

Welcome to the platform that gives you up-to-date information on climate change adaptation activities happening in the region. This monthly newsletter is brought to you by APAN – a leading climate change adaptation network working across the Asia-Pacific region. Through this E-Communique and other activities, APAN is mobilising knowledge and building capacities for climate resilience.

We are happy to spotlight your climate change adaptation activities, announcements, events and new initiatives. To be featured in our newsletter, all you have to do is send a brief write-up and a web link to info@asiapacificadapt.net.

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

Disaster Preparedness Forum

28 March 2017 | CSR Asia, Bangkok, Thailand

Now in its fourth year, the theme for the 2017 Disaster Preparedness Forum will focus on building resilient homes and schools for Asia's most vulnerable communities. Bringing together business, government and civil society leaders, the Forum will focus on the need for more strategic collaboration and greater investment for safer buildings. Join over 100 executives and experts

and hear from Arup, AECOM, Build Change, Covestro, the International Finance Corporation, UN Habitat and many more.

For more information, visit <http://www.csr-asia.com/dpforum2017/index.html>

See the full speakers' list and register here <http://www.csr-asia.com/dpforum2017/register.html>





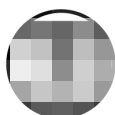
**DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS
2017 FORUM**

BUILD BETTER NOW

28 March 2017, Bangkok

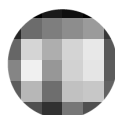
www.csr-asia.com/dpforum2017

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



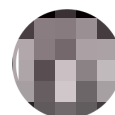
Donald Kanak

Chairman, EU-ASEAN Business Council; Chairman, Prudence Foundation



Vivek Pathak

Director East Asia & the Pacific, International Finance Corporation



Mariko Sato

Chief, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Bangkok

Guillaume Chantry

Country Director in Vietnam, Development Workshop France DWF

Fawad Khan

Senior Economist, ISET-International and CEO, ISET-Pakistan

Stefan Koch

Head of Inclusive Business ASEAN at Covestro formerly Bayer MaterialScience

Kate Landry

Director of Programs & Partnerships – Philippines, Build Change

Michele Young,

Asia Regional Shelter and Construction Adviser, Save the Children

John-Son Oei

Founder & Group CEO, EPIC Collective

Thomas Tang

Director, Sustainability, Asia, AECOM

Richard Welford

Chairman, CSR Asia

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CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) Priority Setting Workshop on Adaptation Knowledge Gaps in the Hindu Kush Himalayas

20 – 22 October 2016 | Colombo, Sri Lanka

Adaptation knowledge gaps have been repeatedly identified as a barrier to widespread and successful adaptation actions. Recognising this challenge, the UNFCCC and UNEP initiated the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action, through a participatory process of knowledge gaps identification, categorisation and prioritisation, accompanied by facilitated science-policy-practice dialogues to catalyse collaborations and the implementation of response actions to close these knowledge gaps. The LAKI was endorsed and launched by the COP 20 President as a component of a set of actions to further address adaptation to climate change under the UNFCCC.

As the Regional Collaborating Agency for UNFCCC's Nairobi Work Programme, ICIMOD, together with UNFCCC and UNEP, organised a LAKI Priority setting Workshop for the Hindu Kush Himalayas from 20th to 22nd October 2016 at the Taj Samudra Hotel in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Workshop had participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Myanmar and Pakistan drawn from government agencies, academia and civil society organisations who deliberated on prioritising the 64 knowledge gaps identified through a scoping paper prepared by ICIMOD. A first round of discussions narrowed down the gaps to 46, and a prioritising exercise using the Delphi methodology was used further refine the gaps. The participants finally identified 16 LAKI priority knowledge gaps across four thematic areas - Agriculture, Water, Forest and Biodiversity and Health - and expressed interest in taking the process forward.

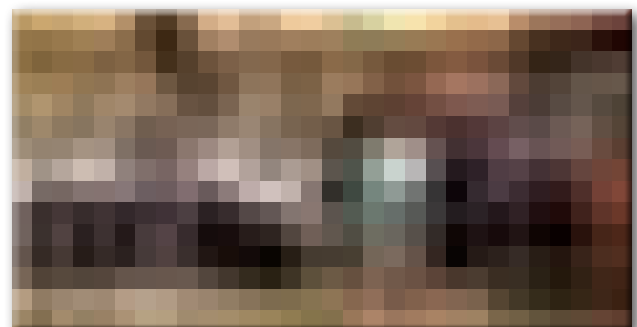
The major LAKI gaps identified for the HKH include, access to adequate locally usable knowledge and information on weather and seasonal forecasting to assist farm production operations; weak dissemination of evidence and successful water management practices,

