

e-communique

Issue 24

November-December 2012



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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 newsletter is brought to you by the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP) and 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 to send your submissions to info@climateadapt.asia

ANNOUNCEMENT

Asia Pacific Adaptation Network A regional programme to manage and apply adaptation knowledge: Consolidating the best of two initiatives

The Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform (AKP) was launched in 2008 as a partnership between United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Resource Centre for Asia Pacific (RRC.AP), a centre at the Asian Institute of Technology collaborating with UNEP, and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). It operated through a secretariat based in RRC.AP, and implemented activities in partnership with key centre of excellences and actors. The Adaptation Knowledge Platform was supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia (SENSA).



New APAN Logo

The Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) was launched by the Prime Minister of Thailand in October 2009 as the first region-wide adaptation-specific network as a part of the Global Adaptation Network (GAN). APAN was facilitated by UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), and operated through a Regional Hub, jointly hosted by the Institute for Global Environment Strategies (IGES) and Regional Resource Centre for Asia Pacific (RRC.AP), in partnership with key centre of excellences and actors. Ministry of Environment Japan (MoEJ), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) provided it financial support right from its inception.

APAN: Consolidating the best of both initiatives



AKP and APAN have been tackling the increasingly important region-wide task of documenting and disseminating climate change adaptation knowledge, and supporting the application of knowledge at different levels. In 2011, a joint retreat of AKP and APAN led to the decision of merging the two initiatives to deliver benefits to the region more effectively and sustainably. The ultimate aim of the consolidated initiative is to build climate change resilient, gender-sensitive and sustainable human systems, ecosystems and economies through the mobilisation of knowledge, enhanced institutional capacity, informed

decision making-processes, and facilitated access to finance and technologies. It lays special emphasis on the management of knowledge and capacity building. The name of the new initiative will continue to be APAN.

UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) will manage APAN, which will operate through a Regional Hub and Core Technical Partners, namely Institute for Global Environment Strategies (IGES), Regional Resource Centre for Asia Pacific (RRC.AP), and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). Partnership with key centres of excellences and actors at sub-regional levels will be a major vehicle to reach and support adaptation actors in government, civil society and business communities.

The united face with more number of core partners, a new logo and web portal (<http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/>) will be in effect from January 2013. The existing individual website of APAN and AKP will cease to exist and be automatically redirected to the new web portal. The revamped web portal will be available from January 2013 with new features, including an online community of practice, and will continue to be an interactive means for sharing information and knowledge on climate change adaptation and on building adaptive capacities in Asian and Pacific countries.

For further questions and queries, kindly contact us at: info@asiapacificadapt.net

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

International Conference on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Food and Environmental Security,
Nov. 21–22, 2012, SEARCA College, Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines

This conference called for new ways of tackling climate change challenges by using various climate change models and tools to understand the potential impacts on food and environmental security. It also served as a venue for promoting partnerships and linkages among different sectors for collaborative capacity development and research.



It concluded by calling for greater collaborations across agencies (public and private; local, national, and global scales) in Research and Development (R&D) and/or education sectors. It also underlined the importance of mainstreaming research findings in Science and Technology (S&T) in the local and national governance system to ensure sustainability of the networks.

For more details, please visit <http://www.apan-gan.net/activities/conferences/international/climate-change-impacts-n-adaptation-for-food-n-environmental-security-20121121-22>

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

The **objectives** of the sub-annual conference were to facilitate a sub-regional multi stakeholder dialogue on the priority adaptation measures and technology needs in water and agricultural sectors in Central Asia; and assist Central Asian countries in developing joint multi-stakeholder messages in preparation to the 18th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 18) to the UNFCCC, Qatar.

The conference identified some of the regional priorities for adaptation in the region and underlined the need for more capacity building on adaptation besides further studies and research, and development of a regional strategy on adaptation in different sectors.

For more details, please visit <http://www.apan-gan.net/activities/conferences/sub-annual/multi-stakeholder-dialogue-cca-in-ca-facing-cop18-to-unfccc>

Training and Consultations among South Asian Policy Makers on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nov. 5–6, 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal

The **objectives** of the training workshop were to share best practices for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and map key sectors that need to be prioritized in respective countries.

