

e-communique

Issue 27
March 2013



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Welcome to the platform that gives you up-to-date information in the field of climate change adaptation (CCA). 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 CCA activities, announcements, events and new initiatives. All you have to do is send a brief write-up and URL to info@asiapacificadapt.net

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum 2013, 18-20 March 2013, Incheon City, Republic of Korea



For Asia-Pacific countries to survive and thrive in a changing climate, greater efforts are needed to mainstream climate change adaptation into national development policies, moving away from business as usual practices.

That was the broad consensus among 500 climate change adaptation experts and practitioners who met in Incheon, Korea at the 3rd Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum.

The Forum brought together speakers and participants from across 30 Asia-Pacific countries in government, civil society, academia and the private sector to once again share experiences and find

concrete solutions to mainstreaming adaptation planning at the national and community levels.

The running theme of mainstreaming climate change adaptation has been the key issue Forum participants have been focusing on and addressing in the past three years.

This year participants examined more closely the increasing challenges many countries face in planning and implementing climate change adaptation. They include the lack of access to finance and technologies, as well as inadequate institutional capacity that resonates in most developing nations.

About 160 speakers were engaged in six plenary and 26 panel sessions at the Forum for three days (18 to 20 March 2013) to define these actions and find ways to bolster their adaptive capacities, including by better engaging the private sector and gaining access to global climate change adaptation funding.

A final report of the Forum will outline these measures. Below are the selected findings in the interim:

- The value of starting with existing policies and learning from experience are now more widely accepted. For example, how local communities have historically adapted to flood regimes is being reconsidered in contemporary landscapes.
- Adaptation strategies need to acknowledge more explicitly that vulnerabilities are dynamic and that multiple uncertainties remain.
- Governance structures need to be more inclusive and adaptive. This will help societies better navigate unprecedented and uncertain climates.
- The private sector is an important group to successful adaptation action. Conversations with business will have to take place in business events and boardrooms.
- Poor, vulnerable and critical neglected groups need to be engaged more directly and meaningfully in adaptation conversations.

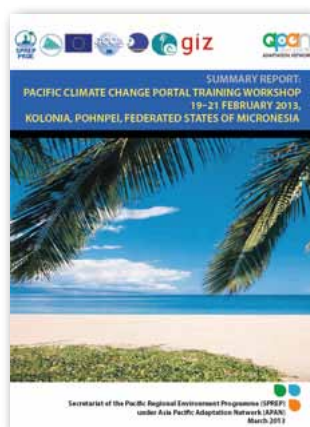
- International organisations have an important role in sharing knowledge and experiences across countries. Adaptation knowledge management that is effective increases rates of learning and builds capacity.
- Loss and damage is an issue for all countries considering the recent impacts of extreme weather events like floods and droughts.

The 3rd Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum was hosted by the Korea Environment Institute, in association with the Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change. The Forum was jointly organised by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Institute for Global Environment Strategies (IGES), the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP), and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI).

The Forum is part of APAN's core activities to bring together the region's climate change adaptation experts and practitioners. Other key tasks for APAN include developing sub-regional and national activities, expanding partnerships, and disseminating information and knowledge on adaptation.

More information about the Forum, including videos, photos, and agenda can be found here: <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/adaptationforum2013/content/home>

Pacific Climate Change Portal Training Workshop, 19–21 February 2013, Federated States of Micronesia



This workshop provided country representatives with the opportunity to review their country profiles and populate the portal with the content. It enhanced not only their confidence in uploading their country specific content but also their understanding of the processes and mechanisms in place for information flow. For

more information, please visit

<http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/summary-report-pacific-climate-change-portal-training-workshop-19%E2%80%9321-february-2013>

Sub-Regional Annual Conference on "Climate Change Issues and Priorities in South Asia: Assessment and Ideas for Future Engagement", 18-19 February 2013, Marawila, Sri Lanka



Organised by the Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA) under APAN, the conference improve participant's understanding of the concept of loss and damage, which is being developed to be a key area of focus in the UNFCCC process. They also assessed the outcomes of Doha. For more information,

please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-sub-regional-annual-conference-%E2%80%9Cclimate-change-issues-and-priorities>

ANNOUNCEMENT

Gap Analysis related to Adaptation Finance



The report is a compilation of currently available funding and dispersal mechanisms for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The inventory lists the funding mechanism, its nature and purpose, source(s) of funds, target beneficiaries, application requirements and other background information. The inventory also includes the results of programs or projects that utilise each funding, as well as information and status of on-going and planned activities under each funding.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/gap-analysis-related-adaptation-finance>

Technical Report on Technology Gaps and Needs in Asia Pacific



The report highlights available technologies that are appropriate for the region as well as the technology gaps that need to be addressed in the identified priority sectors for climate change adaptation in the region. This report is based on the inputs from the APAN nodes.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/technical-report-technology-gaps-and-needs-asia-pacific>