adaptation technologies, and water allocation and management during periods of scarcity and abundance; lack of access to awareness products and Early Warning System for multiple hazards (drought, landslide, debris flow, flooding, GLOF in the Himalayas and downstream communities; inadequate information and knowledge on adaptation options and technologies suitable to address context specific climate extremes, impact and risks for agriculture and the net effect of climate change at local level; and limited access to weather and seasonal forecasting data for public health preparedness (heat waves, cold waves, thunderstones, diseases epidemics).

The results of the Priority setting Workshop were presented to the COP at Marrakesh by UNEP during the reporting of the progress on the LAKI process. The SBSTA conclusions on the Nairobi work programme adopted in Marrakech welcome the LAKI, including the most recent workshops held in Hindu Kush Himalaya and Indian Ocean Island countries in collaboration with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the International Water Management Institute (please see para 8 of the conclusions: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbsta/eng/l22.pdf>). The LAKI Priority Setting Workshop is perhaps the first example of a focused attention by the Convention on addressing adaptation issues specific to the Hindu Kush Himalayan region.

Participants at the LAKI Priority Setting Workshop for Hindu Kush Hiamalayas and the Indian Ocean Island Countries, Colombo, Sri Lanka

For more information, visit <http://www.icimod.org/?q=24782> This policy brief is based on Nguyen Thi Huyen's SEARCA Discussion Paper: Assessing

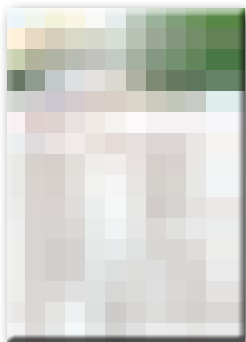


Participants at the LAKI Priority Setting Workshop for Hindu Kush Himalayas and the Indian Ocean Island Countries, Colombo, Sri Lanka

CCA INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

PUBLICATIONS

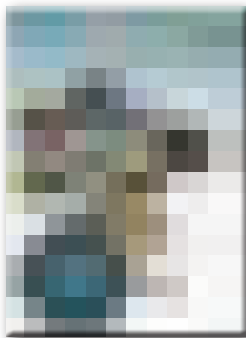
Policy Brief 2016-2: Assessing the Impacts of Land Use and Climate Change on Soil and Water Resources in the Srepok Watershed, Central Highland, Vietnam



Impacts of Land-Use and Climate Change on Soil and Water Resources in the Srepok Watershed, Central Highland of Vietnam.”

For more information, visit:
<http://www.searca.org/knowledge-resources/1603-pre-download?pid=330>

Farms, Food, and Futures: Toward Inclusive and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development in Southeast Asia Report



As part of the celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) launched its latest book titled Farms, Food, and Futures: Toward Inclusive and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development in

Southeast Asia on 7 December 2016 at the SEARCA Headquarters, Los Baños, Laguna.

This book extensively examines the factors that impact the drive towards achieving food security and poverty alleviation at the national, sub-national, and regional levels. Chapter 1 provides an overview of the book and explains that the publication drew heavily from the wealth of knowledge and information shared during the 2nd International Conference on ARD in Southeast Asia, which was convened by SEARCA on November 2014. Chapter 2 provides

a discussion on how public-private partnership arrangements at national and border trade levels are evolving in the context of the ASEAN Economic Community and are coping with the complexities of global trade environment. The third chapter discusses the new and emerging institutions in the transformation of ASEAN agriculture and why governments in ASEAN need to adopt new institutions in ARD policies. The fourth chapter explores the channels through which ARD has been instrumental in the pursuit of inclusive growth in Southeast Asia. Chapter 5 addresses the imperative of sustainability at it relates to agricultural and rural development in the region, with emphasis on the three interlocking pillars of sustainability, namely the economic pillar, the ecological pillar, and the social pillar. The last chapter synthesizes the knowledge embodied in the various chapters and consolidates the policy recommendations drawn from the discussions.

