

Thirteenth Asiaflux Workshop-2015

The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune

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AsiaFlux is a regional research network bringing together scientists from university and institution in Asia to study the exchanges of green house gases, such as carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, and energy between terrestrial ecosystems and the atmosphere across daily to inter-annual time scales. Each year an international conference is organized in association with its member state to discuss and deliberate the latest developments of ecosystem studies across the Asian continent. This year the 'AsiaFlux-2015' Workshop is being organized for the first time at in India.

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune in association with the National Remote Sensing Center (ISRO), Hyderabad at IITM, Pune is organizing this event during Nov 22-29, 2015.

'AsiaFlux-2015' Workshop, jointly supported by APN (Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research), LI-COR Biosciences, USA, National Institute for Agro-Environmental Science (NIAES), Japan, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan.

With the theme "Challenges and Significance of Ecosystem Research in Asia to Better Understand Climate Change", short training course on "Ecosystem carbon flux monitoring using eddy covariance theory", Workshop and plenary sessions in Asiaflux 2015 brought together scientists, researchers, academicians and entrepreneurs from all over the world to discuss the various challenges and understanding the possible effects of ecosystem in Asia in climate change.

During the inauguration session of the Workshop, Dr M. Rajeevan, Director IITM welcomed all the Dignitaries, participants of this workshop and thanked the Asiaflux Secretariat and NRSC, Hyderabad for choosing IITM for hosting such mega event. He mentioned in his welcome address that IITM has taken an initiative to monitor the greenhouse gas concentrations and quantify the GHG fluxes at several places in the country and believe that IITM endeavor will become an important component of a broader network managed by the Asiaflux community whose activity is spread across the Asian continent. He also mentioned that these Asiaflux data has a significant contribution towards the Climate Change studies carried out at IITM by Centre for Climate Change Research (CCCR). The successful development of Earth System Model (ESM) by CCCR-IITM has given an opportunity to IITM to participate in the upcoming IPCC 6th Assessment Report.

Dr Akira Miyata (Chair of Asiaflux , and Director of the Agro-Meteorology Division of NIAES, Japan), presented an overview of Asiaflux. He mentioned about the series of Asiaflux Workshops held in previous years at different Asian countries, the Asiaflux Newsletter, Monitoring stations, availability of global databases, and the challenges faced by Asiaflux. By hosting this workshop in India, an effort is made by Asiaflux community to encourage the development of Indian National Network, which will be helpful in generating continuous sustainable data from the Indian region to study its terrestrial ecosystem.

Dr Supriyo Chakraborty, Senior Scientist and Leading the Fluxnet project at IITM Pune, presented an outline of the Asiaflux 2015 Workshop. He mentioned that IITM has been chosen a nodal agency to carry out this GHG flux measurement operation and currently IITM is operating three tower based observational canters and two bio-geochemical study canters in two island ecosystems. He also informed about the successful completion of 3-days training program on Eddy Covariance by Licor Bioscience held at IITM on 22-24 Nov 2015 as part of this Workshop.

The Chief Guest, Dr V.K. Dadhwal, Director, National Remote Sensing Center (ISRO), Hyderabad, mentioned about the initiatives taken up by IGBP and NRSC (ISRO) in the area of fluxnet activities. Presently IITM and NRSC have successfully established few networking stations in India. He also delivered an invited talk on “Vegetation and soil carbon pools and fluxes in India and results from flux tower networks”.

This Workshop includes an event “Young Scientist Meeting”. In this meeting about 60 early career scientist will be deliberating on various aspects of ecosystem research, collaborative potentials among themselves and future career path.

Around 100 participants will be participating in the oral and poster presentations during the workshop. Several manufacturers of atmospheric and biomet sensors are also present in the event.

The detailed programme of the workshop is available at the website:

http://www.tropmet.res.in/Joint_Conference_Asiaflux_workshop_2015_&_ISPRD_at_IITM-51-News

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