

e-communiqué

Issue 23, October 2012



Welcome to the one platform, which gives you all the information you require or may want to share in the field of adaptation to climate change. This monthly e-newsletter is brought to you by the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP) and the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN).

We will be happy to spotlight your Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) activities, announcements, events and new initiatives. All you have to do is send your submissions to info@climateadapt.asia

REGISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENT: ADAPTATION FORUM 2013

We are going to open the registration for the 3rd Adaptation Forum on this 9 November 2012. If you are interested please kindly visit the Forum's website at www.asiapacificadapt.net/adaptationforum2013. As already announced in June and last month's issue, the 3rd Adaptation Forum is going to be organized in 2013. The venue and dates have now been finalized, and the Forum will be organized on 18-20 March, 2013 in Korea. The main theme is Mainstreaming Adaptation into Development. Register (from 9 November onward) at: www.asiapacificadapt.net/adaptationforum2013

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

Pacific Climate Change Portal Launched in Sept. 2012

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) launched the Pacific Climate Change Portal www.pacificclimatechange.net in September. For details, please visit the SPREP website: <http://www.sprep.org/climate-change/a-pacific-climate-change-website-now-in-place>

Workshop on Learning for Climate Change Adaptation Program, Sept. 10–13, 2012, Nepal

The workshop was organized to streamline and institutionalize learning as a key organizational strategy for WWF Nepal. Climate change adaptation was selected as a first thematic area to incorporate learning practices in the initial phase. The workshop was attended by 100 participants, primarily from WWF Nepal, and also from the WWF Network (WWF Colombia, WWF UK), DFID Nepal and local communities implementing and benefiting from the climate change adaptation project in the Langtang National Park Buffer Zone (LNPBZ). For details, please visit: <http://www.wwfnepal.org/?206397/Institutionalizing-learning-as-a-strategy-to-scale-up-Nepals-climate-adaptation-programs>

Stakeholder Consultation on Climate Change Adaptation in Water Management for Food Security: Recent Developments in South Asia, Sept. 25, 2012, Islamabad, Pakistan

Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) held a consultation of stakeholders on inputs for an APAN research paper titled "Climate Change Adaptation in Water Management for Food Security: Recent Developments in South Asia" at Islamabad Club, Islamabad, on September 25. The consultation was chaired by Mr. Naseer Ahmad Gillani, chief of Water, Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan, and was attended by the representatives of 19 stakeholder organizations. The stakeholders were asked to review their initial inputs and suggest any new item for final inclusion in the draft research paper. The research paper was finalized for submission to the GWP-SAS Regional Office by the first week of October 2012. The Stakeholder Consultation was conducted by Mr. Karamat Ali, Country Coordinator, PWP.

ACCCRN Knowledge Forum 4, Oct. 1–2, 2012, Bandar Lampung, Indonesia

The fourth Knowledge Forum was held in Bandar Lampung, Indonesia, from October 1 to 2 in partnership with Mercy Corps Indonesia. The Knowledge Forum was followed by a day of site visits and presentations on the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) projects and interventions in Bandar Lampung and Semarang.

Workshop on Coordinated Climate Proofing Efforts in the Indian Himalayan Region, Oct. 6–7, 2012, Palampur, India

More than 130 stakeholders from 37 different institutes of 12 Indian Himalayan states, representatives of seven State Governments, 27 experts from various national and State-level institutions, representatives of NGOs/Civil Society organizations, and senior officers of Central Ministries took part in a two-day stakeholders' workshop at the CSIR Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology in Palampur in October. The workshop concluded with the decision to establish a live portal for the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) with nodal points in states in Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) and set up about 100-120 doctoral fellowships and studentships for working on programmes of direct interest to state action plans and NMSHE. It also decided to convene a meeting of 10–12 knowledge institutions in the region and develop 10–year programme with defined and time-bound actions and deliverables. For details, please visit:<http://chimalaya.org/2012/10/08/coordinated-climate-proofing-efforts-in-indian-himalayan-region-workshop-concludes/>

