

e-communique

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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 Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), a merged initiative of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP), launched in 2008 and the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), launched in 2009.

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@asiapacificadapt.net

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP), which has been merged into APAN, released four more publications in the last few weeks. While two of these reports summarise the findings of the case studies on mainstreaming adaptation into local development planning in Thailand and Vietnam, the other two present the assessment results of the adaptation needs and priorities of China and the Lao PDR.

Mainstreaming Adaptation into Local Development Planning: A Case Study in Chainat, Thailand



The main objectives of this case study were to understand climate risks and uncertainties inherent in local communities and demonstrate the integration of climate change adaptation into local development plans. The study concluded that raising awareness about climate risks and variability, communicating climate-related information, and fostering public engagement are central to the integration of climate change adaptation into community development plans. The community's vulnerability to climate change can be significantly reduced if government officials work with the local agriculture office, community leaders, farmers' groups and other stakeholders to plan and implement adaptation actions. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/108>



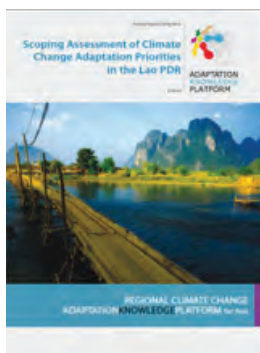
Mainstreaming Adaptation into Local Development Plans in Vietnam

This report examines and draws lessons from two adaptation projects in Vietnam—a climate change vulnerability assessment in the Cat Khanh Commune of Binh Dinh province, and efforts to mainstream adaptation in the province's fishery sector. One of the main findings of these two projects was that successful mainstreaming of adaptation requires a participatory approach, with a wide range of stakeholders working together with experts, exchanging ideas, and building mutual trust. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/106>.



Scoping Assessment of Knowledge Needs in Climate Change Adaptation in China

The assessment aimed to identify ways to strengthen the linkages between scientific knowledge and actions required for addressing the impacts of climate change on agriculture and rural development. The findings highlight the need for a knowledge support system to generate, communicate, and manage climate change knowledge and information in support of policy- and decision-making processes at all levels. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/105>.



Scoping Assessment of Climate Change Adaptation Priorities in Lao PDR

The report assesses the current state of climate change adaptation in the Lao PDR and its integration into planning and policy processes, while looking into the institutional mechanisms and policies concerning adaptation, research priorities, national strategies for adaptation capacity building, and areas of intervention for future adaptation work. The study identified the need for holding awareness-raising workshops, development of educational material in the Lao language and an English–Lao glossary of climate and adaptation terms besides on-line access to climate and adaptation-related policies, publications and reports in the Lao PDR. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/107>.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

TERI-Rockefeller International Workshop on Resilient Cities, Jan. 29, 2013, New Delhi, India



Photo © TERI India

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and the Rockefeller Foundation jointly conducted a workshop on “Resilient Cities-Experiences from Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) in Asia and Beyond” in New Delhi on January 29. This workshop discussed emerging concepts, approaches, and methodologies that are being applied in various urban areas to increase cities’ resilience to climate change as well as lessons learnt from the ACCCRN experience in climate risk and vulnerability assessments in Indian and Asian cities. For more information, please visit http://www.teriin.org/index.php?option=com_events&task=details&sid=564

JCCI Open Seminar, Jan. 23, 2013, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Approximately 150 people took part in the Joint Climate Change Initiative’s Open Seminar in Cambodia on January 23, 2013 listening to voices of community members concerned over a changing climate and degrading natural resources as well as members of national coordination and government, all highlighting a need for action. The Open Seminar also featured newly released JCCI Learning Manual and a booklet of Good Practices from pilot implementation in Cambodia done under the JCCI umbrella. Before, during and after presentations and discussions, JCCI partner organizations showcased their projects and implementations related to environment and climate change in an open gallery with lively discussions and new connections. To learn more about the Joint Climate Change

Initiative, please see https://www.forumsyd.org/templates/FS_ArticleTypeA.aspx?id=29178 (new JCCI website will be launched in March 2013).