For more information about the book, please contact:

Research and Development Department (RDD) and Knowledge Resources Unit (KRU), SEARCA College, Los Baños, Laguna 4031 Philippines

Tel. No. (63-49) 554-9330 to 9337; (63-02) 657-1300 to 1301 local 3200

Fax: (63-49) 536-2283 (Attn: KRU)

Email: publications@searca.org or visit www.searca.org

SPECIAL REPORT: THE COLOMBO OUTCOME



COLOMBO OUTCOME

by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

The Fifth Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum was held on 17-19 October 2016 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, organized by UN Environment Asia Pacific Adaptation Network and hosted by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. More than 700 participants consisting of adaptation experts, policymakers, development partners, non-government and civil society organization, financial institutions, individuals, youth, media, and private sector representatives from over 50 countries from Asia-Pacific attended the Forum.

H.E. Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka delivered the opening address in which he emphasized climate change resilience at local, national and regional levels to achieve sustainable development. The President called upon all actors involved at local, national and international levels to enhance actions on climate resilience implementation.

Bridging gaps in policy and practice

Having as its overall theme “**Adapting and Living below 2°C: Bridging Gaps in Policy & Practice**”, discussions during the Adaptation Forum focused on climate change adaptation planning, mobilizing financing for adaptation, promoting climate-resilience and sustainable development as well as strengthening the role of actors at different levels and partnerships. The Paris Agreement 2016, along with the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, has brought a new impetus to achieve a global long term temperature increase goal of well below 2 Degrees Centigrade and strive for 1.5 Degrees if possible.

Participants explored various pathways for translating policies into practices and upscaling practices to meet the scale of adaptation needs including participation from the private and financing sectors. There were deliberate efforts to learn lessons from a decade of adaptation policy and action, looking not only at what worked, but also at what did not.

Adaptation Planning

- a. Whilst policy and institutional frameworks are being advanced to address climate adaptation, accompanied by decision making for implementing adaptation plans across the Asia Pacific region, opportunities and solutions continue to be needed to strengthen inclusiveness, vertical integration between national and local planning, and engaging a wider range of stakeholders from across government agencies, the private sector and practitioners at the local level. Adaptation planning should shift to long term timelines, aligned with national economic and development planning, whilst projects and their financing should be short and long term to realise priorities.
 - b. Capacities continue to be needed, especially in least developed countries, low lying regions and island nations, at national and local levels, to interpret and execute solutions as well as strengthen monitoring and reporting to national adaptation goals, as well as the Paris Agreement and relevant
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Global Sustainable Development Goals. Capacity gaps at national level must be addressed so as to enable translating and executing global and regional decisions (e.g. for implementing national adaptation goals, monitoring and reporting and adaptation communication).

- c. Partnerships for solutions and linking science to policy and actions continue to benefit those needing support to adapt - including governments, individuals, Civil society, Private sector, academia, Media - but need further strengthening.
- d. Awareness of the impact of climate change and how to adapt must be increased to inform the vulnerable as well as policy makers for decision making on financing, technology, job creation, migration and infrastructure development. Climate Resilient Development that integrates social, economic and environmental solutions is essential to support adaptation planning and implementation. The innovative developments in information technology and communications globally and across the Asia Pacific region must be optimised to support Climate Resilient Development.

Financing Adaptation

- a. Access to financing climate resilient development is a joint responsibility of governments, private sector, intergovernmental agencies and financial institutions and other stakeholders. Whilst financing adaptation solutions is attracting attention, good models of development, incentive mechanisms and access to co-financing and dialogue with financial planners and decision makers' needs to step up. Future investments in climate resilient development programmes by governments and donor agencies should be biased in favour of assisting and enabling the poorest and most vulnerable communities to adapt.
- b. Best practices need to be better shared in knowledge platforms for integrating climate financing into development planning and budgeting systems and improvements made in the standardization of approach and methodologies.
- c. Increased transparency and openness in climate financing opportunities supporting climate resilient activities, as well as sharing plans and solutions in climate mitigation and adaptation are essential.

Resilience Development

- a. Smart development planning and execution that integrates capital investment in infrastructure (airports, roads, towns, coastal areas, buildings etc.) with climate adaptation plans can contribute to social and economic benefits as well as the environment. A positive trend for climate resilient development that benefits the most vulnerable as well as economies, presents an integrated approach that links development planning and financing with resilience development. Win-win solutions not just benefit the people but their livelihoods, health and jobs that in turn benefits countries' national sustainable development.

Multi-actors Learning

- a. The power of integrated approaches, collective learning and knowledge management are being increasingly mainstreamed to deliver solutions for adaptation. The new areas of knowledge in financing, technology and monitoring and reporting are additional to the ongoing need for science and general information on adaptation. Indicators of success and best practices for solutions are
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