



Regional Roundtable of Environmental Law Champions Futures of Environmental Law Teaching in Asia and the Pacific

**6 - 7 December 2022
Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra, Siem Reap, Cambodia**

BACKGROUND PAPER

Environmental legal education activates the virtuous cycle of knowledge transfer required to generate sustainability outcomes in government, private sector, academia and other spheres. Nevertheless, investment in environmental legal education is lacking and increased resources and support must be provided to environmental law educators to keep them sufficiently equipped and inspired to help achieve inclusive and sustainable development.

It has been 30 years since the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) where Agenda 21 was adopted as a means of implementation. Agenda 21 stressed the importance of environmental legal education and capacity building. Since then, various development partners and institutions have been working to strengthen and expand environmental law expertise particularly in universities, governments, private sector and civil society.

In the Asia and the Pacific region, in 1995, through ADB's technical assistance on Capacity Building for Environmental Law Training in the Asia and the Pacific Region, ADB, UNEP, IUCN and National University of Singapore worked together to provide two intensive regionally focused environmental law courses through a train-the-trainers (TTT) model which trained 63 law professors from 15 countries.¹ The technical assistance significantly contributed to environmental law institution building and training of environmental law professors in the region.

In 2015, ADB launched its next iteration of its technical assistance called the "Developing Environmental Law Champions Program". This phase supported a regional network of leading environmental law educators from 14 ADB developing member countries in the delivery of in-country TTT programs and expansion of national and regional networks. *These leading environmental law educators currently serve as ADB country focal points and provide strategic direction and guidance to ADB's Developing Environmental Law Champions Program.*

In 2017, the current phase of the Developing Environmental Law Champions Program was approved. This current phase has been focusing on and mainstreaming environmental legal education in institutions and/or countries across the Asian region, curriculum development and move towards hybrid and online education. This current phase of ADB technical assistance will be completed end of December 2022.

¹ Bangladesh, Cambodia, PRC, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam.



As a culminating event under the current phase of ADB's Developing Environmental Law Champions Program, this Regional Roundtable will be held to do a stock-take of environmental legal education in the Asia and the Pacific including an assessment of ADB's Developing Environmental Law Champions Program.

Furthermore, it will be an opportunity to collectively consider the preferred future of environmental law teaching. Through tailored future foresight sessions integrated into the Regional Roundtable, ADB country focal points and other participants will consider the plausible futures of environmental law teaching in Asia and the Pacific region, as well as the emerging trends, threats and potential disruptions and what do we need to do today to be ready for the possible futures.

Through the futures foresight sessions, participants will develop (i) a vision statement on environmental law teaching in Asia and the Pacific and (ii) an action plan for the next five years including capacity building and resourcing needs which will feed into the next phase of the Developing Environmental Law Champions Program.

Regional Roundtable participants will be comprised of ADB country focal points and other environmental thought leaders and key development partners such as ADB and UNEP.

Additionally, alongside the Regional Roundtable, ADB and UNEP will hold special evening sessions with Siem Reap participants from businesses, civil society, academia and government on intersection between environmental governance and tourism.



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Program

Tuesday, 6 December 2022 (Day 1)		
8:30 – 9:30am Cambodia time	Introductions All participants introduce themselves Each country focal point to share what keeps them inspired to keep teaching environmental law and what is one major challenge s/he is facing now	Facilitators: Dr. Ivana Milojević, Futurist; Christina Pak, ADB Principal Counsel; Amanda Kennedy
9:30am – 12:00pm	Country Updates Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Australia If time allows, ADB and UNEP to provide update on international developments/initiatives.	Facilitators: Dr. Georgina Lloyd, UNEP; Amanda Kennedy; Matthew Baird; Cristina Velez
12:00 – 1:30pm Group Photo / Lunch Break (30 mins)		
1:30 – 4:15pm (total 2 hours and 45 mins including 15 mins break)	Futures of Environmental Law Teaching in Asia and the Pacific Clarifying and Fine-tuning the Draft Vision The session will present a collective vision statement on environmental law teaching in Asia and the Pacific as drafted prior to the meeting. Several futures tools and methods will then be utilized to further clarify and fine-tune the draft vision. Moreover, the methods will be utilized to discuss the vision implementation. <i>Explanation of tools and methods can be found here:</i> https://www.adb.org/publications/futures-thinking-asia-pacific-policy-makers	Facilitators: Dr. Ivana Milojević, Futurist; Christina Pak, ADB Principal Counsel; Amanda Kennedy
1:30 – 2.00pm	Why and How Futures Thinking (30 mins) This introduction will outline the rationale and the methodological bases of futures studies and strategic foresight relevant for the sessions that follow.	