The workshop concluded that more training workshops to build capacity of the countries on NAPs were required as there was still some confusion regarding NAPAs and NAPs, the eligibility criteria, and proposal preparation for NAPS. It also sought more training on cross-ministerial coordination and cooperation.

For more details, please visit <http://www.apan-gan.net/activities/trainings/preparing-naps-south-asia-2012115-6>

Pacific Climate Change and Financing Training Workshop, Oct. 25–26, 2012, Apia, Samoa

The objectives of the training workshop were to increase general understanding about specific donors and the types of climate change financing available to the Pacific countries; familiarize participants with the individual donor policies and financing criteria; and teach them how to write proposals, and meet the monitoring, evaluation, and reporting requirements of the donors.

The workshop concluded that more training workshops should be held to build capacity of the countries on climate financing and there should be more frequent dialogue between countries and donors to facilitate easier accessibility to climate funds.

For more details, please visit <http://www.apan-gan.net/activities/workshops/regional-workshops/pacific-climate-change-n-financing20121025-26>

Training on Climate Change Adaptation Planning, Sept. 21–22, 2012, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The objectives of the training were to provide general concept on impacts and vulnerability of climate change, and adaptation; discuss different approaches to adaptation at regional and national levels; provide examples of adaptation technologies in vulnerable sectors and areas; and share current approaches and methodologies for mainstreaming and integrating adaptation into national and local planning processes.

Six sessions to meet the training objectives outlined above concluded that there was need for more cross-sectoral training on climate adaptation besides better coordination between the different government departments.

For more details, please visit <http://bit.ly/cc-adapt-planning-malaysia>

Climate Change Adaptation News

Pacific Women in Climate Change

For the first time ever, a Pacific woman is one of the lead authors in the next report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Dr. Netatua Pelesikoti from Tonga, Director of the Climate Change Division at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, is the lead contributor to Chapter 29 on Small Islands in the 5th Assessment Report. The 5th Assessment Report will provide the world with a clear scientific view on the current state of knowledge in climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts. Dr. Pelesikoti, or Neta as she is called, has 20 years of experience in climate change, coastal management and disaster risk management.



Photo credit: SPREP

Her interview is available at: <http://www.sprep.org/climate-change/pacific-women-in-climate-change-meet-dr-netatua-pelesikoti-tonga>

Climate Talks Adopt Gender Balance Goal

The COP18 in Doha adopted a “gender balance” goal with the aim of increasing women’s participation in the negotiations, with experts hoping that this will make climate change policy more responsive to women’s needs. The goal, which was adopted at the end of the fractious conference, said that the almost 200 nations involved in the talks need to make additional efforts to improve the gender balance in the many bodies under the UNFCCC. It also asks them “to strive for gender balance in their delegations” at the talks. The conference asked the U.N. climate secretariat to organise a workshop at the next year’s conference to boost women’s involvement in the talks. It further said that the progress towards gender balance should be reviewed in 2016.



Photo credit: REUTERS/Andrew Bira

For details, please visit: <http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/climate-talks-seen-adopting-gender-goal>

Future Earth Regional Workshop for Asia and the Pacific, Nov. 21–23, 2012, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The workshop was part of an initial regional round of consultations to establish a framework on global sustainability. It was established by The Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability, which consists of a number of organisations, including International Council for Science, International Social Science Council, Belmont Forum, UN Educational Scientific Cultural Organisation, UNEP, and UN University, with World Meteorological Organisation as an observer.



The workshop was held over three days with a number of interactive sessions to discuss, challenge, regionalise and specify the initial design options of the global research framework for Future Earth, and the governance structure that an international transition team of experts has been working on. The workshop was a congregation of scientists, development actors, educators, capacity builders, funders and individuals working at the boundary between science and policy.

Please visit

<http://www.icsu.org/future-earth/whats-new/events/kuala-lumpur-workshop> for more information

CDKN Launches Climate Finance Advisory Service

Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) launched a Climate Finance Advisory Service for developing countries at COP18 in Doha. The service will enable negotiators, policy makers and advisors in developing countries to access the tailored information and guidance they need to effectively participate in global climate finance negotiations. CDKN and a global alliance led by the NGO Germanwatch will provide experts to staff the Service.