Report on Adaptation Challenges in Pacific Island Countries



The purpose of this report is to contextualize the adaptation challenges in Pacific Island countries for audiences that are not so familiar with the region. It also highlights the efforts of the region in seeking to address climate change adaptation and notes the continuing challenges that the region faces.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/report-adaptation-challenges-pacific-island-countries-0>

Proceedings Report: Sub-regional Conference "Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Asia facing COP 18 to the UNFCCC" 12-13 November 2012, Tashkent, Uzbekistan



This report summarises the discussions on climate change adaptation priorities and technology needs in water and agricultural sectors in Central Asian countries; financial options to meet national adaptation costs; and thematic priorities, opportunities and expectations for the 18th session of the Conference of the UN FCCC parties on adaptation to climate change.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-sub-regional-conference-%E2%80%9Cmulti-stakeholder-dialogue-adaptation-climate>

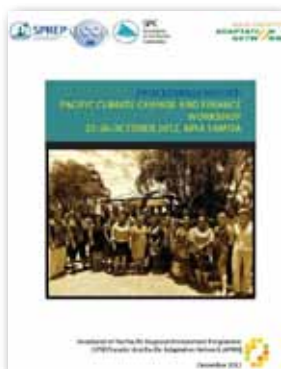
Proceedings Report: Training on Preparing National Adaptation Plans in South Asia, 5-6 November 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal



This report captures knowledge on how to prepare national adaptation plans (NAPs) building on experiences of preparing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs). It discusses the architecture for NAPs, vulnerability and adaptation needs in South Asian countries, institutional mechanisms in a country for effective NAPs, and existing national institutional structure in countries.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-training-preparing-national-adaptation-plans-south-asia-5-6-november>

Proceedings Report: Pacific Climate Change and Finance workshop, 25-26 October 2012, Apia, Samoa



This report documents key areas in which Pacific Island country representatives should enhance their skills in order to be able to access financial resources for climate change. These include: specific donors and the type of climate change financing available to the Pacific; individual donor policies and financing criteria; proposal writing and log frame development; and monitoring, evaluation, and reporting requirements for donors.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-pacific-climate-change-and-finance-workshop-25-26-october-2012-apia>

Proceedings Report: Climate Change Adaptation Planning Workshop, 20 – 21 September 2012, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



This report covers the discussions held at the Climate Change Adaptation Planning workshop, mainly on the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into development planning, different technologies on adaptation, roles of science and prioritisation of adaption measures.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-climate-change-adaptation-planning-workshop-20-%E2%80%9321-september-2012-kuala>

Proceedings Report: Educational Programme on a Semi-arid Environment Susceptible to Climate Change in Northeast Asia, 25 August - 3 September 2012, Horqin Sandy Land, Inner Mongolia, China



This report documents the programme aimed at increasing the understanding of university students on both scientific research and on-ground practices that are required for adaptation in the desertified region.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-educational-programme-semi-arid-environment-susceptible-climate-change>

Proceedings Report: Regional Training workshop on "Evaluating climate change adaptation practices in Central Asia", 11-12 July 2012, Almaty, Kazakhstan



This report summarises the training workshop on assessment methodologies used for measuring the progress (i.e. process based methods) as well as measuring the effectiveness of the intervention (i.e. outcome-based method).

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-regional-training-workshop-%E2%80%9CEvaluating-climate-change-adaptation>

Conference Summary Report: International Conference on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Food and Environmental Security, 21-22 November 2012, Philippines



This report demonstrates a wide range of new knowledge along with indigenous or local technologies that can be used to address the impacts of climate change – not only as adaptation strategies, but also for mitigation and increasing resilience.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/conference-summary-report-international-conference-climate-change-impacts-and-adaptation>

Proceedings on 3rd Environmental Innovators Symposium: "Innovation for Resilience and Transformation"



This proceedings report summarises the discussions at the 3rd Environmental Innovators Symposium which was organised by Keio University, Japan, APAN and UNEP from 21 to 22 December 2012. The report highlights the way forward for clearing some of the uncertainty around the topic of resilience.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/resource/proceedings-report-3rd-environmental-innovators-symposium-innovation-resilience-and>

AKP published the last partner report titled "A holistic approach to climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment: pilot study in Thailand"



This publication demonstrates gaps in using sectoral vulnerability and adaptation assessment for landscape adaptation planning and proposes an extended framework for climate change vulnerability and adaptation.

