

On the Establishment of Maritime Continent Center of Excellence (MCCOE) in Indonesia

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Indonesia Maritime Continent (IMC) with its complex topography and bathymetry are surrounded by large scale ocean and climate systems along Pacific and Indian Oceans to Asian and Australian continents. They are at the central importance of El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) and Asian monsoon so that their strategic location could influence directly on the Pacific and Indian oceans heat and water mass transport affecting on regional and even global climate changes. A small change in Sea Surface Temperature (SST) transmitted from Pacific to Indian oceans through the current system what so called Indonesian throughflow will affect the magnitude of monsoon and climate over the regions. In this critical perspective, the IMC in a whole system of earth, atmosphere, and ocean play important roles in regulating global climate changes. Because of its position and roles, they could be also very reluctant with the natural disasters come from the ocean and atmosphere, such as tsunami, drought, flood, and many others in more local impacts due to topography. In this presentation, we are going to introduce Maritime Continent Center of Excellence (MCCOE) as one of our ultimate goals of ongoing JST/JICA SATREPS project (2010 ? 2014) in Indonesia. This will be a one step international research center to study IMC in the perspectives of land, ocean, atmosphere, and their interactions among other. The MCCOE office is located in the Puspiptek, Serpong, 35 km from the central Jakarta, Indonesia. We are going to launch the MCCOE in this coming October 2013 and from that opening will be a milestone where International community could work together with us to study the importance of IMC to the global climate changes. The facilities and opportunities as well as the scientific frame work that MCCOE could offer to the international communities will be presented in the meeting.

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