Mountain Women and Men Call for Equitable and Inclusive Sustainable Development, Oct. 14–19, 2012, Thimphu, Bhutan

Over 200 women and men from all over the world gathered in Thimphu, Bhutan, to set new agendas for gender-positive change in natural resource management in the context of the rapidly changing mountain conditions. A decade after the success of the 'Celebrating Mountain Women' conference in 2002, participants at the Bhutan+10 conference reflected on the gains, innovations, and best practices, as well as the persistent challenges and resistance that mountain women continue to face in achieving gender equality in the region and beyond. The conference, co-organized by the Kathmandu-based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

(ICIMOD), the National Commission for Women and Children, Bhutan, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Bhutan, had an action-packed agenda from its opening on October 14 to its closing on October 19. For the details, please visit: <http://www.icimod.org/?q=8864>

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

National Adaptation Plans: Training and Consultation among South Asia Policymakers, Nov. 6–8, 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal
Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSAs) within APAN is hosting a workshop titled 'National Adaptation Plans: Training and Consultation among South Asia Policymakers' at Kathmandu, Nepal from November 6 to 8. Policymakers with multi-disciplinary background will be invited to participate in the technical sessions to:

- Share best practices and steps that need to be followed at the local and national levels for putting into place a 10-year roadmap for adaptation to climate change, through a consultative approach materializing into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs);
- Map the key sectors that need to be prioritized in the respective countries and the criteria for shortlisting these sectors; and
- Initiate regional co-operation and coordination through exchange of knowledge, skills and resources for strengthening climate actions across South Asian Countries. The workshop is expected to acquaint the policy makers with the steps that need to be followed at the policy level to prepare NAPs. It will also help to disseminate lessons learnt from the existing best practices and information gathered from research findings besides identifying stakeholders at the national and regional levels to partner with for strategizing adaptation. For details, please visit <http://bit.ly/cansa-workshop-nov12>

Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Asia facing COP 18 to the UNFCCC, Nov. 12–13, 2012, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) is organizing a sub-regional conference within APAN to facilitate sub-regional multi-stakeholder dialogue on the priority

adaptation measures and technology needs in water and agricultural sectors in Central Asia and promote knowledge exchange on the financing options to meet national climate change adaptation costs. It will also assist Central Asian countries in developing joint multi-stakeholder messages in the run-up to the 18th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 18) to the UNFCCC, Qatar.<http://bit.ly/carec-conf-nov12>

[International Conference on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Food and Environmental Security, Nov. 21–100, 2012, Laguna, The Philippines](#)

The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), are hosting an international conference on Adaptation for Food and Environmental Security to exchange state-of-the-art knowledge on climate change science, adaptation strategies, disaster risk reduction, and impact assessment tools among regional stakeholders in the agriculture and environment sectors. The conference will gather scientific information and experiences into an integrative body of knowledge to identify knowledge gaps and common, urgent and emergent issues related to food and environmental security in Southeast Asia. It will also aim to identify location-specific knowledge and adaptation strategies that may be upscaled to other regions besides promoting partnerships and linkages among different sectors for collaborative activities on adaptation. For details, please go to <http://bit.ly/searca-conference-nov12>

[Sub-regional Annual Conference on Innovation for Resilience and Transformation, Dec. 21–23, Yokohama, Japan](#)

Keio University and APAN are hosting the third annual Environmental Innovators symposium to clear some of the uncertainty about action and methods for building resilience by bringing together practitioners who are testing new methods and taking action in the field with significant projects. While there can be no single answer to close the gap between assessment and action, it is innovation in practice that will allow the accumulation of the knowledge needed to realize transformative goals. For details, please go to <http://bit.ly/keiosymposiumdec12>

[Pre-COP18 Joint Workshop on Climate Change Advocacy, Nov. 21–23, 2012, Doha, Qatar](#)

