

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 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

23 Participants Trained on Economic Analysis for Climate Change Adaptation Projects



23 participants from 17 countries in Asia - Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam - spent 10 days learning the ins and outs of economic analysis for climate change adaptation projects. In the end, all participants were highly satisfied, not only with the quality of the training, but also with the opportunity to establish new professional networks with some trainees forging interesting collaborations for their future work.

“Thank you very much for your diligent support throughout the training. The training was very useful and delivered in an understandable and practical way. More than that, we the participants, were brought closer together and expect to cooperatively join in projects in the near future. Best wishes to AIT, CCA teams and all my friends, and hope to have a chance to participate in other activities.” ECCA participant from Vietnam



The second run of the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA) training programme took place between 26 February and 9 March 2018, at the Sukosol Hotel in Bangkok. Participants spent the first week learning the basics of proposal development for climate change projects and where economic analysis feeds into it, which is a requirement by some key financiers such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The climate change impacts on economic sectors, especially on agriculture, were particularly discussed. There was also time for exercises and games related to the training topics - an element that was especially appreciated by participants. On the second week, the focus was on the necessary steps in conducting a cost benefit analysis (CBA) of different adaptation options with the trainer, Benoit Laplante, providing many useful insights and practical examples from his vast experience doing economic analysis for GCF, World Bank and Asian Development Bank climate change projects in Asia. Following the innovation from the first ECCA run to introduce off-hours mentoring, participants also had the opportunity to consult with senior experts during the “evening clinics”, as well as during some sessions that were dedicated to provide feedback on participants’ project ideas.

With some participants working in country teams - Bangladesh, Indonesia and Philippines - a total of 15 project ideas were developed, some of which show potential for future development and may rely on AIT’s follow-up mentoring and advisory opportunities.

“Overall, very useful. I definitely will use more economic analysis at a scale relevant to my work. This week has been a wonderful inspiration, a refresher, and beyond in terms of learning what have been the challenges or errors made in real world. I will further look into the use of CBA (or other techniques) in the context of the current and potential climate related future work.” ECCA Participant

APAN CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

ICIMOD Supports LAKI through Side Events at Major International Conferences



The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) supported two Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) side events in 2017. These events brought together experts and practitioners to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in various subregions and areas of vulnerabilities. ICIMOD is leading the LAKI process, a collaborative initiative between the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), in the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH).

For more information, visit:

<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/News/Pages/Outcomes-of-LAKI-side-event.aspx>

<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/News/Pages/Repackaging-Research-for-Use-in-the-Hindu-Kush-Himalaya.aspx>

MS FSCC Students Begin Mobility in Southeast Asia



Nine students under the Master of Science in Food Security and Climate Change (MS FSCC) program begin their enrolment in their host or second university this second semester 2017-2018. This first batch of FSCC students come from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

For more information, visit:

<http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/cchamsea/news/3267-ms-fscs-students-begin-mobility-in-southeast-asia>

ASEAN Member States Develop Proposals on Social Forestry for ASRF Funding



The ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF) Strategic Response Fund [ASRF], managed by SEARCA, received eight proposals from seven ASEAN Member States. The proposals submitted are on social forestry assessment and its contribution to livelihood (Cambodia); improvement of a training guide on Village Forestry Management Planning (Lao PDR); assessment and sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products (Myanmar and Thailand); a study of existing benefit-sharing mechanisms in community-based forest management (the Philippines); development of a community-based eco-tourism project (Malaysia); and an evaluation of the status of forest allocation policies (Viet Nam).

For more information, visit: <http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/cchamsea/news/3264-asean-member-states-develop-proposals-on-social-forestry-for-asrf-funding>

Climate Change Downscaler Training Workshop in Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)



Participants from six countries gathered at Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Thailand on 19 - 20 February 2018 to learn downscaling for climate change impact assessments, adaptation planning, and urban planning. The training workshop was organized by Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP) in AIT in collaboration with Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), University of Tsukuba, and Center for Environmental Science in Saitama. Spatially-

detailed climate prediction is essential for assessing the impacts of climate change and designing the corresponding adaptation strategies and measures to address the impacts. The training workshop provided the participants with hands-on exercises on the functions of S8 SICAT downscaler required for specific utilization.

Training Programme on Concept Note Development for the Green Climate Fund



The Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT RRC.AP), under the umbrella of the Climate Change Asia initiative, and the Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC) jointly organized the Training Programme on Concept Note Development for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) from 19 February - 2 March 2018 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand.

A total of 28 participants from Bangladesh, Fiji, Indonesia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, and the Philippines attended the training programme. The participants included 6 representatives of National Designated Authorities (NDA), 8 representatives of Direct Access Entities (DAE), and 14 representatives of partner institutions.

By the end of the training programme, 12 GCF Concept Notes were developed, including 3 adaptation, 5 mitigation, and 4 cross-cutting project ideas covering all 8 result areas of the GCF Investment Framework. Preliminary costing of activities showed that 3 medium, 8 small, and 1 micro-sized projects could result from these Concept Notes. If all project ideas were taken forward, a total funding requested from the GCF would amount to USD 590 million.

In addition, participants also developed 10 GCF Project Preparation Facility (PPF) requests including one that was submitted to the GCF Secretariat during the training programme. Furthermore, participants developed 6 logic frameworks, 10 Terms of Reference for feasibility studies, and 5 roadmaps for follow-up activities.

The participants provided positive feedback and felt strongly to recommend future training programmes in their own countries as well as in a regional setting.

**UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE
ADAPTATION EVENTS****Save the Date: APAN Asia Pacific
Adaptation Forum 2018****17-19 October 2018**

The Government of the Republic of Palau, the Climate Change Commission, Republic of the Philippines, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), are proud to be co-hosting next year's **6th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum**. Organised under the framework of the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), the event will be held in Manila, Philippines. Please mark your calendars for 17 - 19 October 2018. The success of the Forum has largely been through the collaboration and support of its partners, members, and stakeholders. Your continued engagement and active participation thus remains highly anticipated.

For more information, contact:

Ms. Martha Fernandez, APAN Forum 2018, UN Environment (fernandez21@un.org)

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:
"Ecosystem Rhythms, Land
Systems, and Sustainable
Livelihoods"****2nd International Conference on Mountain
Futures, Kunming, Yunnan, China,****04-08 June 2018**

The Centre for Mountain Ecosystem Studies (CMES), together with the Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) would like to invite contributions for the 2nd International Conference on Mountain Futures, with a focus on "Ecosystem Rhythms, Land Systems, and Sustainable Livelihoods". CMES will hold an Open Science Conference on 06 - 07 June 2018 in Kunming, Yunnan as part of a week-long series of activities which will include field visits in the terraced hills of southeastern Yunnan Province, and a Mountain Futures Film Festival. This scientific gathering will offer Mountain Futures professionals and practitioners, as well as representatives from indigenous communities, policymakers, and other mountain-based stakeholders a platform to present and disseminate evidence-based socio-ecological knowledge – innovations, practices, and technologies from mountain communities. We invite authors of all disciplines to send us your abstracts for both oral and poster presentations, along with your short biographies, via our online submission form before Friday, March 23, 2018. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words. Authors will be notified of acceptance to the conference by April 06, 2018 at the latest.

For more information, visit:

<http://mountainfutures.org/abstract>

**CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
NEWS****Bangladesh to empower women
and girls in the face of increasing
climate impacts**

February 28, 2018, Dhaka – The world's largest multilateral fund for climate change action, the Green Climate Fund, has approved almost US\$25 million in grant funding in support of Bangladesh's efforts to build the adaptive capacities of vulnerable coastal communities. With a focus on women and adolescent girls, the new 6-year project is set to benefit 700,000 people living in disaster-prone southwestern districts. Led by the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs, who provides \$8 million in co-financing, the UN-supported project marks a paradigm-shift in the way women are empowered as 'change-agents' to plan, implement, and manage climate-resilient solutions to safeguard livelihoods and lives in the Least Developed Country. A coalition of partners, mobilized by the UN Development Programme, will support the Government.

For more information, visit:

<http://adaptation-undp.org/GCF-Bangladesh-women-girls-approval-media-release>

**See SEARCA Photo Contest 2017
winners here!**

For more information, visit:

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

CCA INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

PUBLICATIONS

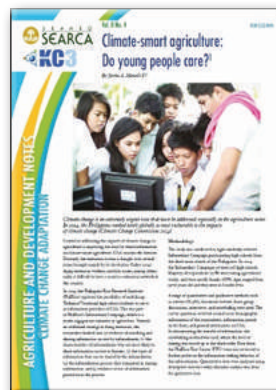
Running dry: A window into the Dry Zone of Myanmar



Around Southeast Asia, the impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent. Mean temperatures are increasing. Sea levels are rising. Monsoon rains are no longer arriving like clockwork. Rainfall is either too much or not enough. Ancient landscapes are transformed and transforming. Close to the land, rural communities are attuned to the changes, yet they are often not equipped to adapt. Consequently, already poor farmers across the region are struggling to make ends meet. To build the resilience of people living in what is now known as the “Dry Zone”, the Myanmar Government— with support from the Adaptation Fund and the UN Development Programme—is carrying out a programme of action to provide vulnerable farmers with the resources, knowledge and tools they need to support good harvests despite the changing weather patterns. The pictorial provides a glimpse into life in the Dry Zone, including the challenges communities face and some of the solutions.

For more information, visit: <https://medium.com/@UNDPasiapac/running-dry-a-window-into-the-dry-zone-of-myanmar-a14e4e8731cb>

Climate-smart agriculture: Do young people care?



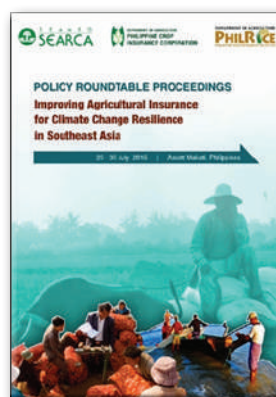
Climate change is an extremely urgent issue that must be addressed, especially in the agriculture sector. In 2014, the Philippines ranked ninth globally as the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (Climate Change Commission 2014).

For more information,

visit:

<http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/climate-change-adaptation-knowledge-showcases-5/adaptation-notes/3253-climate-smart-agriculture-do-young-people-care>

Policy Roundtable Proceedings: Improving Agricultural Insurance for Climate Change Resilience in Southeast Asia



The Policy Roundtable was jointly organized by the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), the Philippine Rice Research Institute of the Department of Agriculture, and the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, with the

support of the University of Hohenheim's Food Security Center.

For more information, visit:

<http://climatechange.searca.org/index.php/climate-change-adaptation-knowledge-showcases-5/other-publications>

APAN PARTNERS





e-mail: info@asiapacificadapt.net
Website: www.asiapacificadapt.net