Dialogue: Lessons from Bangladesh for a Post-Sandy New York, Jan. 14, 2013, New York, USA



Photo © Isabelle Lemaire

The Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN), Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) organised a dialogue on “Lessons from Bangladesh for a Post-Sandy New York” at Columbia University on January 14. Climate change adaptation experts from Bangladesh shared lessons learnt in building climate resilience in coastal cities based on their experiences with planning for and adapting to the increased occurrence of catastrophic floods in Bangladesh. The experts also discussed how these lessons could be applied to the New York city. For more details, please visit <http://www.iiied.org/lessons-bangladesh-for-post-sandy-new-york>

Training and Capacity Building Workshop on Trans-boundary Protected Areas, Dec. 17–21, 2012, Sundarbans, Bangladesh



Photo © SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Coastal Zone Management Centre carried out a training and capacity building workshop on transboundary protected areas in collaboration with the Bangladesh Forest Department and other

stakeholders in Bangladesh. The workshop aimed to share experiences and knowledge, and improve the overall understanding about the conservation and management of the Sundarbans and its coastal ecosystems with a special emphasis on community interface. A total of 25 participants, including representatives from five SAARC Member States, namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka, participated in the workshop. For more information, please visit <http://www.sczmc.org/434/sundarbans-workshop-2012-2>

WOTR's Event: Making Policy work for Grassroots, Dec. 5, 2012, Doha, Qatar

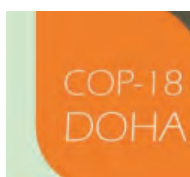


Photo © WOTR

The Watershed Organization Trust (WOTR) released to the Adaptation Committee a set of recommendations arising out of the discussions at COP, which addressed the policy support that local self-government institutions need to effectively build adaptive capacities to climate change in dry lands. The recommendations call for the allocation of financial resources to dry land communities in developing countries, specifying that at least 5% of funds need to be spent on building local and regional research capabilities embedded with the communities. They also point out that scaling up of successful methodologies and good practices requires their adjustment to local context or redevelopment to suit local conditions. For more information, please visit <http://www.wotr.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Making-Policy-work-for-Grassroots-Draft-Recommendations-to-the-Adaptation-Committee.pdf>

ICCIP Launches 'Evaluating Climate Change Adaptation Projects (ECCAP)'



The International Climate Change Information Programme has started an initiative called Evaluating Climate Change Adaptation Projects (ECCAP) to ensure the focus on the evaluation of the effectiveness and impacts of climate change adaptation projects in a dynamic way. At present, more than 300 internationally funded

climate change adaptation projects are being implemented with a combined budget exceeding US\$1 billion. But few of them provide external assessments

of their effectiveness or meet appropriate quality control procedures. ECCAP intends to fill this gap by assisting international agencies in reviewing their projects' scope and effectiveness, and facilitating the identification of shortcomings that prevent the achievement of the expected results. For more details, please visit http://www.haw-hamburg.de/fileadmin/user_upload/FakLS/07Forschung/FTZ-ALS/Projekte/PDF/2012_flyer_ICCIP_2_.pdf

MENA Countries to Form a Regional Adaptation Initiative for Mountains



Photo © Mountain Partnership

Mountain Partnership focal points and ministerial representatives from Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen discussed

climate change impacts faced by their countries, and the new and existing funding mechanisms as well as tools related to climate change with the aim of establishing a platform for promoting adaptation measures and adaptive capacity. They agreed to form a regional initiative for mountains in the Middle East and North African (MENA) region within the context of the Mountain Partnership. For more details, please visit <http://www.mountainpartnership.org/news/news-detail/en/c/167188>

