

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 program that merges the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (AKP), established 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

APAN launched six new publications on mountains, agriculture and water through its thematic nodes and sub-regional nodes for Central and Southeast Asia. AKP, which has been merged with APAN, also released two more publications in the last few weeks.

Climate Change Challenges in the Mountains: Implications of Adaptation Needs of Hindu Kush Himalayas



This report captures the insights of recent knowledge products on climate change in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region. The key findings highlight the gaps in knowledge and policy for adequately addressing the mountain-related issues from the perspective of people living there. The report was prepared by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) under APAN. For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/icimod-cc-challenges-mountains-implication-to-adaptation-needs-hindu-kush-himalayas%20FINAL.pdf>

A Review of Issues and Challenges in Climate Change and Agriculture in Southeast Asia



This report dwells on the current situation in the agriculture sector of 11 Southeast Asian countries, and the challenges faced by the sector with regard to climate change, food security, and sustainable development. The countries covered by the report include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and Timor-Leste. The report highlights the probable impacts of climate change on the field of agriculture and food security in the region as well as the ecosystems and communities, most affected by or vulnerable to climate change. The report was prepared by the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) under APAN. For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/searca-tech-report-reviews-issues-challenges-climate-change-agriculture-sea.pdf>

Technical Report on Issues Related to Water and Agriculture in South Asia



This report sheds light on the emerging issues in the water and agriculture sectors in South Asia, which primarily include climate-induced depletion of water resources and adaptation challenges, while emphasizing on the need for encouraging regional co-operation in trans-boundary water resources management, inter-basin transfers from surplus to deficit areas, and master plans to manage large river basins. The report was prepared by the Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SAS) under APAN. For more information, please visit http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/gwp-apan-technical-report-issues-water-agriculture-south-asia_0.pdf

Technology Needs Assessment for Adaptation in Water and Agriculture Sector in Central Asia



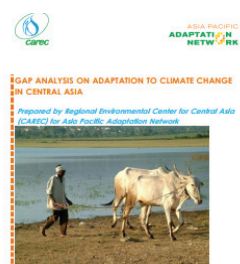
This study outlines technologies that address adaptation needs in the water resource management and agriculture sectors of the Central Asian countries. It also identifies the main institutional, technological and economic barriers that prevent the promotion of these technologies. The report was prepared by the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC) under APAN. For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/carec-technology-needs-assessment-for-adaptation-in-water-agriculture-ca.pdf>

Climate Change Adaptation and Technology: Gaps and Needs in Southeast Asia



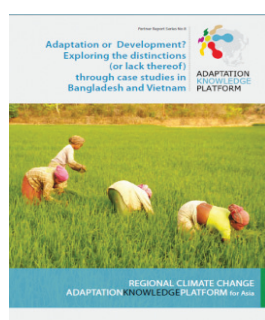
This report suggests a range of possible sustainability parameters for climate change adaptation and mitigation technologies, considering climate change risks, existing policies, practices on the ground, and specific outputs and outcomes that are being achieved. The report also identifies priorities, gaps, and the need to reduce the negative impacts of climate change as well as current developments in the international platforms on adaptation technology. The report was prepared by the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) under APAN. For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/iclei-apan-report-cca-tech-gaps-needs-sea.pdf>

Gap Analysis on Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Asia



Based on the study of all the major relevant adaptation sectors, including forests and biodiversity, public health, disasters and extreme events, the report calls for making water and agriculture sectors as overriding priority areas for adaptation in the region. The interdependence of the five Central Asian countries in the water-energy nexus is all too apparent as the cooperative trade-off of unequally distributed water resources, which was in place during the Soviet era, is no longer available. The energy sectors of the upstream countries and the agriculture sectors of the three down-stream countries are now forced to import the bulk of their water demand. The report was prepared by the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC) under APAN. For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/carec-climate-change-adaptation-gaps-needs-assessment.pdf>

