

Title	Consultation Meeting on Combating Desertification and Land Degradation in North-East Asia	
Organizer	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)	
Type of event	Closed-door meeting	
Venue		
Date/Time	Friday, June 21; 13:30-15:00	
Event description		
<p>Since the early 2000s, North-East Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) has facilitated sub-regional cooperation on combating desertification and land degradation (DLD) with particular focus on building common knowledge on the sub-regional states of DLD, sharing information and best practices, supporting capacity building and trainings, and implementing pilot field projects. However, with the emergence of multiple platforms facilitating policy dialogue and technical cooperation on DLD in North-East Asia, the 22nd Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of NEASPEC in 2018 considered options of refocusing NEASPEC programmatic area on DLD. Having noted that DLD remains to be a prominent challenge in the sub-region, the SOM suggested the Secretariat to create synergies with other mechanisms and programmes and develop a new plan that refocuses the work of NEASPEC on DLD.</p> <p>As part of the process of formulating a new plan, the NEASPEC Secretariat is inviting participants from member States and relevant mechanisms attending the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) 2019 to a consultation meeting on June 21, 2019. The meeting will provide an overview of country priorities and progress under relevant mechanisms on DLD in North-East Asia; share experiences and lessons on sub-regional coordination and cooperation on DLD; and identify possible arrangements with relevant mechanisms to enhance efforts and supports on DLD in the sub-region.</p>		
Time	Speaker / Panelist	Theme
13:30-14:45	Facilitator: Mr. Sangmin Nam, Deputy Head of UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office	Roundtable discussion on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Country priorities and challenges on combating desertification and land degradation ● Multilateral and subregional cooperation on DLD in North-East Asia ● Synergies between relevant mechanisms
14:45-15:00	All participants	Conclusion