



Asia-Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) 2019

## Consultation Meeting on Combating Desertification and Land Degradation in North-East Asia

13:30 – 15:00, June 21, 2019, Room 310 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

Songdo Convensia Convention Center, Incheon, Republic of Korea

### Background

Since the early 2000s, North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) has facilitated subregional cooperation on combating desertification and land degradation (DLD) with particular focus on building common knowledge on the subregional 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 subregion, 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.

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 review the DLD work at national and subregional levels, discuss potential areas of NEASPEC activities and identify arrangements with relevant mechanisms.

### Objectives

In connection with reformulating DLD activities under NEASPEC, 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 subregional coordination and cooperation on DLD.
- Identify possible arrangements with relevant mechanisms to enhance efforts and supports on DLD in the subregion.

## Expected Participants

- Government officials from responsible ministries and affiliated institutions for combating desertification and land degradation in NEASPEC member States.
- Secretariat of North-East Asia Deforestation, Land Degradation and Drought Network (DLDD-NEAN).
- Other relevant mechanisms and organizations upon invitation.

## Provisional Program

| <b>Consultation Meeting on Combating Desertification and Land Degradation<br/>in North-East Asia</b> |   |
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| 13:30 – 15:00, 21 June 2019, Room 310, Songdo Convensia  |   |
| <b>Agenda</b>  |   |
| 13:00 – 13:30<br><i>(lunch break)</i>  | <b>Registration</b>   |
| 13:30 – 13:35  | <b>Introduction of the informal consultation</b><br><i>Mr. Sangmin Nam, Deputy Head of UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office</i>  |
| 13:35 – 14:45  | <b>Roundtable discussions on</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Country priorities and challenges on combating desertification and land degradation</li><li>• Multilateral and subregional cooperation on DLD in North-East Asia</li><li>• Synergies between relevant mechanisms</li></ul> <i>Facilitator: Mr. Sangmin Nam, Deputy Head of UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office</i> |
| 14:45-15:00  | <b>Conclusion</b>   |

## Contact

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