New National Climate Change Policy & Action Plan for Tuvalu



New National Climate Change Policy & Action Plan for Tuvalu Photo © SPREP

Tuvalu's National Climate Change Policy (TCCP) and their National Strategic Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (NSAP) were launched by Tuvalu Prime Minister in late September, 2012. TCCP and NSAP were developed following nationwide consultation facilitated by

the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The Prime Minister called on donors, Tuvalu Development Partners and regional organisations to provide continuous support for the implementation of these initiatives. For more information, please visit http://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/Newsletters/CCM_Nov_2012.pdf

Southwest Pacific Tropical Cyclone Outlook

Meteorological forecasting centres across the Pacific have forecast a near average or slightly above average number of tropical cyclones for the 2012–2013 season (November 2012 to April 2013). The Pacific is expected to face nine to 12 named cyclones in the 2012–2013 season. Tropical cyclone activity east of the International Dateline is expected to be normal, with above normal activity for Niue and Tonga during the second half of the season. Most of the countries west of the International Dateline, including Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia and Fiji are likely to experience close to normal or slightly above normal activity. For more information, please visit http://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/Newsletters/CCM_Nov_2012.pdf

Pacific Climate Change Portal Training Workshop, Nov. 6–8, 2012, Suva, Fiji



Photo © SPREP

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) conducted a workshop on Pacific Climate Change Portal Training with participation from countries such as Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and organisations like Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The workshop trained participants on how to use the portal and discussed areas of improvement or additional features for the portal. The portal will be maintained and improved by a network of portal editors and users built through the workshop. For more information, please visit <http://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/Newsletters/ccm%20december%202012%20-%20final.pdf>

Opinion: Targeted Finance Needed for Advancing New Climate-resilient and Low-carbon Technologies



Photo © ADB

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has called for massive investment to develop and deploy climate-friendly technologies in Asia and the Pacific. Introducing the pilot Asia-Pacific Climate Technology Finance Center (CTFC) established by it as a step forward to this shift, ADB underlined the importance of “encouraging additional private sector investment through well placed public financing mechanisms, as well as overcoming policy, institutional, information and risk barriers to investment”. A partnership among ADB, the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Environment Programme, CTFC engages with investors and technology suppliers for mobilising finance. For more information, please visit <http://www.adb.org/news/huge-financing-gap-must-be-filled-promote-climate-friendly-technology-adb?ref=themes/climate-change/news>

Webinar: Climate Adaptation - Urgencies and Opportunities for Business, Oct. 22, 2012



Higher Ground Foundation (HGF) organised a webinar on the theme of adaptation urgencies and opportunities for business, underscoring the importance of

addressing climate change adaptation in vulnerable communities for the business community. This webinar focused on adaptation urgencies as well as opportunities for business keeping in mind the insights from different spheres. The speakers faced a slew of questions on issues such as the exigency for businesses to act, opportunities that climate adaptation can bring to businesses, challenges that organisations face from different sectors, and the ways to finance climate adaptation. For more information, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPyJOM7i8cM>

UPCOMING CCA EVENTS

International Conference on 'Climate Change, Water Resources and Disasters in Mountainous Regions: Building Resilience to Changing Climate', Nov. 27–29 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal



Langtang area and Gosaikunda lake
Photo © SOHAM Nepal

The Society of Hydrologists and Meteorologists Nepal (SOHAM) in association with Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM),

Government of Nepal (GoN) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation International Hydrological Programme Nepal (UNESCO IHP-Nepal), is organising a conference on "Climate Change, Water Resources and Disasters in Mountainous Regions: Building Resilience to Changing Climate" in November this year. The conference, which will be held in Kathmandu from November 27 to 29, invites scientists, engineers, planners and development workers to present their research outcomes, observations, findings and innovative ideas on this theme. Selected peer reviewed papers will be published in the Journal of Hydrology and Meteorology published by SOHAM-Nepal. For more information, please visit <http://www.soham.org.np/news/international-conference.pdf>