Southern Voices and CAN International will co-facilitate a Joint Workshop on Climate Change Advocacy in Doha, Qatar, from November 21 to 23. For CAN-I nodes, the workshop will serve as this year's pre-COP workshop, similar to those arranged prior to COP16 (Mexico) and COP17 (Addis Ababa). The focus of the workshop is climate change advocacy with a view to promote cross-learning and develop climate change advocacy tools, all based upon the experiences of national and regional climate policy networks. For around two days, the workshop will focus on national and regional climate change agendas, while a day will be reserved for looking at the international agenda, namely UNFCCC but also fora such as G20 and World Bank. For more information, please visit: <http://southernvoices.net/news/news>

[Agriculture, Landscapes and Livelihoods Day 5, Dec. 3, 2012, Doha, Qatar](#)

Since the first Agriculture Day in 2009, a consortium of the world's most influential agricultural groups, including research, civil society, the private sector, and farmers groups, have joined to successfully raise awareness of the role of agriculture in the climate debate. Now, agriculture has received increased recognition in the climate change negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the event (the 5th in this series) has evolved to include Agriculture, Landscapes and Livelihoods. This year's event 'Agriculture, Landscapes and Livelihoods Day 5: Solutions for People in Drylands and Beyond' aims to add value to the climate debate, and help discussions progress by leveraging the collective expertise and knowledge that consortium members and event participants bring to the table. For details, please go to: <http://ccafs.cgiar.org/events/03/dec/2012/agriculture-day-2013>

[Seventh International Conference on Community-based Adaptation \(CBA7\), Apr. 18–25, 2013, Dhaka, Bangladesh](#)

International Institute for Environment and Development's (IIED) CBA7 Conference aims to provide the latest thinking from climate scientists, policymakers and practitioners to answer this question, and to share the lessons learned. It includes:

- three days of field visits to projects in Bangladesh (April 19–21) to see how communities living in different ecosystems have

adapted to climate change, and

- three days of plenary sessions and interactive sessions (April 100–25) at the conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital city.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.iied.org/cba7-seventh-international-conference-community-based-adaptation>

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Reports



Community Adaption Practices in Uttarakh and Himalayas of India: Case Study

The Hindu-Kush Himalayas (HKH) is one of the most diverse ecological regions in the world. Stretching from Afghanistan to Myanmar, the mountainous region encompasses the world's highest peaks, 30% of the world's glaciers, and provides between 1.3–1.8 billion people with water and other natural resources. The Western Indian Himalayas are the segment of the Hindu Kush Mountains located in western India. They encompass three states, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu-Kashmir. Uttarakhand, the newest of the three, was formed in 2000 when it split from Uttar Pradesh in a quest for autonomy and political independence. In all the three states, somewhere between 70% and 80% of the population is involved in agriculture. The under-development of mountain communities results in insufficient infrastructure for farmers to adapt to the rapidly changing climate. As a result, climate change poses a huge threat to both the livelihoods of millions of people, but also to the economies of the western Indian Himalayan states. Complete article is at:

[this link](#)

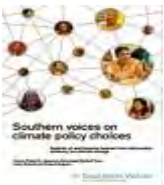
Photo Credit: Climate Himalaya



International Conference on the Cryosphere of the Hindu Kush Himalayas: Conference and Workshop Report

As a part of the HKH Cryosphere Monitoring Project, ICIMOD held an international conference and workshop on the cryosphere of the Hindu Kush Himalayas. The two events made significant contributions to strengthening the exchange of knowledge, enhancing regional cooperation for cryosphere monitoring, promoting regional efforts to better understand the cryosphere, and formulating the initial framework for the HKH Cryosphere Knowledge Hub for regional cryosphere data and information. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD Books Online at

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/813>



Southern Voices on Climate Policy Choices - Analysis of and Lessons Learned from Civil Society Advocacy on Climate Change

The report provides an analysis of the tools and tactics advocacy groups use to influence policy responses to climate change at international, regional, national and sub-national levels. More than 20 networks in the Southern Voices programme and their member organizations have contributed with their experiences of advocacy on climate change from a wide range of countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific. The advocacy activities primarily target national governments, but also international and regional processes, donors and the private sector. The full report is available at:

[this link](#).