The Service will provide a rapid response for complex, time-critical questions faced by developing countries during the Green Climate Fund Board meetings and UNFCCC negotiations, and between sessions.

For more information, please visit:

http://cdkn.org/2012/11/climate-finance-advisory-service-2/?loclang=en_gb

Climate Himalaya Wins Manthan eNGO Challenge Award 2012

Climate Himalaya, an initiative of Prakriti group, won the prestigious Manthan eNGO Challenge Award for its outreach knowledge networking work on climate adaptation and mountain development issues in the Himalayan region. Indian External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid was present during the award ceremony at New Delhi, India.



The eNGO Challenge aspires to create an ecosystem of NGOs who are using Information Communication Technology (ICT) and digital media for good governance practices benefiting society and communities at large. The challenge seeks to recognise, salute and honor best NGO practices using ICT in any parts of the world.

The Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF) had organized this eNGO Challenge for the first time in India to recognize the work of non-profit organizations, using ICT.

For more information, please visit: <http://chimalaya.org/2012/12/03/climate-himalaya-wins-prestigious-manthan-ngo-challenge-award-2012>

Rockefeller Foundation Extends US\$1.75 Mn Grant to Expand Resilience Programme to 40 New Cities

The New York-based Rockefeller Foundation has extended a US\$1.75 million grant to allow up to 40 more cities in Asia to benefit from pilot urban climate change resilience initiatives developed by the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN). This marks the first ever effort to significantly scale up a large number of cities' ability and capacity to adopt new tools and resources for building urban climate resilience.

For more information on the various ACCCRN city projects, please go to: <http://www.acccrn.org/sites/default/files/documents/11%2001%2012%20ACCCRN%20Expansion.pdf>

New Website for Think-tank Map



The International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG) has launched a new website of the Think Tank Map, an observatory that provides an overview on the think tanks active in the field of climate change governance. Through an interactive world map, this tool makes it possible to see which organisations are working in the fields related to climate governance all over the world. The new website presents a novel structure that allows a wide range of searches to be performed, as it is now possible to search not only think tanks, but also their projects. The Think Tank Map aims to become a complete overview of every authoritative think-tank active in the field of climate change governance.

It is available at: <http://www.thinktankmap.org>

Local Weather Specific Agro-advisories by SMS

Watershed Organization Trust (WOTR) started its 20th year by disseminating local weather specific agro-advisories by SMS to farmers under its Climate Change Adaptation project. WOTR's first local weather specific agro-advisory was sent out at 5.14 pm on December 20, 2012 for the tomato growers of Warudhi Pathar and Sarole Pathar, Sangamner Taluka, for the control of red mites. The SMS advised the farmers to spray neem seed kernel extract (NSKE) to control the pesky mites which are the bane of every tomato farmer.

For details, please visit: <http://www.wotr.org>

UPCOMING CCA EVENTS

3rd Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum 2013, Mar 18-20, 2013, Incheon City, Republic of Korea

Theme: Mainstreaming Adaptation into Development with a focus on 'strategies and actions in a changing climate'

The 3rd Adaptation Forum will assist decision-makers at all levels of government, in business and communities to be more strategic and effective in addressing the challenges of development in a changing climate.

Adaptation strategies are guides to action important for governments, organizations and communities to design appropriate policies and plans as well as build capacities to adapt.

Sensible strategies that guide and learn from actions are required for successful adaptation to a changing climate. Climate change in some situations demands new strategies – for example for dealing with uncertainties and change – but must also draw on experiences and insights from past strategies in development.

The forum will provide excellent opportunities for a range of actors working in different sectors and systems to share their knowledge about successes and failures, to effectively adapt to climate. The needs and interests of critical and neglected groups will be highlighted alongside the need for improving knowledge management.

The mixture of plenary and panel discussions as well as diverse side-events will provide participants with an outstanding opportunity to interact and learn about the latest ideas and practices in mainstreaming adaptation. The key outcome of the 3rd Forum will be improved adaptation strategies and actions.

Participating in the 3rd Adaptation Forum

There are many ways to participate in the forum: as a speaker, as a booth holder in the market place, as an attentive and questioning member of the audience, and by sharing your views in a briefing note.