CCA INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Articles

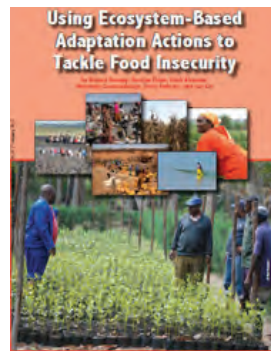
Urban Climate Resilience Framework

This article describes an operational framework that indicates how characteristics of resilience can be synthesised from research efforts of many different disciplines. The conceptual framework provides practical guidance on building resilience now, rather than anticipating changes at some time in future. This framework is built to guide vulnerability assessment, structure planning processes for local interventions and enhance exchange of learning



in building resilience. This framework has been used by cities in Indonesia, India, Thailand and Vietnam to plan climate adaptation actions. For more information, please visit <http://www.acccrn.org/news-and-events/entries/2013/01/22/urban-climate-resilience-framework-iset-international>

Using Ecosystem-based Adaptation Actions to Tackle Food Insecurity



This article examines benefits that could be generated through the use of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA). The article argues that investment in EbA is a key to job creation that simultaneously contributes to poverty eradication and sustainable long-term

food security. Such investments enhance the competitiveness of domestic production, increase farmers' earnings and improve the affordability of food for the poor. For more information, please visit <http://www.africa.ganadapt.org/index.php/knowledge-base/publications/item/180-using-ecosystem-based-adaptation-actions-to-tackle-food-insecurity>

Climate Change and Ecosystem-based Adaptation: A New Pragmatic Approach to Buffering Climate Change Impacts



The article maintains that Ecosystem-based Approaches for Adaptation (EbA) is a flexible strategy that can cope with the magnitude,

speed, and uncertainty of climate change. EbA buffers human communities from natural hazards, erosion and flooding, enables people and biodiversity to move better to more viable habitats as the climate changes, secures water resources, and enhances critical ecosystem services. Though EbA still remains under-utilised by policymakers and associated stakeholders, it provides a viable strategy for pursuing development goals simultaneously with climate change adaptation and mitigation targets. For more information, please visit http://www.africa.ganadapt.org/index.php/knowledge-base/publications/item/178-climate_change_and_ecosystem-based_adaptation-_a_new_pragmatic_approach_to_buffering_climate_change_impacts

Reports

Participatory Action Research on Climate Risk Management, Bangladesh



This report summarises findings from vulnerability and needs assessments conducted in four villages of Bangladesh that are experiencing different levels of soil salinity. It reviews the strengths and weaknesses of the current coping strategies as well as the potential of an index-based insurance scheme, designed diversification,

and better information products to improve adaptive capacity. Different intervention schemes are recommended to address key concerns that vary according to the level of soil salinity. These include integrated paddy and prawn/freshwater shrimps/carp production followed by vegetable production, rainwater harvesting, and integrated shrimp and paddy production. For more information, please visit http://www.worldfishcenter.org/resource_centre/WF_3448.pdf

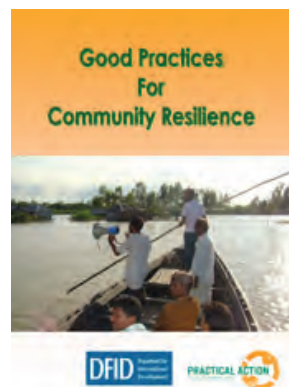
Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction - Good Practice



The report introduces ten good practices that Mercy Corps Nepal identified based on its field experiences in community-based disaster risk reduction.

