

e-communiqué

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APAN Calendar of Activities	1
Climate Change Adaptation News	2
CCA Information Resources and Knowledge Products	3
Opportunities	5

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 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

Short Course on Climate-Agriculture-Impact Modelling

4-8 September 2017 | SEARCA Headquarters, the Philippines



A total of 33 representatives from 16 partner organisations convened at a workshop held at Kasetsart SEARCA conducted a Short Course on Cropping Systems Models and its Application for Climate Impact Assessment from 4-8 September 2017 at the SEARCA Headquarters. The course is partially-funded by the Food Security Center (FSC) based at the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart, Germany.

For more info, visit <http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/cchamsea/news/3124-searca-to-hold-short-course-on-climate-agriculture-impact-modelling>

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

Reaching the Most Vulnerable Across the Border: Community-based Flood Early Warning Systems

12 August 2017, ICIMOD

The Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) is prone to natural hazards. Climate change and its impacts exacerbate this susceptibility. Floods and flash floods are major natural hazards in the HKH and are catastrophic to downstream communities. Many rivers and tributaries flowing from the mountains and hills of Nepal enter the plains of India forming flat, flood-prone, and partially waterlogged areas. Light to heavy rainfall in the Shivalik Hills of Nepal can cause flash floods and huge losses of lives and livelihoods. Though early warning systems have been developed at the global, regional, and national levels to provide flood information, there are gaps -- identified by the Hyogo Protocol and the United Nations Forum Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Special Report on Extreme Events and Disasters (SREX 2012) -- in getting this information to communities that are most vulnerable. To address this challenge, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is piloting a community-based flood early warning system (CBFEWS), an integrated system of tools and plans in which upstream communities, upon detecting flood risk, disseminate the information to vulnerable downstream communities for preparedness and response to save lives and livelihoods.

Source: Based on UNISDR, 2006, <http://www.unisdr.org/2006/ppew/whats-ew/basics-ew.htm>

For more information, visit: <http://www.icimod.org/?q=28515>

ADB Supports Disaster-Resilient Agriculture in Cambodia

26 September 2017, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Board of Directors has approved \$50 million in additional financing to help boost agricultural productivity and improve smallholder farmers' access to markets in 271 communes in Tonle Sap Basin, which is prone to natural calamities. The Tonle Sap Poverty Reduction and Smallholder Development Project was originally approved in December 2009 with a total amount of \$51.15 million. It has since supported community-driven development in rural roads and other infrastructure and improved agriculture and people's livelihoods in 196 communes in five provinces, including Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, and Tboung Khmum. The additional support will add a disaster risk management element to the program and help expand it to cover 75 more communes in Kampong Thom and two new provinces, Battambang and Prey Veng.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.adb.org/news/adb-supports-disaster-resilient-agriculture-cambodia>



Four elements of community-based flood early warning system (CBFEWS)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

PUBLICATIONS

Agriculture and Development Notes Volume 8 Number 3: BINHI Tree for the Future: Debunking the Reasons Not to Plant Native Trees



Planting native trees is vital in restoring the forest cover and its biodiversity resources. For any reforestation effort to flourish, however, people must appreciate the key role that native trees portray. The decline of the forest cover of the

Philippines began during the three-century Spanish colonization. Reduccion, encomienda, and hacienda caused 6M hectare (ha) decrease in the country's total forest resource. The greatest forest degradation in the country's history was during the American period when Philippine Mahogany was famous in the world market, and log export constituted the main sources of the national income. The forest cover continued its downturn at the end of World War II, and 20th century ended with only 18.3 percent forest cover remaining. In 2010, the total forest cover was 6.84M ha, based on the Philippine Forestry Statistics. By 2011, the Philippines landed fourth on Conservation International's list of "World's 10 Most Threatened Forest Hotspots," with 7 percent remaining forest, predominantly tropical and subtropical moist broadleaf forests in 2011. Of the 694 threatened plant species in the country, 539 are endemic, including the Philippine dipterocarps (e.g., ironwood, ebony, oaks, and nutmegs). Now, Philippine biodiversity remains to be one of the most threatened in the world, with 380 threatened tree species of which 40 are critically endangered, 57 are endangered, and 77 are vulnerable. The most beautiful and unique tree species found only in the country are in serious danger of being extinct forever.

For more information:

<http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/climate-change-adaptation-knowledge-showcases-5/adaptation-notes/3139-binhi-tree-for-the-future-debunking-the-reasons-not-to-plant-native-trees>

REPORTS

Climate-Resilient Practices for Sustainability of Large Cardamom Production Systems in Nepal



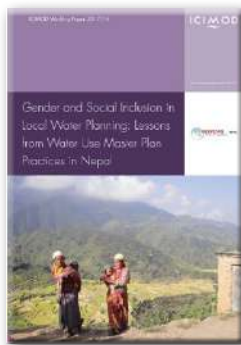
This Farmers Resource Book is based on a series of field consultations with large cardamom growers, field observations, focus group discussions, and surveys conducted in the large cardamom farming areas of Sikkim and the Kalimpong region of West Bengal, India,

and Taplejung District, Nepal. A large amount of available literature was reviewed to relate and validate the information. This Farmers Resource Book is a ready-made guide for large cardamom farmers to learn, share, and exchange knowledge and experiences for reviving and expanding large cardamom cultivation in Nepal and elsewhere. It is envisaged that the cultivation of large cardamom, adopting appropriate climate-resilient practices and management procedures, will bring a significant change in the sustainability of agro ecologically sound large cardamom-based traditional farming systems. This change will contribute immensely to the improvement of livelihoods of the marginal farmers in Nepal and in other countries where large cardamom is growing.

