



United States Indo-Pacific Command Three-Year Plan Education Working Group

Executive Summary:

In 2019 the Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Partnership (IPESP) was established to provide civil and military entities within the Indo-Pacific Region access to environmental security resources, networks, data, and subject matter experts. The IPESP executes USINDOPACOM's annual keystone environmental security event and has established four working groups (Policy, Education, Mitigation, and Networking) to advance and improve environmental security policy and education; develop and execute joint environmental security projects; develop and strengthen civil-military relationships in combating environmental security issues; and distribute the most current and state-of-the-art science environmental security resources, tools, and news that is applicable to both civil and military entities.

By helping advance the educational pipeline from youth to parliamentarians in environmental security, the Education Working Groups supports partners to collaborate in connecting educational discovery, engagement, and solutions assets to strengthen awareness and problem-solving capabilities across the Indo-Pacific as it relates to environmental security. These goals support the global climate educational commitments made in the 2015 Paris Agreement by 194 signatory parties. We envisage this focus for INDOPACOM members to be broad enough to include their legislative and civil society communities, essential for social license to operate. Finally, we will encourage close coordination with the policy and mitigation working groups to provide relevant environmental security education assets and share best practices on these topics.

Purpose: This document outlines the Education Working Group's (EWG) three year plan and the following areas of focus:

1. Connecting novel environmental security mitigation & adaptation research and discovery to practical implementation pipelines for IPESP member nations.
2. Supporting engagement opportunities for civil society and military partnership in environmental security planning.

3. Support the utilization and distribution of environmental security education solutions across IPESP member nations.

Three-Year Plan Objectives:

1. Provide access to the latest environmental security research to contribute evidence-based environmental security education assets for decision making at all levels.
2. Provide programs and pathways for civilian and military educational partnerships which best serve the needs of localized regions and IPESP member nations.
3. Ensure environmental security educational materials are accessible and distributed to intended audiences (i.e. parliamentarians, youth, government officials etc.).

Three-Year Plan Strategy/Approach:

All strategies and approaches to accomplishing the three year working group will enable partnerships across the policy and mitigation working groups. The strategies/approaches include:

1. Provide access to the latest environmental security research to contribute evidence-based environmental security education assets for decision making at all levels. To achieve this first objective in partnership with the Policy Working Group, the EWG will:
 - a. Host an in person workshop at the 2023 IPESF in Sri Lanka to share best practices in national sustainability plans across leading member nations to IPESP members (including US, New Zealand, Fiji, and Singapore) [Est. Aug 2023].
If timing and schedules permit, a virtual webinar workshop will be hosted in the lead up to the 2023 IPESF to serve as a primer for nations to prepare for the in person national sustainability plan workshop in Sri Lanka [Est. June 2023].
 - b. Host a large-scale 45-60 min virtual workshop on navigating data visualizations (leveraging the Allen Coral Atlas) for coral reef protection with an emphasis on small island developing nations' pressing climate challenges including turbidity and reef bleaching. Additionally, partners at ClimateTRACE will overview global emissions tracking procedures for environmental security and pollutant data from satellite tracking. [TBD 2024]
 - c. Host an in person workshop in Sri Lanka on best practices in utilizing the Allen Coral Atlas for conservation planning and decision making featuring [Dr. Greg Asner](#) (Director, Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science & Allen Coral Atlas Lead). [TBD 2024].
 - d. Host US-Hawaii in person workshop on the energy and national security nexus to best implement best environmental security action/mitigation/adaptation practices in national sustainability plans

- (including leading Asia-Pacific institutions such as Hawaii Green Growth, Institute for Climate & Peace, Blue Planet Alliance and the East-West Center Pacific RISA). [Est. June 2025]
- e. [*Proposed/To Be Confirmed*]: Host virtual workshop on best sustainable federal procurement practices featuring the US and New Zealand. [Timing TBC].
2. Provide programs and pathways for civilian and military educational partnerships which best serve the needs of localized regions and IPESP member nations. To achieve this second objective, the EWG will:
 - a. Host virtual workshop led by global youth organization, Youthmappers, to educate and upskill citizens in collecting and utilizing climate and disaster relief related data. [Est. Feb 2024]
 - b. Host virtual civilian-military partner workshop on leveraging and utilizing databases for environmental security planning and adaptation purposes through YouthMappers. [Est. Feb 2025]
 - c. Publish toolkits for environmental security data collection and use protocol on the PESF website. [Ongoing]
 3. Ensure environmental security educational materials are accessible and distributed to intended audiences (i.e. parliamentarians, youth, government officials etc.). To achieve this third objective, the EWG will:
 - a. Host virtual workshop led by global educational center, SolarSpell, to provide off-grid educational resources on climate and foundational learning assets (K-12). [Est. Oct 2024]
 - b. Distribute accessible environmental security education modules to parliamentarians for informed environmental security curriculum for policymakers. [Est. Oct 2025]
 - c. Publish toolkits for environmental security education assets on the PESF website. [Ongoing]

Keys to Success:

1. Identifying and connecting existing environmental security educational assets to target audiences across the IPESP member nations.
2. Identifying both civilian and military groups prepared to engage/partner on developing environmental security educational assets and data.
3. Identifying practical and scalable environmental security educational solutions which are regionally appropriate for the Indo-Pacific region across the educational pipeline.

Three-Year Plan Action Timeline:

<u>Area of Focus</u>	<u>Present Status</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>2022 Before & During IPESF</u> <i>Identification</i>	<u>2023</u> <i>Implementation</i>	<u>2024</u> <i>Replication & Adjustment</i>	<u>2025</u> <i>Assessment</i>
1. Connecting novel environmental security change mitigation & adaptation research and discovery to practical implementation pipelines for IPESP member nations.	<i>Depending on federal resources, nations have varying levels of scientist staff and research programs for targeted efforts (EX: US-NOAA on coastal disaster relief).</i>	<i>IPESP members and their government officials can easily access cutting edge environmental security research for practical implementation.</i>				
2. Supporting engagement opportunities for civil society and military partnership in environmental security change planning.	<i>No present visibility of formalized civilian-military environmental security educational partnerships at scale.</i>	<i>Civilians and military members of IPESP nations partner to leverage and maximize environmental security data and action resources.</i>				
3. Support the utilization and distribution of environmental security education solutions across IPESP member nations.	<i>Variably moderate awareness of environmental security education assets for youth (EX: ASEAN University Turn It Around Project) without formalized educational programs from youth to policymakers.</i>	<i>IPESP member nations have equitable access to cutting edge/off grid educational assets including environmental security and other youth learning resources.</i>				