<p>2.00 – 2:30pm</p>	<p>Presentation of the Draft Vision (15 mins) and Discussion (15 mins)</p> <p>A collective vision statement on environmental law teaching in Asia and the Pacific as drafted prior to the meeting will be presented. Following on this, the robustness and relevance of the vision, as well as the likelihood of its implementation will be tested by five futures methods: On day 1: Futures Triangle and Scenario methods. On day 2: Causal Layered Analysis and Backcasting methods.</p>
<p>2:30 – 2:45pm</p>	<p>The Importance of Visioning and Key Success Factors for Vision Implementation (15 mins)</p> <p>Visions – an ideal future scenario – work by pulling people along. They give individuals and groups a sense of the possible. They also inspire by calling to prioritize the longer term, for the greater good. They can help align individual goals within institutional goals. At the same time, preferred futures exist within a context which can hinder their implementation. This session will outline some of the key success factors which can propel the vision along.</p>
<p>2:45 – 3:00pm</p>	<p>Wellness Break (15 mins)</p>
<p>3:00 – 4:00pm</p>	<p>Futures Triangle (60 minutes)</p> <p>The Futures Triangle method maps broad movements of the push of the present (based on current needs and external changes), the pull from the future (which ones are envisioned and preferred), and the weight of history (the barriers to change). By mapping the environmental law futures, educators can develop strategies that are more robust.</p>
<p>4:00 – 4:15pm</p>	<p>Wellness Break (15 mins)</p>
<p>4:15 – 5:30pm</p>	<p>Four Scenarios for the Environmental Law Teaching and the Role of Environmental Law Educators: Preferred, Disowned, Integrated and Outlier</p> <p>Typically, visions/preferred futures almost always have a disowned-future counterpart. As participants develop a preferred future image, they consciously and unconsciously disown aspects of society—what they are unable or unwilling to acknowledge. For this reason, preferred futures are easily rejected by those who were not involved in developing the scenario or image. By including the disowned aspects, integrated futures can be developed, creating a more inclusive future.</p> <p><i>Participants will break into small groups with facilitators assigned to each group. Each group will report back to all the participants.</i></p>
<p>ADB and UNEP Community Dialogues Special Session with Government and Businesses in Siem Reap Promoting Sustainable Tourism through Responsible Business Conduct 6:00-7:30pm, 6 December 2022 Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra, Siem Reap, Cambodia *light refreshments will be served</p>	
<p>6:00 – 7:30pm (90 mins)</p>	<p>The promotion of sustainable tourism is critical to Siem Reap and Cambodia. Please join us for an interactive session to Facilitators:</p>



discuss the intersection between environmental governance and tourism, e.g., eco-tourism businesses, tourism management, waste management, plastic pollution. *Participants will be stakeholders from Siem Reap and surrounding communities. This is an optional event for country focal points.

Dr. Georgina Lloyd, UNEP; Christina Pak, ADB; Amanda Kennedy

Wednesday, 7 December 2022 (Day 2)