For more information;

Climate-Resilient Practices for Sustainability of Large Cardamom Production Systems in Nepal: Resource Book for Farmers : ICIMOD Manual 2017/6

Gender and Social Inclusion in Local Water Planning Lessons from Water Use Master Plan Practices in Nepal



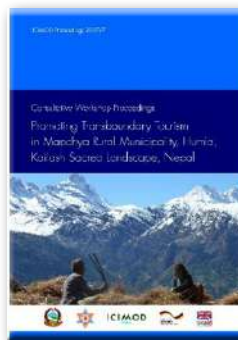
Problems arising from water scarcity and water-induced disasters are increasing due to factors induced by climatic variability as well as anthropogenic changes. In such a situation, power inherent to social hierarchy has become a means of controlling water resources

and securing access. Moreover, in many cases the increased competition for water has led some to achieve individual water goals at the cost of collective goals, creating social conflict and chaos and further increasing gender inequity in water. Water related decisions are important not only to ensure access to water, but also to gain and expand the power base that is built through accessing water. Water decisions are gendered and often in the hands of some powerful men in most societies. Access to water is often a challenge for women and marginalized members of society. Given the changing demographics of Nepal, with increased long-term male migration for remittance-based foreign employment, the overall responsibilities, including water works, have fallen on women's shoulders. Gender concerns in water sector development have hence become more important than ever.

For more information;

[Gender and Social Inclusion in Local Water Planning: Lessons from Water Use Master Plan Practices in Nepal : ICIMOD Working Paper 2017/16](#)

Promoting Transboundary Tourism in Mapchya Rural Municipality, Humla, Kailash Sacred Landscape, Nepal



A consultation workshop was organized by the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), Research Centre for Applied Science and Technology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal, (RECAST) and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain

Development (ICIMOD) to understand issues, challenges and opportunities for promotion of transboundary tourism in the Kailash Sacred Landscape of Mapchya Rural Municipality, Nepal. The event provided a platform for stakeholders including government agencies, tour operators, Limi youth group, community representatives from Limi Valley, local authorities of Mapchya Rural Municipality, and experts of Limi/ Humla to work towards a common vision in promoting Humla as a unique tourism destination. The stakeholders noted that the sacred Mount Kailash and Lake Manasarovar, natural and cultural assets of Humla offer an opportunity to promote transboundary heritage tourism and ecotourism. These inherent tourism assets of global and local cultural and environment values and economic scope are the binding threads for transboundary tourism collaborations. Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development and the Great Himalayan Trail (GHT) initiatives are important avenues for harnessing both heritage and ecotourism for the livelihood co-benefits in the landscape.

For more information;

[Promoting Transboundary Tourism in Mapchya Rural Municipality, Humla, Kailash Sacred Landscape, Nepal, 5 July 2017, Kathmandu, Nepal : ICIMOD Proceedings 2017/7](#)

Summary for Policy Makers - De-populating Villages in the Kailash Sacred Landscape, India: Rethinking Policy Interventions

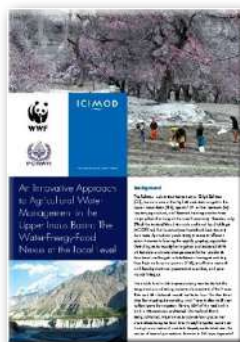


This study uses mixed methods to derive a clearer picture of migration trends, patterns, and drivers and the resultant socio-demographic changes.

For more information;

[Summary for Policy Makers - De-populating Villages in the Kailash Sacred Landscape, India: Rethinking Policy Interventions](#)

An Innovative Approach to Agricultural Water Management in the Upper Indus Basin : The Water-Energy-Food Nexus at the Local Level



The Pakistani administrative territory of Gilgit Baltistan (GB), home to one of the highest mountain ranges in the Upper Indus Basin (UIB), spans 7.24 million hectares (ha). Tourism, agriculture, and livestock herding are the three major pillars that support the area's economy.

However, only 2% of the territory's land is arable and small landholdings (<0.0075 ha) that focus only on household food security dominate. Agricultural productivity is hence insufficient when it comes to feeding the rapidly growing population. Dwindling water supply for irrigation and seasonal shifts attributable to climate change create further problems. Additional challenges include labour shortages resulting from high male out-migration (41%), insufficient research and development and government subsidies, and poor market linkages.

For more information;

[An Innovative Approach to Agricultural Water Management in the Upper Indus Basin : The Water-Energy-Food Nexus at the Local Level](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

SEARCA Photo Contest 2017 is on!



As SEARCA approaches goals completion for its 10th five-year plan, it takes stock of gains made in its plans, further fueling the momentum in contributing to inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural development in Southeast Asia. Accordingly, along this general track of the Center, the SEARCA PHOTO CONTEST 2017 intends to curate images bustling with innovators, change-makers, participative, active, and dedicated peoples of Southeast Asia, framed against the backdrop of better life in agriculture that they continue to pursue, whether in rural or in urban settings. The 11th photo contest will showcase the faces behind the progress of the sector, alongside the gains that define this status.

For more information, visit;

<http://photocontest.searca.org/>

The call for applications to participate in the second run of the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation training programme is now open!



After a successful run of the first **training programme on the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA)** on 21 August - 1 September 2017, the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific at the Asian Institute of Technology, in cooperation with UNDP, have now opened the call for applications to participate in the second run of this training programme. The course will take place between **12-23 March 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand** (exact location to be confirmed). It will aim to equip government officials and other stakeholders in the Asia and

the Pacific region with economic tools necessary to assess and evaluate various interventions for designing climate adaptation projects and policies, formulate national adaptation plans, and access climate finance for adaptation action. To apply, follow the instructions in the [ECCA website](#). Applications will only be accepted through this site. Call for **applications will remain open until 11 December 2017**.

For more information, visit: <https://www.ecca.rrcap.ait.asia/>

APAN PARTNERS





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