Publications



Determinants and Effectiveness of Local-Level Adaptation to Climate Change: Case Studies of Two Initiatives in Bangladesh

Published by the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP) in October 2012, this report summarizes the findings of the case studies on the determinants and effectiveness of local-level adaptation to climate change in Bangladesh. Conducted from February to June 2012, the case studies draw on AKP's work in progress to disseminate and exchange adaptation knowledge among a wider audience. The two initiatives have different local

contexts with one relating to a coastal ecosystem, and the other to a drought-prone upland of Bangladesh. The adaptation actions were identified after considering the climatic factors, natural disasters, and the associated risks and vulnerability faced by the local communities, including small farmers, fishers, forest produce collectors, and women. The effectiveness of the two projects was determined by a set of common and diverse local determinants. Participatory planning, awareness raising and communication of climate risks, social mobilization and community interest, local capacity and institution building (farmers' clubs and CBOs); improvement in farm production and management of natural resources; and blending of scientific knowhow with indigenous knowledge were some of the common determinants that increased the efficacy of these two local adaptation initiatives in Bangladesh. For details, please visit: <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/104>



Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Reflection and Learning for Community-based Adaptation: PMERL Manual – A Manual for Local Practitioners

Despite the increase in attention to and practice of community-based adaptation, there remains a lack of participatory, practical, replicable and relevant methodologies for measuring, monitoring and evaluating changes in vulnerability and adaptive capacity to generate evidence of successful community-based adaptation. In response to this gap, an Experts Working Group was convened by CARE in partnership with IIED in February 2011, to develop a participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) framework for local and community-based adaptation. The resulting framework is a Monitoring, Evaluation, Reflection & Learning (MERL) tool primarily intended to support adaptive decision-making in vulnerable communities. It is intended to be an open-source PM&E methodology that can be used for and by vulnerable communities, supported by planners, practitioners and policymakers across the field, to inform their adaptation planning and implementation. The full manual can be downloaded at: [this link](#).



Climate Change, Technology and Intellectual Property Rights: Context and Recent Negotiations

This new research paper discusses the contexts of and recent negotiations in Technology Transfer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change. In terms of proprietary rights, the author categorizes technologies and related products into three domains: the Public Technologies; Patented Technologies and Future Technologies. After revealing the effects of patents on access to climate-related technologies, a number of measures are discussed to address the problems that may arise, should patents become a barrier to the transfer of climate related technologies. For more information, please go to: [this link](#)



Gender and Biodiversity Management in the Greater Himalayas: Towards Equitable Mountain Development

The greater Himalayan region boasts a rich variety of genetic resources, species, and ecosystems of global importance. Men and women depend on biodiversity resources to meet their cultural, socioeconomic, and environmental needs, yet they use these resources in different ways and have different knowledge about how to conserve them. Women have a critical role in maintaining and sustaining local-level biodiversity resources besides holding extensive knowledge of crops and wild plants, agricultural practices, local species, and the genetic management of plants and animals. However, analysis of the gender dimensions of biodiversity management in mountain ecosystems is still emerging as an area of research. This publication presents six case studies on the gender aspects of biodiversity conservation and management. They address conservation issues related to women's practices in: shifting cultivation (Bangladesh); use of wild yam (Bhutan); yeast production (Bhutan); in situ agrobiodiversity conservation (India); kinema making practices from soybean (India); and community forestry leadership (Nepal). The study contributes policy and research recommendations for promoting and improving gender-sensitive and inclusive biodiversity conservation and management practices in complex mountain contexts. This publication is available at:

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/820>



Mainstreaming Community-Based Conservation in a Transboundary Mountain Landscape: Lessons from Kangchenjunga

The Kangchanjunga landscape, shared by Bhutan, India, and Nepal, is one of the seven transboundary landscapes identified by ICIMOD for development of regional cooperation for effective conservation and management of natural resources. This publication offers recommendations for transboundary and participatory biodiversity conservation from ICIMOD's pioneering Kangchanjunga Conservation Landscape Initiative. The Kangchanjunga landscape includes 15 protected areas (PAs). The conservation and management practices in these PAs differ, as do the conservation-related policies of the three countries. The publication analyses past and present conservation policies and practices in the landscape and provides recommendations for enhancing participatory biodiversity conservation and management at the landscape level.