9:00 – 9:15am Cambodia time	Day 1 recap – Key insights and memories	Facilitators: Amanda Kennedy; Jonathan Liljeblad; Matthew Baird; Briony Eales
9.15 – 10:30am	Mapping change. From Vision to Implementation (75 mins) This session will build on Day 1 and use the insights from the futures triangle and developed scenarios to discuss further ways to achieve the preferred future. The Causal Layered Analysis method deepens the future by identifying the causes of various issues from the tangible to the intangible. It is often depicted as an iceberg, with the problem represented by the visible part and the causes by the submerged parts. For layers are: litany, system/structure, worldview and myth/metaphor.	Facilitators: Dr. Ivana Milojević, Futurist; Christina Pak, ADB Principal Counsel; Amanda Kennedy
10:30 – 11:00am	How did we get to the preferred future? Backcasting from the vision (30 mins) Backcasting is used to help make a preferred future more plausible. In backcasting, the preferred future is considered as having happened. Participants then remember the steps that occurred. These steps can eventually become possible strategies or action-learning experiments. It is far more powerful if participants focus on strategic steps they can actually create such as institutional strengthening and capacity development.	
11:00 – 11:15am	Wellness Break (15 mins)	
11:15am – 12:00pm	Opportunities to improve knowledge management (45 mins) Knowledge management (KM) allows organizations/institutions to provide knowledge to users when they need it by connecting people with content. KM includes knowledge creation and curation, knowledge storage, knowledge sharing and transfer, knowledge application and learning. Effective KM leads to increased organizational efficiency, productivity, quality and innovation. The session will map out KM needs of environmental law educators based on five pillars: Governance, Strategy, Culture and People, Systems and Processes and Relationships.	

12:00-1:30pm		
Lunch Break (1.5 hours)		
1:30-3:00pm	<p>Show and Tell: Updates on Best Teaching and Pedagogy Approaches</p> <p>Innovations, new methodologies/approaches</p> <p>Overcoming issues, barriers and challenges</p> <p>Share perspectives for post-Covid teaching</p>	<p>Facilitators: Amanda Kennedy; Jonathan Liljebblad; Celeste Ruth Cembrano-Mallari</p>
3:00-3:30pm	<p>Hybrid and Online Teaching – Delivery of legal education in the post-pandemic world</p> <p>Need for law schools to consider how they can create and deliver quality legal education online, including online pedagogy and best practice in online learning, required infrastructure and the benefits and challenges for online learning in law</p>	<p>Presenter: Amanda Kennedy</p>
3:30-5:00pm	<p>Drafting of a 5-year Action Plan and Technical Assistance Roadmap</p> <p>There is increasing need for environmental law educators and their institutions to stay abreast of pedagogy, innovative teaching methodologies, new subjects to be included, technological advancements and needs of their students, as well as national and global developments challenges.</p> <p>What are the key actions to be taken collectively and individually for the next 5 years?</p> <p>What is the specific knowledge needs of environmental law educators and their institutions?</p> <p>How to nurture new/additional country focal points?</p>	<p>Facilitators: Amanda Kennedy; Jonathan Liljebblad; Grizelda Mayo-Anda</p>
<p>ADB and UNEP Community Dialogues Special Session with Academia and Civil Society Organizations in Siem Reap Participatory Environmental Governance 7 December 2022 Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra, Siem Reap, Cambodia *light refreshments will be served</p>		
6:00-7:30pm (90 mins)	<p>Community-based approaches to conservation and collective governance of natural resources have been shown to improve biodiversity conservation and support good environmental governance. Join us for an interactive session on collective conservation and protection of natural resources and environmental governance. <i>*Participants will be stakeholders from Siem Reap and surrounding communities. This is an optional event for country focal points.</i></p>	<p>Facilitators: Dr. Georgina Lloyd, UNEP; Christina Pak, ADB; Amanda Kennedy</p>



Futures Foresight Sessions - Introductory reading and video material for participants

1. ADB (2020) *Futures Thinking in Asia and the Pacific: Why Foresight Matters for Policy Makers*. Pages: 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 32-40 <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/579491/futures-thinking-asia-pacific-policy-makers.pdf>

2. *New Zealand/Aotearoa 2050-2070: Wellbeing and Infrastructure*. The Ministry of Transport and the Infrastructure Commission, New Zealand, 2020. <https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Futures-report-Oct-11th-.pdf>

3. Many other resource can be found here <https://www.metafuture.org/library-page/reports/> and here <http://www.metafuture.org/library-page/>

4. Short videos are available here

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTulttaiBOc>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSme0_XZIWU
- <https://www.metafutureschool.org/p/become-a-futurist>