Registration for the Forum is now open at the Forum website: <http://bit.ly/adaptforum2013>

Regional Training Course on Paleoflood Hydrology in Flood Risk Assessment, Feb .18-22, 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) is organising a regional training course on Paleoflood Hydrology in Flood Risk Assessment, from February 18 to 22, 2013, in Bangkok. The training shall mentor participants in paleoflood data collection, analysis, management, and application in flood risk estimation. Paleoflood hydrology enables the generation of long-term flood record by reconstructing the magnitude and frequency of past floods in areas without flood-level observations, by using geomorphological indicators and documentary evidence. It is, thus, possible to quantify flood risks in areas with paucity in flood records, for developing flood risk management plans.

For more details, please visit:

<http://www.rimes.int/em/?p=1148>

Annual Regional Workshop: "Climate Change Issues and Priorities in South Asia: Assessment and Ideas for Future Engagement" Feb 18-20, 2013, Colombo, Sri Lanka

The workshop aims to:

- Understand the specific areas of climate change issues relevant for South Asia;
- understand the specific issues of partners working in specific areas in the region;
- identify the effectiveness of the current policy landscape on climate change in the region; and
- identify the gaps and future areas of engagement in the region.

For complete information, please go to

<http://bit.ly/cc-southasia-workshop-feb13>

Sub-regional Annual Conference: Adaptation Trends in South-East Asia, Feb. 5-6, 2013. Jakarta, Indonesia

The conference aims to:

- Bring together climate change focal points, policy makers and experts to share and discuss knowledge on climate change adaptation in Southeast Asia;
- capture the latest learning and good practices in Southeast Asia;
- integrate lessons learned into national and international development programmes in order to ultimately enhance the capacity in the region on climate change adaptation; and
- disseminate activities conducted by APAN.

For complete information, please go to

<http://bit.ly/cca-trends-sea-conf-feb13>

4th Annual Conference on Climate Change, Science and Business – Impacts and Solutions: How to Gain Competitive Advantage, Jan. 31–Feb. 4, 2013, London

The Climate Change and Economy Group Conference is for people with an interest in, and concern for, scientific, policy and strategic perspectives in climate change. It will address a range of critically important themes relating to the vexing question of climate change, flood and economy, role of science on climate change mitigation, ozone layer depletion. Plenary speakers will include some of the world's leading thinkers in the fields of climatology and environmental science, as well as numerous paper, workshop and colloquium presentations by researchers and practitioners.

For more information about the ideas and themes underlying this conference, online registration, accommodation, access grant scholar award and venue, please contact Dr. Jonathan Gilbert at gilbert_jonathan@aol.com

Climate Change Adaptation Information Resources and Knowledge Products

Reports

Tackling the Limits to Adaptation: An International Framework to Address 'Loss and Damage' from Climate Change Impacts

The aim of this report is to highlight the pressing issue of climate change loss and damage and the urgent action required of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its parties to address it. It is aimed first and foremost at UNFCCC negotiators and at the politicians and policymakers who will determine negotiating positions for their countries. However, the report is also useful for other actors and agencies working on and around the issue of climate change.



The full report can be downloaded at: http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/Doha_COP_18/tackling_the_limits_lr.pdf

One Planet–One Future Equity and Resilience for Sustainable Development

This report highlights how sustainable development solutions coming out of the Rio+20 Summit must fully address equity and resilience, gender equality, food security and climate change. It highlights that the world's poorest people are increasingly bearing the consequences of unsustainable development; and explains that to truly deliver upon sustainable development, any new development path must focus on ensuring equity and building resilience within the global economy, within countries and within local communities.



The full report is available at: http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/RIO20_Report_FINAL2012.pdf

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 on 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 can be downloaded at: http://southernvoices.net/files/RC_International%20Report/SV-report-WEB-OPTIMIZED.pdf

Climate and Development Research Review

A new report prepared by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), and supported by the CDKN, highlights key trends in a growing body of research on the links between climate change and development. Useful for policy-makers, practitioners, and researchers, the



Climate and Development Research Review draws on a meta-synthesis of more than 500 policy-relevant research papers published between January 2010 and August 2011, and a closer review of 93 of those papers.

