

Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum

18-21 September 2018



Purpose: To advance environmental security dialogue among militaries, broaden civil-military environmental security cooperation, strengthen environmental security coordination, increase awareness of environmental security best practices and lessons-learned, and enhance environmental security capability in Northeast Asia.

Highlights

- 2018 Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum (RESF) was successfully completed in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The event was co-hosted by the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) and the Mongolia Ministry of Defense (MOD).
- 60+ civil-military participants attended from Australia, China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand and the U.S.
- Subject matter experts delivered environmental security presentations and participated in panel sessions.
- USINDOPACOM held bilateral environmental security habit of dialogue sessions with all countries in attendance.
- Mongolia led the food-water-energy nexus theme, and Australia led the contingency operations theme.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers served as the lead planner for the event.



Participants pose for a group photo



COL Mike Goodyer (ADF) facilitates the contingency operations exercise



Participants visit the Shar Khad training area



Representatives from Australia, Japan, Mongolia, New Zealand and the U.S. participate in a group activity



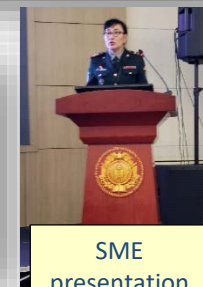
COL Byran (USINDOPACOM) holds bilateral environmental security discussions with the Korea Ministry of National Defense



RESF panel session



RESF attendees brief group results



SME presentation

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Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum

DAY 1: 18 September 2018



Purpose: To advance environmental security dialogue among militaries, broaden civil-military environmental security cooperation, strengthen environmental security coordination, increase awareness of environmental security best practices and lessons-learned, and enhance environmental security capability in Northeast Asia.

Highlights

- Mr. Kurt Aufderheide, (U.S. Embassy) and BG G. Saikhanbayar (Mongolia Ministry of Defense) led the opening ceremony.
- Environmental security presentations were delivered by USINDOPACOM, China, Korea and Mongolia.
- A panel session was held with all speakers, which allowed participants to ask questions from subject matter experts.
- *Habit of Dialogue* bilateral discussions were held between USINDOPACOM and participating countries.
- *Habit of Dialogue* discussions identified future potential environmental security opportunities.
- The Mongolia Vice Minister of Defense hosted an icebreaker at Soyombo Hall.



The National Defense University Band greets participants



BG Saikhanbayar (Mongolia) presents at opening ceremony



Panel session representatives respond to questions



Discussion at the Mongolia-USINDOPACOM *Habit of Dialogue* bilateral session



Participants pose for a group photo

Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum

DAY 2: 19 September 2018



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Highlights

- BG Ch. SOSORBARAM led the Food-Water-Energy Nexus theme.
- Mr. Batmunkh (Mongolia Ministry of Food) and Dr. J. TUYATSETSEG (Mongolia University of Science & Technology) presented on food security issues in Mongolia.
- LtCol L. OYUNTSETSEG (Mongolia Ministry of Defense) presented on soil pollution on former Soviet Union military bases.
- Mr. Sh. GANORIG (Mongolia Ministry of Energy) explained Mongolia's state policy on the energy sector.
- A panel session was held with speakers, which allowed participants to ask questions related to food, water and energy security issues.
- The Mongolia Ministry of Defense led a site visit to the Shar Khad Military Training Area to showcase solid waste, wastewater, and trans-boundary pollution issues that the military currently faces.



Participants learn about solid waste issues from the *Tsagaan Davaa* landfill



Lt Col OYENSETSEG (Mongolia) presents on soil pollution



Mr. Batmunkh (Mongolia) presents on livestock communicable diseases



COL Battsengel (Mongolia) explains Shar Khad wastewater issues



Panel session representatives respond to questions

Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum

DAY 3: 20 September 2018

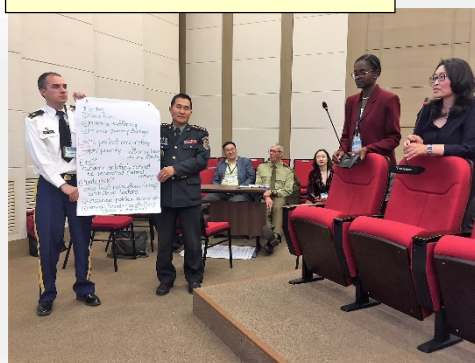


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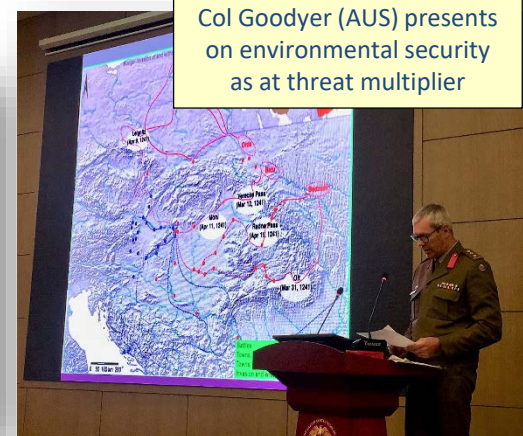
Highlights

- Australia Defence Force (ADF) moderated the contingency operation theme
- Brigadier Dobson (AUS) introduced the theme
- COL Goodyer (AUS) discussed environmental security as a threat multiplier to regional instability
- Dr. Lisa Guppy (UNEP) presented on environmental peacebuilding
- LCDR Argirides (AUS) spoke on the importance of protecting and preserving heritage
- MAJ Collins (AUS) presented on the benefits of incorporating environmental standards into Contingency Operations Planning
- A panel session was held with all speakers, which allowed participants to ask questions from subject matter experts
- A table top contingency operation exercise allowed people to consider environmental and heritage considerations in a real-world scenario

Exercise participants brief their contingency operations results



Col Goodyer (AUS) presents on environmental security as at threat multiplier



Exercise participants respond to questions



Panel session representatives respond to questions



LCDR Argirides (AUS) discusses heritage protection



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Northeast Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum

DAY 4: 21 September 2018



Purpose: To advance environmental security dialogue among militaries, broaden civil-military environmental security cooperation, strengthen environmental security coordination, increase awareness of environmental security best practices and lessons-learned, and enhance environmental security capability in Northeast Asia.

Highlights

- Mongolia presented two environmental security projects for future collaboration with USINDOPACOM.
- *Habit of Dialogue* bilateral discussions were held between USINDOPACOM and participating countries for the second time during the Forum.
- Countries presented the results of their bilateral discussions, and identified future potential environmental security opportunities.
- New Zealand presented on the 2019 PESF, and identified potential themes such as climate change, and resiliency.
- Mongolia's Vice Minister of Defense closed the 2018 Northeast Asia RESF.



COL Bryan (USINDOPACOM) discusses how environmental security project proposals are prioritized



New Zealand representatives discuss their plans for the 2019 PESF

Australia and USINDOPACOM hold bilateral discussions



LtCol Oyunsetseg (Mongolia) explains an environmental security project proposal



Participants interact at the morning break