The report suggests several ways forward for communities to understand DRR field practices such as early warning systems, and evacuation, and search and rescue teams. For more information, please visit http://www.preventionweb.net/files/10479_10479CommunityBasedDRRGoodPracticeR.pdf

Good Practices for Community Resilience



This report summarises results and findings from the Practical Action - Bangladesh project "Mainstreaming Livelihood-centred Approaches to Disaster Management" implemented in the Sirajganj District, Bangladesh, highlighting the success factors and lessons learnt with

respect to increasing community resilience towards vulnerabilities. It emphasises that vulnerability to disaster risks can be minimised while contributing to poverty reduction by increasing the resilience of poor communities' livelihoods. It also highlights other measures for the betterment of poor communities such as strengthening of community cohesion and improvement of informed-decision making capacity. For more information, please visit <http://practicalaction.org/docs/ia1/good-practices-community-resilience-052009.pdf>

APN Report: Assessment of Climate Change Risks and Adaptation Options for Secondary Cities in Southwestern Bangladesh and Central Vietnam



This report discusses methodologies and results of two case studies aimed at developing and testing a participatory risk assessment toolkit for the fast-growing secondary cities of Satkhira (Bangladesh) and Huế (Vietnam) which are both exposed to rapid urban development and existing

vulnerability to climate-related impacts such as floods and storms. The case studies were conducted by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) in Australia, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Southern Institute for Sustainable Development (SISD) and Center for Social Research and Development (CSR) in Vietnam under the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) project. For more information, please visit <http://www.apn-gcr.org/resources/archive/files/2f6388a716f115633fb7ce4f86a9e72b.pdf>

Proceedings: United Nations Climate Change Conference, Nov. 26–Dec. 8, 2012, Doha, Qatar

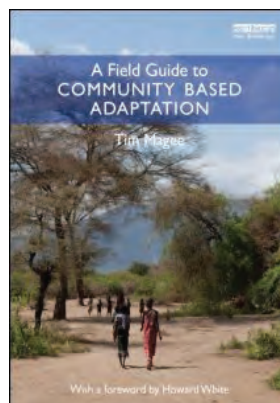
This ADB report provides a summary of the outcomes of the COP 18 meetings in Doha and ADB's participation during the meetings. The outcomes of this conference consist of a series of decisions termed the Doha Climate Gateway, which include five actions to be carried out, namely the Kyoto Protocol amendment; the establishment of a timetable for a universal climate change agreement covering all countries from 2020; to be adopted by 2015; advancement towards the completion of new mechanisms to channel finance and technology to developing nations; agreement to encourage developed countries to increase efforts to provide long-term finance; and advancement towards institutional arrangements to help developing countries deal with climate-related loss and damage. For more information, please visit <http://www.adb.org/documents/united-nations-climate-change-conference?ref=themes/climate-change/publications>

Publications

Towards Resilience: A Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

The Emergency Capacity Building Project (ECB) has developed a guide to facilitate development organisations in exploring a solution to the reduction of disaster and climate risks through their everyday work. It covers the essential introductory information, principles, guidelines, case studies, useful tools and resources needed to address disaster reduction and climate change adaptation in an integrated manner. The guide introduces the basic concepts of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation by identifying 10 basic principles for an integrated approach to build resilience. It also describes the ways to apply them in key sectors, with diverse populations, and in different contexts. The guide can be found online in English, French and Spanish at <http://www.ecbproject.org/new-practitioners-guide-to-disaster-risk-reduction-drr/practitioners-guide-to-drr--cca>

Field Guide to Community Based Adaptation



This guide provides a system of building block activities for staff on the ground for developing and implementing successful community-based adaptation projects. It also equips development staff with tools and techniques needed to improve current project effectiveness, to introduce community-based adaptation into organisational programming, and to generate new projects. For more information on this handbook, please visit <http://www.csd-i.org/csd-i-blog/2013/1/9/book-launch-field-guide-to-community-based-adaptation.html>

Flash Flood Risk Management: A Training of Trainers Manual



This manual aims to develop regional capacity to manage flash flood risks. It is equipped with a training curriculum and resource materials that are useful for conducting basic training in flash flood risk management for trainers. The manual lists how different measures and perspectives can be incorporated into flash flood management training. For more information, please visit http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/icimod-flash_flood_risk_management.pdf

