

PREFACE

The coastal zone has always been an important frontier – for trade, food and foundation for modern civilization. This same zone has also been exploited in one way or another and sometimes without regards to the nature's balance and scheme of things. It is only when somethings go terribly wrong that we begin to react and attempt to undo the mistakes of the past. At times we have succeeded, but at a high price. At times, we have to retreat and concede defeat as the technology of man is no match to the force of nature. Overtimes we learn to work with nature and leverage on science of nature to protect the coastal zone and hold our frontier between the sea and land.

We are now in the exciting and challenging era of climate change. The immediate future foretells higher seawater level, stronger winds, waves and currents. Globally we see increasing frequency of storm surges, increase intensity of rainfall and flood. We need to work together to advance the science and knowledge of the coastal zone. Scientists, engineers, and professionals need to work together to deal with coastal zone issues and challenges.

This set of four-volume proceedings collects all the papers presented at the 5th International Conference on Asian and Pacific Coasts and covers a wide range of topics, including coastal and harbor structures, sediment processes and shoreline changes, coastal environmental problems and marine ecology, coastal zone management and planning, tsunami, ocean energy, global environmental problems, laboratory and field measurement techniques, numerical simulations of coastal problems, and basic research in ocean waves, currents, and tides. The proceedings will be a valuable reference book for researchers, engineers, professionals, and postgraduate students working on the coastal engineering problems.

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