The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD Books Online at:

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/814>



Value of Insect Pollinators to Himalayan Agricultural Economies

Pollinators provide pollination services that are crucial for the productivity of agricultural and natural ecosystems. It has been estimated that over three-quarters of the world's crops and over 80% of all flowering plants depend on animal pollinators, especially bees. Globally, the annual contribution of pollinators to agricultural crops has been estimated at about USD 200 billion. However, pollinator populations and diversity are declining worldwide. This presents a serious threat to agricultural production affecting the livelihoods of farmers, national agricultural economies, and food security. This study assesses the economic value of pollination services, especially by insect pollinators, to agriculture in selected areas of the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region in order to highlight the need for initiatives to address the problem. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD books online at:

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/815>



Caring for Our Transboundary Landscape: Illustrations from the Kailash Sacred Landscape

Rural mountain communities are highly vulnerable to the changes occurring in their landscape due to climatic and other factors (including demographic changes and migration). If they could understand the complexities of their respective ecosystems, they would be able to better value, utilize, and conserve the environment while benefitting from it. ICIMOD has therefore created this collection of simple drawings to raise awareness among rural mountain people and help them better understand the various changes and opportunities in their landscape. The first part looks at the changes and challenges in the landscape, such as impacts of climate change and unsustainable practices. The second part introduces solutions for better management and use of natural resources. The publication was created within the Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative (KSLCI), and is intended in particular for communities living within the Kailash Sacred Landscape. However, its messages will be of use to mountain communities in a much wider context. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD books online at:

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/816>



Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative: Regional Programme Implementation Plan 2012-2016

The Kailash Sacred Landscape (KSL) spreads across a vast region that includes remote parts of the Tibet Autonomous Region of China and contiguous areas of Nepal and India. This area is historically, ecologically, and culturally interconnected; it is the source of four of Asia's most important rivers. At the heart of this landscape is the sacred Mount Kailash, revered by millions of people in Asia and throughout the world. The region and its people are highly vulnerable to climate change and environmental degradation, as well as threats associated with ongoing globalization processes and accelerating development.

The Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KSLCDI) is a collaborative effort of the three neighboring countries to help preserve the unique biological diversity, the many ecosystem goods and

services, and the value-based cultural heritage of this sacred landscape. The present report is a synthesis of proposed activities based on a wide consultative process and national programme implementation plans submitted by partner institutions from each country. The Regional Programme Implementation Plan has been prepared for the five-year period 2012–2016 and describes how various programme elements will be implemented and executed in the KSL on a regional scale. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD books online at <http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/819>

Papers



ICIMOD Working Paper 2012/5: Value of Forest Ecosystem Services - A Quantitative Estimation from the Kangchanjunga Landscape in Eastern Nepal

The ecosystem services derived from conservation areas have a high value for human wellbeing, but they do not receive due consideration in public policy in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region. As a result, conservation areas do not receive adequate public support for participatory management and other conservation approaches. The lack of recognition is in part due to the lack of explicit calculations of the actual economic value of these areas for the local, regional, and global populations. This paper presents the results of an attempt to estimate the monetary value of the goods and services provided by the forest ecosystems of three districts around Mount Kangchanjunga in eastern Nepal. A market method was used for valuation of the provisioning services, a benefit transfer method for the regulating services, and a productivity method for the supporting services. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD books online at <http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/818>

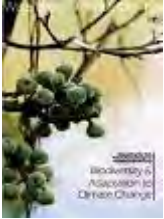


ICIMOD Working Paper 2012/7: Transboundary Landscape Management Framework for Ecological and Socioeconomic Resilience