Films/Videos

Learning from Thailand's Floods



This short film tells us how Thailand dealt with flood in 2012, and how important it is to share both good and bad experiences in

flood risk management. Representatives from five Vietnamese cities visited the Thai cities of Ayutthaya and Bangkok last year, and learnt about the key issues that need to be addressed for mitigating both climate- and human-induced risks of flooding, which is a common issue in many Asian cities. To watch the short film, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pq9u4MKTx5M&feature=youtu.be>

Newsletters

ACCCRN Launches Newsletter



Photo ©Nic Dunlop

Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) launched its first edition of a quarterly e-newsletter, Asia Resilience Brief, recently. Each

issue of the Asia Resilience Brief will highlight new developments in the field of urban climate change resilience and updates on ACCCRN activities. For more information, please visit <http://www.acccrn.org>

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Mainstreaming Gender and Climate Change in Nepal



This working paper analyses the extent to which gender differences are reflected in the development of policies and plans for adaptation to climate change in Nepal,

and examines opportunities and progress made towards mainstreaming gender into the policies.

An interesting finding is that despite there being an understanding of the relationship between gender, poverty, and vulnerability with regards to climate change, there have been insufficient efforts to incorporate gender analysis into the development and implementation of climate change laws. The study recommends a set of mechanisms that could help address the mainstreaming of gender in climate change policies in Nepal. For more information, please visit <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/10033IIED.pdf>

Building Resilience to Climate Change: Adaptation Technical Resources

This flyer provides a brief summary of the technical resources aimed to support ADB's operations departments and its Developing Member Countries (DMC) partners to identify climate change risks to development investments; and to plan for, implement, monitor and evaluate climate risk management interventions. To support these actions, ADB is developing and pilot testing a set of adaptation technical resources mainly to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate climate risk management interventions. For more information, please visit <http://www.adb.org/publications/building-resilience-climate-change-adaptation-technical-resources?ref=themes/climate-change/publications>

OPPORTUNITIES

Online Training Course: Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework, Feb. 18 - Mar. 29, 2013



Photo ©Earthquake & Megacities Initiatives

The Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI) is offering an on-line course on disaster risk management. Participants will learn about contemporary concepts and practices in disaster risk management and tools and methods that can be used for shifting from reactive to proactive approaches towards disaster risk reduction (DRR). Participants will also gain an understanding on how to develop DRR plans and activities, and how to work with multi-stakeholders to link DRR to sustainable development and climate change adaptation. For more information, please visit http://www.emi-megacities.org/upload/ndrmp/CDRMF_Brochure_2013.pdf

E-learning Course on Climate Change Diplomacy: Negotiating Effectively under UNFCCC, Feb. 25–Apr. 21, 2013

This online course aims to improve a participant's understanding of climate change policy frameworks by teaching the science, causes and impacts of climate change, the history of the policy making process as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) framework. This course will also enable participants to learn about the key issues in the ongoing international climate change negotiations, and ways to move forward from the outcomes of COP18. For more information, please visit <http://www.wedo.org/news/reminder-online-course-on-climate-change-diplomacy-negotiating-effectively-under-the-unfccc>

Training Workshop on Iterative Risk Management for Climate Change Adaptation, Apr. 22-26, 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) is organizing a training workshop on iterative risk management for climate change adaptation from 22-26 April 2013 in Bangkok. Participants will learn about how to design and implement iterative and flexible risk management plans and re-evaluate the plans so as to ensure that information is incorporated into the plans at regular intervals. Participants will also gain an understanding of the iterative risk management process in view of the complexities and uncertainties inherent in climate-related risks. For more details, please visit <http://www.rimes.int/em/?p=1159>

Vacancy at SEI Asia Centre: Communications Coordinator Position

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Asia Centre is seeking an experienced communications expert to serve as full-time SEI Communications Coordinator in Asia. The duty location will be in Bangkok, Thailand. The application deadline is February 28, 2013. For more information, please visit <http://www.sei-international.org/working-for-sei/communications-coordinator-sei-bangkok>

Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN)



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