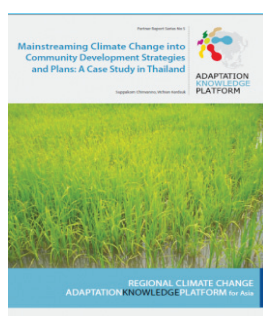
<http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/sites/default/files/resource/attach/carec-climate-change-adaptation-gaps-needs-assessment.pdf>



Adaptation or Development? Exploring the Distinctions (or lack thereof) through Case Studies in Bangladesh and Vietnam

This report synthesizes the findings of two case studies titled 'Comparing Adaptation and Development', which were undertaken in Bangladesh and Vietnam by the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia. One of the key messages of these studies is that while in theory there is a difference between adaptation and development, the actions taken to achieve adaptation can, in practice, hardly be distinguished from those required to achieve sustainable development. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/109>

[view/109](http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/109)



Mainstreaming Climate Change into Community Development Strategies and Plans: A Case Study in Thailand

This case study in Lao-oi district demonstrates how climate change can be mainstreamed into a local community development plan. The case study explains how adaptation was incorporated into the plan to address risks and vulnerabilities associated with rice-farming, the main source of livelihood in the community. The findings reveal that a paradigm shift toward mainstreaming climate change into development planning, and away from addressing adaptation separately from development, has to occur at the level of sub-district administration for the success of adaptation measures. For more information, please visit <http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/110>

[climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/110](http://www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/110)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

ADBI Workshop on Disaster Risk Management in Asia and Pacific, Tokyo, Feb 20–21

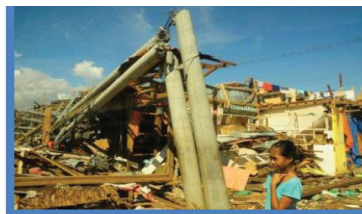
Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) held a cooperation workshop on disaster risk management in the Asia and Pacific in Tokyo from February 20 to 21. The workshop discussed chapter drafts for a major study on disaster risk management (DRM) in the Asia and the Pacific; reflected on the lessons learned and challenges faced by the region in the recent decades, and proposed appropriate policy recommendations for the countries in the region. The study will be carried out by ADBI and Asian Development Bank (ADB). For more information, please visit <http://www.adbi.org/event/5519.disaster.risk.mngt.asia.pacific.workshop>

ADB Workshop on Supporting Investments in Water-Related Disaster Management, Manila, Feb 4

ADB and the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) conducted a final workshop on “Supporting Investments in Water-Related Disaster Management: From Innovation to Investment” in Manila on February 4 to share the outcomes and lessons learned from the project through which ADB and ICHARM have been helping the Governments of Bangladesh, Indonesia, and the Philippines, and the Mekong River Commission Secretariat to develop their capacities and strategies for flood risk management. The workshop presented leading trends and activities in the field of water-related disaster management besides suggesting a way forward. For more information, please visit <http://www.adb.org/news/events/workshop-supporting-investments-water-related-disaster-management>

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

Asia-Pacific Training for Policymakers and Practitioners on Migration, Environment, Climate Change and Adaptation, Seoul, March 21–23



Days after Typhoon Bopha left the Philippines, the scale of destruction only become clear with tens of thousands homeless and hundreds still missing.

Photos © IOM, 2012

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), together with the Foresight Programme (Government Office for Science, UK), the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will conduct training for policymakers and practitioners on the migration-environment nexus. The main objective of the training is to build the capacity of policymakers and practitioners to factor migration into environmental and development policies as well as climate change adaptation strategies, and to include environmental change into the comprehensive migration management policies of each country. The training will be held in Seoul from March 21 to 23, immediately after the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum, which will be held from March 18 to 20. For further information about this training, please visit <http://apmen.iom.int/en/news/176-asia-pacific-training-for-policymakers-and-practitioners-on-migration,-environment,-climate-change-and-adaptation>

Seventh International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation, Dhaka, April 18–25



