e-communiqué
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Welcome to the platform that gives you up-to-date information on climate change adaptation activities happening in the region. This 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 mobilizing 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

APAN CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Coming Soon: 5th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum 2016
17-19 October 2016 | Colombo, Sri Lanka

The Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum is among the biggest climate change adaptation events in the region, drawing hundreds of climate change adaptation practitioners, as well as officials and top experts from government agencies, development partner organizations, academia, and the private sector. This year, the 5th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum will be hosted by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment of the Government of Sri Lanka. The Forum will be held from 17-19 October 2016 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Topics for this year’s Forum will include the national adaptation plan (NAP) process, financing for adaptation, climate resilience development, and multi-actor cross learning.

More information about the Forum, including how to register and participate, will be available on the APAN web portal soon: http://asiapacificadapt.net/
e-Discussion Report: The APAN Exchange Series – “How Gender Integration Leads to Better Climate Change Adaptation”

For this 11th APAN Exchange, Dr. Peter King, Adaptation Project Preparation and Finance Senior Advisor for the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project teamed up with Brianna Ficcadenti, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s Senior Technical Specialist for Climate Change Adaptation and Gender to engage APAN community members in a robust email-based discussion on “How Gender Integration Leads to Better Climate Change Adaptation.”

The Exchange drew responses from government officials representing the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust at Bangladesh’s Ministry of Environment & Forests and Papua New Guinea’s Office of Climate Change and Development, as well as from adaptation practitioners from the Asian Development Bank. They shared their activities on supporting women’s empowerment in adaptation planning and a project on quantifying the costs and benefits of gender mainstreaming in adaptation projects.

For the full transcript of the discussion, visit: http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/exchange/11th-exchange-series.
More equality and justice in climate action
4 May 2016 | Overseas Development Institute, London, United Kingdom

Why does gender equality matter in climate-related programming? What does “inclusive” programming look like in practice? And, do climate programmes in cities pose any special challenges or opportunities for advancing gender equality? These are some of the questions that ODI’s expert panel will debate and discuss at this interactive event. Speakers will present and respond to the findings of leading-edge research that aims to address major knowledge gaps on the gender dimensions of climate change mitigation, adaptation and development. Commissioned by CDKN, the research was carried out by a cross-cultural team at Practical Action Consulting and IDS Sussex. The study involved field work in urban areas of Peru, Kenya and India.

For further details about the event and speakers, please visit http://cdkn.org/2016/04/gender-equality-in-climate-action/?loclang=en_gb
To register to attend in person or to take part online, please visit http://www.odi.org/events/4359-more-equality-and-justice-climate-action

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

10th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change (CBA10): Enhancing urban community resilience
21 – 28 April 2016 | Dhaka, Bangladesh

On its 10th anniversary, the CBA10 shared and consolidated the latest development in community-based adaptation practices, policy and theory across sectors globally. It also strengthened the existing network of practitioners, policymakers, planners, and donors on all levels of community-based adaptation. The conference hosted a high-level session with which speakers from IIED, UNEP, and the academe shared their keynotes. There were also optional field visits in select CBA projects in different ecosystems across Bangladesh.

For more information about the CBA10 conference, please visit http://www.iied.org/register-now-for-10th-international-conference-community-based-adaptation-climate-change-cba10
Adaptation Futures 2016
10 – 13 May 2016 | Rotterdam, Netherlands

Adaptation Futures is the biennial conference of the Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA). In 2016 the European Commission and the Government of the Netherlands co-host the fourth edition, to be held from 10-13 May 2016 in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Adaptation Futures 2016 is where scholars, practitioners, policy makers and business people from all around the world go to connect, learn and inspire. It highlights adaptation practices and solutions for people, governments and businesses. The programme addresses all sectors and all parts of the world. You can subscribe to the newsletter and receive updates on the programme.

For more information, visit http://www.adaptationfutures2016.org/conference/programme

The 2016 Oxford Adaptation Academy: Leadership Course for Climate Practitioners
14 – 26 August 2016 | Centre for the Environment, Oxford University, England

The Oxford Adaptation Academy is a joint venture between the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford University, and the Global Climate Adaptation Partnership (GCAP).

The two-week residential course runs from 14 – 26 August exposes climate practitioners to the links between climate science, vulnerability and decision making. Now in its 7th year, its alumni are drawn from UN organisations, development banks, NGOs and government. The following two videos that were filmed at the 2015 Academy demonstrate why participants have found this course so distinctive and worthwhile.

Details about the programme, fees and accommodation can be found on the GCAP website. http://www.climateadaptation.cc/

Video 1: https://lnkd.in/d-8Mj7y

Video 2: http://tinyurl.com/zko2hv5
Supporting the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) Process in Bangladesh

12 February 2016

CDKN supported the Government of Bangladesh in developing their Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), a pioneering exercise that was undertaken by 184 nations until December 2015 to feed into the global post-2020 climate deal. The unique process followed brought clearer understanding on the requisites for implementation of Paris Climate Agreement 2015, as well as wider reflections on the challenges and opportunities facing governments around the world when translating climate plans such as INDCs into action. The observations and reflections of the project team; Ricardo AEA has been captured in a learning paper.