To download the complete report, please go to: <http://www.teriin.org/cdrr> or www.cdkn.org/cdrr

Inside Story: Going after Adaptation Co-benefits

A new CDKN Inside Story explores how Fiji's use of REDD+ financing has supported broader forms of climate compatible development and has inspired other Pacific nations to engage with REDD+ financing. By using REDD+ financing to conserve forests, Fiji is not only contributing to climate change mitigation but also to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, sustainable land management, and biodiversity conservation, all of which have direct benefits for communities.

The report can be downloaded at: http://cdkn.org/2012/11/inside-story-going-after-adaptation-co-benefits-a-redd-programme-in-fiji/?loclang=en_gb

Opinion: What does Green Growth Mean to a Banker?

In a blog from COP18, CDKN's Mairi Dupar suggests that other countries could learn a lot from Bangladesh's approach to green banking. In a widely-lauded presentation in Doha, Atiur

Rahman, the Governor of the Bangladesh Bank, demonstrated how central banker governors can use their power to promote green growth and more socially just and equitable development. Speaking at Development and Climate Days 2012, Rahman described the carrot-and-stick policy that he deploys for social and environmental ends.
Photo credit: CDKN



The full article is available at: <http://cdkn.org/2012/12/news-what-does-green-growth-mean-to-a-banker>

Loss and Damage in Bangladesh from the Frontline of Climate Change

Saleemul Huq writes in an article for the CDKN website on what Bangladesh has gained from efforts over the last year to understand and advance the loss and damage agenda. He writes: "When residents in the coastal district of Satkira in Bangladesh were asked a decade ago, only 2% said increased saline levels caused by sea level rise were having an adverse effect on crop yields, livelihoods and their health. Today, over 80% say they are affected...How do we deal with the inevitable and unavoidable losses and damages that will occur even if the best efforts at both mitigation and adaptation are achieved?"
Photo credit: CDKN



Read the full article at: <http://cdkn.org/2012/12/opinion-loss-and-damage-in-bangladesh-from-the-front-line-of-climate-change>

The Potential of Micro-insurance for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)?

In a new CDKN blog, Nasreen Rashid, Executive Advisor, EFU Group of Insurance, Pakistan reflects on the role of micro-insurance in DRR strategies. He writes that even though his work in the insurance

sector often feels far from the day to day concerns of these communities, he was increasingly realising that innovative financial products have the potential to change the lives of vulnerable people.

Photo credit: CDKN



Read the full article at: http://cdkn.org/2012/11/opinion-can-micro-insurance-protect-vulnerable-communities-from-the-risk-of-disasters/?loclang=en_gb

Childhood Vulnerability to Climate Change in Marginalised Vietnamese Communities: The Case for Participation

To mark the successful outcome of the 5th Asia Ministerial Conference on DRR, where the Yogyakarta declaration on disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2012 calls for “increase the involvement of multi-stakeholders, especially the vulnerable groups including women, children, elderly, and persons with disabilities, in planning and decision-making processes”, Plan International & Overseas Development Institute (ODI) have launched a background note examining the barriers to and opportunities for marginalized Vietnamese children to input into policy processes and the decisions that affect them. This note examines the policy processes relating to concerns over climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction for mountain communities and minorities in the Quang Tri province.

The full report can be downloaded at: <http://www.odi.org.uk/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/7858.pdf>

Opinion: Holistic Approach Vital for Managing Issues of Food, Wealth and Environment

In a CDKN online article, Michiel van Dijk of LEI-Wageningen UR reports on the growing need for policy-makers to be aware about and balance trade-offs among food security, poverty, climate change

and sustainable development. If decision-makers are to balance such trade-offs, they must be aware of the complex interaction among land use, food security and climate change, and adopt a forward-looking and integrated approach when formulating policies.

Photo credit: CDKN

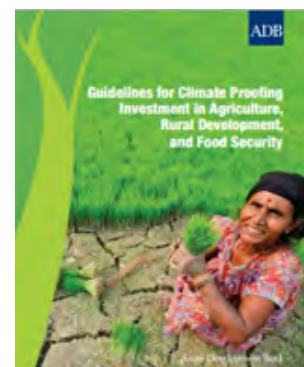


Read the full report at http://cdkn.org/2012/10/holistic-approach-vital-for-managing-issues-of-food-wealth-and-the-environment/?loclang=en_gb

Publications

Guidelines for Climate-Proofing Investment in Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food Security

This publication aims to present a step-by-step methodological approach to assist project teams in assessing and incorporating climate change adaptation measures into investment projects in agriculture, rural development, and food security.