Photos © Dwijen Mallick

The Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) will organize the 7th Annual Community Based Adaptation conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from April 18 to 25. The main objective of this conference is to provide the latest thinking of climate scientists, policy makers and practitioners about the approaches for mainstreaming community-based adaptation into international, national, and local planning and processes. The registration fee is USD 1,000. The registration deadline is March 31. For more information, please visit www.iied.org/cba7-seventh-international-conference-community-based-adaptation

Joint Meeting of Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management & Pacific Climate Change Round Table 2013, Nadi, Fiji, July 8–12

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will organize the first Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management & Pacific Climate Change Round from July 8 to 12, in Nadi, Fiji. The objectives of this meeting are to facilitate ongoing interaction between 'Disaster' and 'Climate Change' communities in the Pacific; provide an opportunity for specific interest groups and sectors to contribute to the formulation of the integrated regional strategy for disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change (CC); and facilitate the sharing of 'lessons learned' on DRM and CC among the Pacific island countries, territories and stakeholder groups. For more information, please visit www.sprep.org/event/35-joint-meeting-of-the-pacific-platform-for-disaster-risk-management-a-pacific-climate-change-round-table

CCA INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Articles

Forests and Trees for Social Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change

This article assesses the scientific literature related to ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) with forests and trees, and highlights five cases in which these can support adaptation. The article argues for a need to better understand the efficiency, costs, and benefits, and trade-offs of EBA with forests and trees, indicating that ongoing pilot projects could serve as learning sites, and that existing information could be systematized and revisited with a climate change adaptation lens. For more information, please visit <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wcc.195/pdf>

Ecosystem Services in the National Adaptation Programmes of Action



This article examines the extent to which ecosystem services have been considered in the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and the proposed adaptation projects. It indicates that the importance of ecosystem services is recognized in more than 50 percent of the NAPAs

and that about 22 percent of the proposed projects suggest ecosystem activities for social well-being or adaptation, the majority of which relate to regulating services such as soil rehabilitation and erosion control as well as provisioning services such as food, fiber and fuel wood. For more information, please visit www.cifor.org/online-library/browse/view-publication/publication/3712.html

Opinions

Opinion: Is India's National Action Plan on Climate Change up to Scratch?



Photos © CDKN

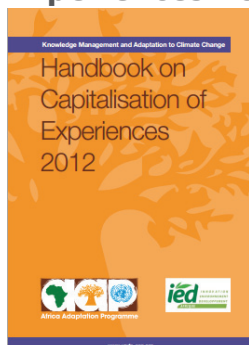
CDKN provides an insight into a recent study 'An Evaluation of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change' conducted by the Climate Resilience

Initiative, which examines the design of the

eight missions under India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The study aims to provide policy makers, academics, researchers, civil society groups and others an evaluation of the country's climate missions as perceived by experts. It raises many concerns and asks whether sustainable development is indeed a central guiding principle in India's climate policy, as it has not been prioritized in the approaches and outcomes of individual missions. For more information, please visit http://cdkn.org/2013/01/is-indias-national-action-plan-on-climate-change-up-to-scratch/?loclang=en_gb

Publications

Handbook on Capitalization of Experiences 2012



This handbook produced by the United Nations Development Programme's Africa Adaptation Programme aims to build the capacity of climate change adaptation programmes and project teams. It recommends seven iterative steps for the capitalization and

knowledge generation process,

namely planning; identification; description of/ reflection upon experiences; analysis of experiences; presenting results; sharing results; and monitoring and evaluation. For more information about this handbook, please visit www.undp-aap.org/sites/undp-aap.org/files/Handbook%20of%20Capitalisation%202012.pdf

Reports

UNEP's 27th session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum Side Event Session Summary



Photos © UNEP

This briefing paper summarises major issues discussed, outcomes achieved, and recommendations made at the UNEP Governing

Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum side event 'Building the Ecological Foundation of Food Security', which was held on February 20. Speakers at the event stressed on harnessing ecosystem services to enhance food security and adapt to climate change. The event recognised that financing ecological approaches was key to action, suggesting that governments should allocate national budgets for strengthening ecological approaches for maintaining food security. For more information, please visit www.unep.org/gc/GC27/Docs/BUILDING_THE_ECOLOGICAL_FOUNDATION_OF_FOOD_SECURITY.pdf

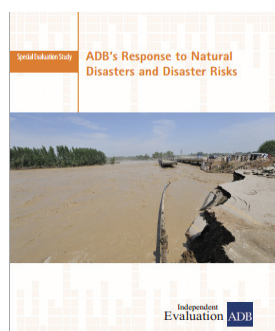
Investing in Resilience: Ensuring a Disaster-Resistant Future



This report offers an approach and ideas for reflection, inviting readers to consider ways to ensure that actions required to strengthen resilience are actually taken. The report helps equip investors in the public sphere, namely governments and their development partners, with a framework and

ideas with which to identify practical actions for achieving a resilient future. It demonstrates eight critical steps toward stronger resilience. For more information please visit www.adb.org/sites/default/files/pub/2013/investing-in-resilience.pdf

Evaluation Study on ADB's Response to Natural Disasters and Disaster Risks



This study assesses ADB's response to disasters from two broad categories of disaster-related operations—disaster prevention and disaster recovery. The study reports that if only the projects focused predominantly on disaster prevention are taken into

account, the share of disaster-related investment is one-third, compared with two-thirds spent on disaster recovery after disasters had struck. Given that \$1 spent on disaster prevention can obviate the need for considerable spending later—at least \$4 on disaster recovery calculated by the United Nations—ADB should consider laying greater emphasis on disaster prevention, particularly in the many high-risk countries. The report indicates a need for ADB to integrate climate change and natural disaster programs and to improve its capacities in both. For more information, please visit <http://wcm.adb.org/documents/special-evaluation-study-adbs-response-natural-disasters-and-disaster-risks>

Videos

Tales of Gorakhpur - Way toward a Climate-Resilient Future



This short video tells the story of how an Indian city, Gorakhpur, grapples with the dual impacts of urbanization and climate change and what efforts

local stakeholders have made to render Gorakhpur climate resilient. It depicts multi-stakeholder engagements through which the climate resilient strategy of Gorakhpur has been implemented on the ground. The video was produced by the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) with the support of the Rockefeller Foundation. For more information, please visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=nuaSwS1iHrY

Solutions: Adapting to Climate Change in India

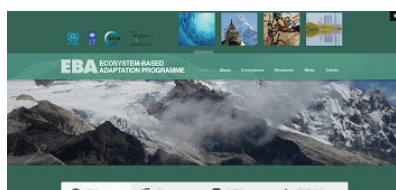


This video shows the efforts of Watershed Organisation Trust (WoTR) to address climate impacts affecting rural life in India.

It introduces various integrative tools and approaches for adaptation adopted in 53 semi-arid villages of three states in India that WoTR's climate change adaptation project targets. For more information, please visit www.trust.org/alertnet/multimedia/video-and-audio/detail.dot?mediaNode=6862035f-871e-4a9a-8018-f6888ad81c5a

Website

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Partnership Programme Launches Website



The Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) Programme is run by a partnership of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to promote EbA as a fruitful adaptation measure. The Germany's Federal Ministry for the

Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) provides financial support to the first phase that focuses on increasing the resilience of communities living in mountain ecosystems to adapt to climate change. The programme recently launched its website. For more information about it, please visit <http://ebaflagship.org>

REFERENCE MATERIALS

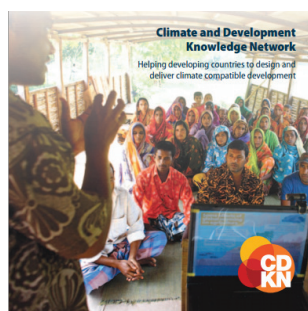
REDD-Net Bulletin Asia-Pacific: Adaptation, Forests and REDD+