3rd Climate Services User Forum for the Water Sector (CSUF-Water-3) in South Asia

27 – 28 April 2016 | Colombo, Sri Lanka

This forum has been jointly organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SAS) in association with WMO’s South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF-8) held on 25 – 26 April 2016. CSUF-Water-3’s main purpose was to synergize the water and climate community within South Asian countries in making the best use of climate services and information provided through SASCOF efforts. The forum had five outlined objectives which included the consideration of making seasonal climate predictions available for the South Asian region including associated implications for water availability and drought and the exploration of the improvements needed to advance the use of climate information and predictions for water management.

To learn more about the forum and download its concept note, please visit http://www.gwp.org/en/gwp-south-asia/GWP-SAS-IN-ACTION/News-and-Activities/3rd-Climate-Services-User-Forum-for-the-Water-Sector-CSUF-Water-3-in-South-Asia/
In 2010, the Philippine government introduced a resettlement programme to remove all informal settlers living along vulnerable waterways in Metro Manila. The introduction of the People’s Plan (PP) as the legal framework for the programme has become a formidable tool to address the exclusionary patterns of governance and development that perpetuate informality and push informal settlers to the peripheries of social, economic and political life in the cities.

Guided by questions such as: Will the PP enable poor and marginalised citizens to form new, more empowered types of relationship with the state, civil society and other stakeholders?; Will it reshape institutional rules and the planning and decision-making process of the government’s housing and resettlement scheme?; and What lessons can be taken from the PP with regard to how ‘climate resilience’ can be built into urban governance programme and planning?, this study examines the institutional networks required to link processes of community-level deliberation to city- and national-level processes of decision-making and implementation.

To know more of the study findings, please visit: http://pubs.iied.org/10771IIED.html?k=acccrn

This report summarises a series of studies carried out by a multi-disciplinary team of Thai scholars. It focuses on the dynamics of urbanisation and climate change risks, and on the linkages between urbanisation, climate change and emerging patterns of urban poverty and vulnerability. It provides new and key insights, serving as a comprehensive background foundation for further research on urban climate vulnerability and resilience. Urbanisation processes as transformative processes are under-researched themes, not only in Thailand, but also in other countries in Southeast Asia. Rapid physical and social transformations are taking place in these countries, yet the implications contributing to vulnerability are less well-understood. The research has focused on case studies from established and growing urban centres from across the country – Bangkok and the neighbouring area of Lad Krabang, Hat Yai, Chiang Mai, Udon Thani and Khon Kaen. Each case study presents its own specific insights into the history, drivers and implications of urbanisation, and also highlights many similarities. Drawing on a review of historical patterns of urbanisation and future risks associated with climate change, this research argues for a fundamental rethinking of future urbanisation in Thailand. This is a future that will need to be very different from current trajectories of urbanisation, based on a policy process that will need to be founded on informed public dialogue.

For more information, visit http://pubs.iied.org/10770IIED.html?k=acccrn
Climate change and urban health vulnerability

March 2016 | International Institute for Environment and Development

There is increasing awareness of the impacts of climate change on the health of urban residents. Although Thailand has seen relatively low rates of urbanisation compared to its ASEAN counterparts, cities across the country are growing. This study examines the climate change and urban health vulnerability of suburban Pralab, Khon Kaen City, in the northeast of Thailand. Empirical data is drawn from a field study using focus groups and in-depth interviews, and statistics recorded by local government agencies, as well as previous recent research on the study site. This study found that the urbanization of Khon Kaen has led to profound physical and socio-economic changes in Pralab. Infrastructure development, such as roads, often acts as dykes, preventing or slowing water drainage, leading to longer periods of flooding. The effect of the floods on the health of the residents is intensified by wastewater discharged from the city drainage system into the suburban area of Pralab. The study examines the increased health vulnerability of suburban areas, which can be attributed to urban growth and climate change, and puts forwards recommendations to deal with the impacts of increasing climate variability.

For more information, visit http://pubs.iied.org/10774IIED.html?k=acccrn

ICLEI SEAS presents climate change training manuals for women and youth

April 2016 | ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Southeast Asia

ICLEI Southeast Asia Secretariat (ICLEI SEAS) has published two training manuals, “Women and Climate Change Manual” and “Educating the Filipino Youth on Climate Change: A Training Manual for Teachers,” the product of a joint initiative by ICLEI SEAS and ICLEI Japan Office supported by the Japan Fund for Global Environment. The project, “Community Actions and City-to-City Exchange Cooperation in the Philippines,” sought to catalyze climate change action among women and youth in the municipality of Tubigon, Philippines.

For more information and to access the publications, visit http://seas.iclei.org/index.php?id=3515