This paper presents a framework for transboundary landscape management to support the development of ecological and socioeconomic resilience in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, and describes a mechanism for implementing it. It gives examples of the application of the

approach in several landscape areas selected by ICIMOD as pilot sites. A glossary of relevant terms is also provided. The full publication can be downloaded from ICIMOD books online at

<http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/817>



Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change

WOTR's Position Paper on Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change was released on October 16, 2012 at the COP-11 in Hyderabad. There are various drivers of degradation that are adversely impacting the ecosystems, and in turn affecting ecosystem services. Ironically, the growth economy and unsustainable policies are leading to erosion of the very base – biodiversity and ecosystems. Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA) is an emerging approach that works with nature to help vulnerable communities build the resilience of their ecosystems and livelihoods that are being threatened by climate change impacts. This approach expects to generate significant multiple benefits social, economic and cultural. This position paper explains WOTR's proactive ecosystem-based adaptation strategy crystallized from the ecosystem management and conservation work carried out in different states. The complete paper can be downloaded at:

<http://www.wotr.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Biodiversity-Position-Paper.pdf>.

Articles



China Puts Up a Green Shield against Sandstorms

The Inter Press Service shares a story from Inner Mongolia China of how the community is fighting severe sandification and mobile deserts. As the sand progressively degrades the farmland, growing poverty creates a vicious cycle. A four-year project was worked out to reclaim 465 hectares of wasted farmland with the villagers providing the labor, and the local forest department the technical support. Various conversion methods were considered, including covering the shifting sands with a plastic net; chemical treatment to bind the surface sand; and containing sand mobility by regular interval fencing with shrubs, stone and straw. A combination of mechanical and biological measures was chosen by the community to re-vegetate and reforest its land. For more details, please visit:

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2012/09/china-puts-up-a-green-shield-against-sandstorms>



Climate Extremes and Child Rights in South Asia: A Neglected Priority

This project briefing explores the potentially life-long impact of climate change and related disasters on the wellbeing of children in South Asia. In a region that accounts for more than one quarter of the world's children, with 614 million children under 18, girls and boys must receive greater priority in measures to respond to disasters and in disaster risk reduction planning. To help this process and to highlight specific priority areas for policy, Plan International has studied how girls and boys in South Asia perceive and experience climate extremes and disasters. This project briefing presents the findings and policy implications. For the full document, please visit: <http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/docs/7832.pdf>



A Systems Approach to Meeting the Challenges of Urban Climate Change

This article identifies the future challenges that cities face in their ability to create well-being, particularly for urban poor communities, as a result of the compound effect generated by climate change—distinguishing between direct impacts, indirect effects and pre-existing vulnerability. It suggests that action to reduce exposure and improve the adaptive capacity of urban populations must therefore simultaneously address disaster risk reduction, urban poverty reduction and urban resilience (i.e. the ability of the city to maintain the functions that support the well-being of its citizens). Based on evidence and experience from 10 cities which form part of the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (www.acccrn.org), this article proposes that a simplified conceptual model and resilience characteristics be used to analyze urban systems, in parallel with spatial analysis, to target action at multiple levels to reduce exposure and improve the adaptive capacity of urban populations simultaneously. [The full text is available here.](#)



The Connecting Dots: Communicating Climate Science in Himalayas

As part of the Mountain Voice series, the Climate Himalaya team interviewed Dr. David J Molden, Director General of International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD, Nepal) and discussed the climate-related issues in the Himalayan region along with scientific communication and policy-making processes.