The full report is available at: <http://www.adb.org/documents/guidelines-climate-proofing-investment-agriculture-rural-development-and-food-security?ref=themes/climate-change/publications>

Learning Lessons: ADB's Response to Natural Disasters and Disaster Risks

This brief highlights lessons and recommendations from an independent evaluation report that assessed ADB support for disaster prevention and recovery programs during 1995–2011.

The full report can be downloaded at: <http://www.adb.org/documents/learning-lessons-adb-s-response-natural-disasters-and-disaster-risks>

India Case Study: Developing State-Level Action Plan

Launched in 2008, India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) outlines a national agenda for addressing climate-related challenges through eight national missions. Accordingly, State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) are required to effectively ensure that national objectives are aligned with regional development priorities and the local environmental context. The UNDP has partnered with the Government of India's Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) and other stakeholders to develop a Common Framework for preparation of the SAPCCs. The Common Framework will enable a consistent methodology for identifying state priorities on climate change and a coherent approach to developing adaptation and mitigation options. The framework draws on guidance by UNDP on preparing Green, Low-Emission, Climate Resilient Development Strategies (UNDP 2011). The SAPCC developed in the Indian State of Madhya Pradesh (MP) illustrates the implementation of the process outlined in the Common Framework.



The full publication can be downloaded at: http://www.undp-alm.org/sites/default/files/downloads/undp-alm_casestudy_india_oct2012.pdf

Articles

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. It suggests that action to reduce exposure and improve the adaptive capacity of urban populations must 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 analyse urban systems to target action at multiple levels to reduce exposure and improve the adaptive capacity of urban populations.

The full article is available at: <http://www.acccrn.org/sites/default/files/documents/ARUP%20-%20Systems%20approach%20to%20meeting%20the%20challenges%20of%20urban%20climate%20change.pdf>

Films/Videos

Disasters in Mountains: Increasing Catastrophes in Indian Himalayas

A total of 80,000 people were affected while over 50 people died, 80 villages were cut off from mainland, seven major bridges collapsed, and 60 km of national highway damaged in the flash flood and landslide that hit Uttarkashi on August 3, 2012. Again, on 13 September, 2012, 70 people died in the landslide and flash flood that devastated 10 villages. This video brings home the catastrophe that struck Uttarkashi and Rudrapur districts of Uttarakhand state in India in 2012.



The video link is: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMliHKz5onU>

Story Links:

<http://chimalaya.org/2012/09/15/landslide-kills-68-in-indian-himalayas>

<http://chimalaya.org/2012/08/09/uttarkashi-flash-flood-2012>

<http://chimalaya.org/2012/09/14/cloud-burst-disaster-in-uttarakhand-india-updates-and-photos>

<http://chimalaya.org/2012/08/04/the-disaster-emergencies-in-the-indian-mountains>

Weathering Climate Change

Weathering Climate Change (English; 8.50 minutes) is a film that describes WOTR's Agro-Meteorology component of Climate Change Adaptation project, which combines locale-specific met advisories and agro advisories for timely weather information to help farmers plan their agricultural activities. Web-based, this initiative is marked by its unique automated platform and software to provide village-wise weather trends that can be widely upscaled.

The video can be viewed at: <http://www.wotr.org>

Reference Materials

Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation in Zimbabwe

This paper reviews impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in Zimbabwe, with the intention of providing a broad overview of the key issues related to climate change facing this particular country. It draws on a set of background papers that were produced by the Policy and Advocacy for Climate Change in Zimbabwe project funded by the UK Department for International Development (DfID) and implemented by International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), the Zimbabwe Regional Environment Organisation (ZERO) and Dialogue on Shelter.



