cryosphere has increased in this region. However, the collaboration among researchers and groups is not sufficient to make optimal use of these data.

The Symposium revealed unique characteristics of the Asian cryosphere as the headwaters of the major rivers flow into Pacific, Indian and Arctic oceans, thus cryospheric changes has its local impacts, direct impacts areas and also potential impacts areas. It is suggested that "International Asia Cryospheric Years" (central Asia) being launched in near future but the relevant studies already exist in China, and North Hydrology Studies (sub-Arctic) also leaded by Japan. A high degree of diversity among various cryospheric components was noted. At the same time, it was recognized that climatic forcing influencing the Asian cryosphere varies considerably within the region, such as East Asia monsoon, Indian monsoon and dipole of Arctic sea ice, etc. This diversity makes it necessary to study Asia cryosphere in a complex climate system, especially when examined in the context of global warming.

Required future actions include high-priority involvement in data management and archiving efforts by the Asia-CliC community, the establishment of a better network for present and future observations, obtaining higher quality data, and application of various models to overcome the spatial/temporal shortcomings.

The Symposium was highly successful in providing an opportunity for the participants to meet and discuss the wide range of scientific and related issues, leading to fruitful future collaborations. Asia CliC Committee and SSGs are under consideration and will be formed in near future. The Asian countries need to

contribute to international activities through Newsletter, Specialist registration, and Meetings in the future. The implementation structure will be discussed further and finalized at the CliC Scientific Steering Group (SSG) meeting in December 2007 (Geneva). Several suggestions workshops are under consideration on subjects such as "Mountain glaciers under global warming" (Lhasa, China) and "snow cover and hydrology" (Japan). It is suggested that secretary of APECS, for training and communications among young generation of Asia cryosphere, being located in the State Key Laboratory of Cryospheric Sciences in Lanzhou.

The result of the 2nd Asia CliC Symposium will serve as a strong momentum to the future activities, which, leads to the 3rd Asia CliC Symposium that is scheduled to be held 2-3 years later.

Workshop website:

http://www.casnw.net/clic/Asia_clic.html