Video link and write-up:

<http://chimalaya.org/2012/10/12/connecting-dots-communicating-climate-science-in-himalayas/>

REFERENCE MATERIALS



Designing Effective REDD+ Safeguard Information Systems: Building on Existing Systems and Country Experiences

A key determinant of REDD+ success will be the continued development and implementation of safeguards. An important element of REDD+ safeguards is the development of systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected. Effective systems to share information will help promote transparency, guard against unintended social and environmental damages, and provide information on the impact of REDD+ actions. The 17th Conference of the Parties in Durban in 2011 agreed on broad provisions for guidance, including safeguard information systems (SIS). IISD and the ASB Partnership for the Tropical Forest Margins has explored how existing systems and country experiences can be built upon to develop a REDD+ SIS under the three-year initiative, Building REDD+ Policy Capacity for Developing Country Negotiators and Land Managers, supported by Norad. The policy brief is part of broader research that included an extensive desk study, in-country semi-structured interviews with REDD+ experts and practitioners, and regional expert meetings. The full analysis will be available in the forthcoming

policy paper 'Designing Effective REDD+ Safeguard Information Systems: Building on Existing Systems and Country Experiences'.

<http://www.iisd.org/publications/pub.aspx?pno=1680>



MCCIP Regulating Carbon in Canada - Flexibility and Federal Oil and Gas Greenhouse Gas Regulations: Containing Costs while Increasing Ambition

The federal government is developing regulations for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from Canada's oil and gas sector. This is a necessary and important policy step given the sector's substantial contribution to national emissions, rapid production and emissions growth projections. Analysis suggests that the oil and gas sector has a limited ability to deliver emission intensity improvements between now and 2020. To ensure a cost-effective policy and achieve deeper emissions reductions, federal sector-by-sector GHG regulations should consider including compliance flexibility both within the sector and beyond the sector. The full text of regulations is available at: [this link](#)



New Michael Mann: Attacks on Climate Science could Weaken the Next IPCC Report

Michael Mann, best known for being the author of the iconic hockey stick graph, says there is a concern among his peers that the next Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report will not fully reflect the current state of the climate. Specifically, Mann says sea level projections could be underestimated, leading to an unwarranted complacency on what may be one of the most damaging aspects of man-made climate change. "The IPCC has reacted to these current attacks by at least to some extent, somewhat of a retreat, when it comes to key questions like sea level rise or projected sea level rise," Mann told RTCC. For more details, please visit: <http://www.rtcc.org/learning/michael-mann-attacks-on-climate-science-could-weaken-next-ipcc-report/>

PROFILES



Joint Climate Change Initiative

Joint Climate Change Initiative (JCCI) is a joint initiative between Danish Church Aid/Christian Aid, Cord and Forum Syd that puts partner organizations through a series of eight workshops, two of which are field-based. The goal of the learning process is to develop a climate change project and integrate this into their existing programmes and projects. Alongside the series of workshops, Cambodian advisors are working with on-going coaching and mentoring to support the partner organizations in community-based investigations leading up to the development of their pilot project proposals. Please refer to https://www.forumsyd.org/templates/FS_ArticleTypeA.aspx?id=29178 for more information.

A short video presentation of the project in English can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMlO2lWZgmc>

Divi Neguma Programme

The details on Divi Neguma programme of the Government of Sri Lanka can be found at www.med.gov.lk. It is the largest rural development project in Sri Lanka in the present times, and inclusion of adaptation and mainstreaming into it could have a significant impact.



WOTR - Pune

WOTR has been implementing a large-scale integrated project on climate change adaptation in rural Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Please refer to: <http://www.wotr.org/climate-change-adaptation/climate-change-adaptation-project> for details.

OPPORTUNITIES AND LEARNINGS



Participatory Watershed Development in a Changing Climate: Building Resilience and Reducing Vulnerability, Feb. 18–28, 2013, Maharashtra, India

The course objectives are to understand the process and strategy involved in stabilizing the natural resource base

(land and water) through participatory watershed particularly in the context of a changing climate; see the impacts of successful micro-watershed development and management on the lives of villagers; initiate a dialogue on how "best practices" of community-driven watershed development can be adapted to their own country contexts; and increase knowledge and skills to deal with climate-induced uncertainty and vulnerability while building the adaptive capacities of rural communities. The course will also introduce and mainstream vulnerability reduction and risk management strategies for climate change adaptation, especially in regard to agriculture and natural resources management. For more details, please visit:

<http://www.adpc.net/2012/gateway.asp?frame=Aha&DocID=282>

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