The full paper can be downloaded at:
<http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/10034IIED.pdf>

Opportunities

Call for Applications - Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP)

The APLP is a signature program of the East-West Center. It involves 4.5 months of intensive work in Honolulu and a highly flexible 4.5-month practicum, giving participants a wide range of

options for their second semester experience. Basic application requirements are strong English language skills and at least a four-year undergraduate degree or the international equivalent (though most Fellows have at least a Masters). The age range of the group is usually from mid-20s to mid-40s, with the average being 32. Each class has members from between 15 to 20 countries with a very wide range of professional and academic backgrounds.



Substantial scholarship funding is available.

For information regarding the program and application instructions, please visit the APLP's website at: <http://www.eastwestcenter.org/aplp>.

The APLP's Fall 2013 application documents can be downloaded directly from the website, in addition to the program overview, visa requirements, financial and scholarship details.

Taking Stock of Micro-insurance for DRR - Evidence and Experiences in Applying Index-based Micro-insurance in South and South East Asia

CDKN is seeking a supplier to document evidence and experience of applying index-based micro-insurance in South and South East Asia. The project will look to add value by focusing on a particular geographic region (South and South East Asia) and qualitatively documenting the views and perspectives of leading authorities from academia, policy and practice on the latest evidence and experience. The work is desk based, and combines a systematic assessment of existing literature with a series of interviews from selected key-informants. The project is expected to last for five months, starting in January 2013.

Photo credit: CDKN

For more information visit:

<http://cdkn.org/2012/12/taking-stock-of-micro-insurance-for-disaster-risk-reduction-evidence-and-experiences-in-applying-index-based-micro-insurance-in-south-and-south-east-asia>

Call for Applications: CMCC-ICCG Summer School on Climate Change Impacts and Policy in the Mediterranean Basin, May 20-25, 2013, Venice

The ICCG and the Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC) are pleased to announce their first edition of the Summer School on "Climate Change Impacts and Policy in the Mediterranean Basin" for postgraduate students. The main purpose of the School is to investigate the key issues of 'Climate Change Impacts and Policy in the Mediterranean Basin' with the aim to increase awareness among students, policy-makers, governments and representatives of the local communities involved in the field.

The summer school will be held from May 20 to May 25, 2013 at the ICCG and CMCC (CIP Division) offices on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, in Venice, located just in front of St. Mark's Square.

For more details, please visit:

<http://www.iccgov.org/EventDetails.aspx?IDEvento=147&IDSM=62&IDM=99&Past=&Lan=en-US>

12th International NCCR Climate Summer School, Sept. 1-6, Grindelwald, Switzerland

The National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) Climate, Switzerland's Centre of Excellence in Climate and Climate Impact Research, invites young scientists to join leading climate researchers in the scenic Swiss Alpine village of Grindelwald for keynote lectures, workshops and poster sessions on the occasion of the 12th NCCR Climate Summer School 2013. It is focusing on the theme "From climate reconstructions to climate predictions".

The specific topics to be addressed include:

- Climate variability of the past two millennia and the next century
- Calibrating proxies, modeling past climate, data - model comparison, detection and attribution
- Rapid climate change and feedbacks, tipping points
- Decadal predictability: theory and processes

For more details, please visit: http://www.nccr-climate.unibe.ch/summer_school/2013

2013 ANHS Senior Fellowship Programme

The Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS) invites applications for support of short-term research or other scholarly projects that will advance knowledge of the Himalaya-Karakoram-Hindukush mountain regions. Applicants should be at the postdoctoral level or have equivalent professional experience. The fellowship will support work focusing on any aspect of Himalayan studies.

The application deadline is April 1, 2013 with an anticipated award date of May 1, 2013. The project or research must be completed by May 2014. The fellowship is open to all regardless of citizenship.

For more details, please address directly to: fellowships@anhs-himalaya.org

Learning Alliance on Climate Resilient Cities Evidence and Lessons from Latin America (ELLA)

Learning Alliances work through an interactive online platform with a learning space and a dedicated networking space, email updates, and a first-hand visit to Latin America for the most active and engaged contributors. Participation is free of charge, although there are limited seats. The Alliance will commence in mid-January of 2013. Participants in the Learning Alliance on Climate Resilient Cities will share experiences and learn about different approaches to urban development in the context of a changing climate, identifying best practices and methodologies for making cities more resilient, with a particular focus on mechanisms and actions that reduce vulnerability.

The online application form can be found here: <http://ella.practicalaction.org/learning-alliances-6>

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