

Preface

The Research Project ICCAP - Impact of Climate Changes on Agricultural Production System in Arid Areas - of The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) was launched as a five-year research project in April, 2002. The ICCAP selected the Seyhan River Basin in Turkey as a main case study area, and then it has been implemented in cooperation with TÜBİTAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey). At the end of the project period, March 2007, we have summarized the research outcomes and publish them as the Final Report of ICCAP.

In January 2007, at the final stage of the project, the ICCAP held the workshop at RIHN in Kyoto, Japan and there we shared the final results of the sub-groups and the individual collaborators and discussed the way to finalize the integrated assessment of climate change impacts on agricultural production. And then in February 2007, we held the final Symposium in Çukurova University in Adana, Turkey to discuss the final results and their implication inviting some from out of the project, including Lecture Dr. Mostafa Jafari of Islamic Republic of Iran Meteorological Organization, and Dr. Waltina Scheumann of TU Berlin, who gave us keynote lectures. This Final Report contains the joint final reports from all sub-groups of the Japanese and Turkish Teams with the final general outcomes of the whole project and the reports in individual research topics of some Japanese and Israeli members. Almost all these final reports were presented and discussed at the Kyoto Workshop and/or the Adana Symposium. The paper of the keynote by Dr. Mostafa Jafari, who is one of the lead authors for IPCC-AR4, is also included in this volume.

Now, when we are going to close the project, we remember that we held the Kick-off Meeting of the project in Çukurova University in July 2002. Now, we are in the last minutes of the game. No extra time we can expect. Since the beginning of the project ICCAP in 2002, we have worked together toward the one same objective that is to assess the climate change impacts and to improve the agriculture in the Seyhan River Basin. We realize, our outcomes expected at the beginning are not quite realized yet. I believe, however, we should be proud of our outcomes and put them in the public and academic society to be discussed, reviewed and improved.

It is a fact that, now, we have experiences of international cooperation among Japan, Turkey, Israeli and other countries and of cross-disciplinary approach to the research topic. Then, we would like to ask all collaborators of ICCAP to utilize these experiences and knowledge for the future works. This evolution of the research network is one on the role of RIHN. We will appreciate their further challenges.

The methodology for assessment of climate change impacts on agriculture developed in our project, and outcomes should be disseminated to the international academic societies and the public, especially those who live in the study area. We hope our trial and findings will contribute to improvement of global environment and this report itself is very useful for it. IPCC has just released its latest report on climate changes, IPCC-AR4. Our results should be refined, published and finally included in the next report of IPCC.

For ICCAP, we, both of the coordinators, have tried to provide better research environment for the project and the participants, to result in the better results for the public. We believe, at least, we have prepared the platform or arena that the collaborators can work together. We have been enjoying coordination of a quite interesting and challenging project on urgent issue. We are lucky to be educated and grown up through the research of ICCAP. We thank again all project collaborators and the related organizations.

Finally, we also express our special thanks to our colleagues of RIHN and Çukurova University, who have devoted themselves to work as the secretariats for the project including editing this volume. Our special gratitude should be extended to Ms. Noriko Sasaki and Ms. Atsuko Iwata, our project secretaries of RIHN ICCAP Team.

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