This issue features the relationship between adaptation and REDD+, drawing attention to how forests can increase the resilience of communities to impending climate change impacts and how REDD+ can help or hinder this process. The bulletin illustrates climate change impacts on forest distribution

and species composition under different scenarios, taking an example from northeastern United States. It also provides concrete examples of forest-based adaptation in action that contribute directly to increased climate resilience of local communities, reaffirming a need for incorporating adaptation within REDD. For more information, please visit www.recoftc.org/site/uploads/content/pdf/REDDNet%20Bulletin%20Issue%206_Dec%202012_333.pdf

CDKN Launches New Asia Brochure



The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) launched a new brochure that is specific to work underway in the Asia region. The brochure describes CDKN's mission, priority

themes, and where and how it works. It also explains the climate change challenge in the region. For each of the countries/areas in which CDKN is engaged in Asia – Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and South East Asia – the brochure details the specific climate change challenges faced, CDKN's country strategy, and its projects besides providing an assessment of impact and future plans. For more information, please visit http://cdkn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/CDKN_Brochure_Oct2012_web.pdf

OPPORTUNITIES

Climate Change Risks and Opportunities in Uttarakhand, India

CDKN is seeking a partner organization, or consortium of organizations, to design and deliver a statewide climate change vulnerability assessment in Uttarakhand, India. The Government of Uttarakhand has sought an accurate and relevant assessment of the vulnerability of the State to the current and future impacts of climate change, and the opportunities that can be utilized to deliver climate compatible development. This assessment is the first step required to strengthen and prepare for implementation of the Uttarakhand Action Plan on Climate Change (UAPCC), as stated in the plan itself. The deadline for the submission of proposals will be 17.00 UK time on April 1. To receive the full procurement documents, please e-mail the CDKN procurement team on cdknetwork.procurement@uk.pwc.com.

Financial Support to Government Officials for Training in Climate Change Adaptation and Finance

The ADAPT Asia-Pacific project has established a financing facility that provides a combination of technical assistance, capacity building and networking related to accessing climate adaptation funds. The project aims to build the capacity of government officials in the Asia-Pacific region to develop and obtain financing for climate change adaptation projects, and periodically highlights upcoming training opportunities offered by other organizations. Applicants for the training programs must be government staff from an eligible country, that is, 27 focus countries in the Asia and Pacific. For more information, please visit <http://adaptasiapacific.org/activities/support-government-officials-training-climate-change-adaptation-and-finance> (This link will be available in the future).

Adaptation Fund Calls for Public Comments on Project Proposals



ADAPTATION FUND

The Adaptation Fund has announced a call for public comments on seven projects and concept proposals presently under its technical review and screening. The projects and concept proposals under review include adapting to climate-induced threats to food production and food

security in the Karnali region in Nepal; and developing climate resilience of farming communities in the drought-prone parts of Uzbekistan. The Adaptation Fund is governed by the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank. For more information, please visit <http://climate-liisd.org/news/adaptation-fund-calls-for-public-comments-on-project-proposals>

Free Legal Services for Climate NGOs and Social Enterprises



The Thomson Reuters Foundation, which publishes AlertNet Climate and runs TrustLaw Connect, is a platform that links NGOs and social enterprises with top lawyers who offer their services free of cost. The lawyers have a keen interest in working for organizations that tackle climate change issues, including those around UNFCCC climate negotiations, climate adaptation, migration and so on. The short quiz (<https://trustlawconnect.secure.force.com/quiz>) will enable you to know your organization's eligibility. For more information, please visit www.trust.org/trustlaw/connect

Call for Concept Notes: Collaborative Research on Adaptation in Africa and Asia



International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is now calling for the submission of joint concept notes for the establishment of research consortia under the Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA). The application deadline is 4 April. Consortia selected through the competitive process of the call will receive grants of up to CA\$15 million to conduct a common research program on climate change adaptation. For more information, please visit www.idrc.ca/EN/Funding/Competitions/Pages/CompetitionDetails.aspx?CompetitionID=54



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