For more information, please visit <http://asiapacificadapt.net/resource/holistic-approach-climate-change-vulnerability-and-adaptation-assessment-pilot-study>

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

Surat City launches New Research Centre on Climate Change and Health

With its history of experiencing extreme weather conditions, Surat, India, will build a knowledge base to better support evidence-based local interventions under the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN). The Centre will conduct research on health risks associated with vector-borne diseases as well as inter-disciplinary research addressing the areas of urban health, environmental services and climate change. For more information, please visit <http://www.acccrn.org/news-and-events/entries/2013/03/27/blog-surat-city-launch-innovative-new-research-centre-focused-climate-change-and-health>



Research on Climate Change Induced Migration in Bangladesh yields Initial Findings and Policy Recommendations



Initial findings from a field research undertaken by the University of Dhaka inform that instead of looking at migration as a failure to adapt it can be viewed as

one of the strategies of adaptation. It recommends that Bangladesh's National Adaptation Programme of Action, Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan should look at migration as an option rather than threat and that the Overseas Employment Policy should incorporate provisions for facilitating international migration from climate change affected areas. For more information, please visit http://cdkn.org/2013/03/research-on-cc-induced-migration-in-bangladesh-yields-initial-findings-and-policy-recommendations/?loclang=en_gb

Funding criteria needs to support harnessing Adaptation-Mitigation Synergies

Empirical research on existing synergies and concrete pilot studies is suggested to showcase under which criteria and how synergies between adaptation and mitigation can be harnessed and trade-offs avoided in the best possible way. A practical first step could be for existing funds to study their funding criteria, and review and analyse synergies (and trade-offs) in their existing portfolios and analyse whether a proactive role in harnessing the synergies would be useful. For more information, please visit <http://climate-iiisd.org/guest-articles/synergies-between-mitigation-and-adaptation-exist-in-several-sectors/>

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

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

The Society of Hydrologists and Meteorologists Nepal (SOHAM-Nepal), the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) of the Government of Nepal, and UNESCO International Hydrological Programme Nepal (IHP) National Committee will jointly organise an International Conference on Climate Change, Water Resources and Disasters in Mountainous Regions: Building Resilience to Changing Climate from 27 to 29 November 2013 in Nepal. The Conference will provide scientists, engineers, planners and development workers with a platform to present their research outcomes, observations, findings and innovative ideas. The themes include: climate variability and changes, water resources management, land degradation, hazards and disaster risk reduction. For more information, please visit <http://www.soham.org.np/news/international-conference.pdf>



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

ARTICLES

With Temperatures Rising Indian City Moves Closer to Releasing Life Saving Heat Action Plan

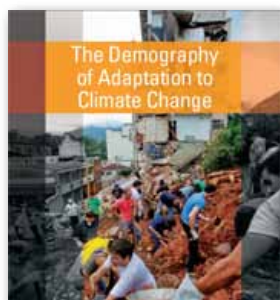


This article provides updates on a CDKN funded project that helps the Indian city, Ahmedabad, develop a Heat Action Plan. This groundbreaking effort focuses on heat-related illnesses, stressed healthcare systems, and even death. Ahmedabad is leading the way in developing strategies to safeguard the city's 7 million residents from the risks of extreme heat and adapt to increasing heat.

For more information, please visit <http://cdkn.org/2013/03/feature-with-temperatures-rising-major-indian-city-moves-closer-to-releasing-life-saving-heat-action-plan/>

BOOKS

The Demography of Adaptation to Climate Change



Building on results of an expert group meeting on "Population Dynamics and Climate Change II: Building for Adaptation" held in 2010, this book provides key concepts linking demography and adaptation, incorporating case studies on how census data and other demographic information can be used for analysing climate vulnerability and resilience.

For more information, please visit <http://climate-l.iisd.org/news/unfpa-and-partners-release-book-on-population-dynamics-in-adaptation-planning/>

OPINIONS

Adaptation is no longer about analytical framing: it's a learning-by-doing process

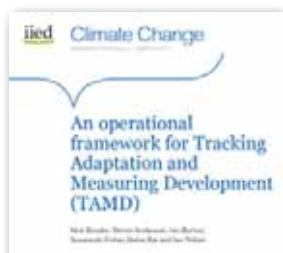
"In the last decade we've been doing a lot more of this learning-by-doing and we're trying to capture it in terms of science."

Dr. Saleemul Huq shares his view on capturing the learning-by-doing process in terms of science, adding that "There may not be an adaptation science yet but there is certainly one in the making and in five to 10 years from now there will be a body of knowledge specific to climate adaptation."

For more information, please visit <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20130313132048380>

PAPERS

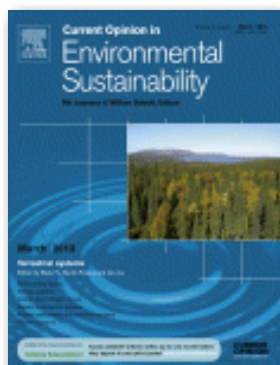
Working paper: An operational framework for Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMD)



This paper presents the steps required to apply the TAMD framework which allows for assessing how climate risk management interventions influence development and adaptation outcomes through various processes described for each intervention in a theory of change. The paper also suggests how baseline data might be collected, what indicators can be used in different contexts to measure adaptation outcomes and how outcomes and longer-term 'impacts' can be robustly attributed to interventions by developing theories of change and collecting causal narratives.

For more information, please visit <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/10038IIED.pdf>

The role of ecosystem services in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction



This paper analyses the vicious spiral between climate change impacts, ecosystem degradation and increased risk of climate-related disasters, defining the central role of ecosystem management in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and their multifaceted linkages. It also assesses the challenges for enhanced ecosystem management for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

For more information, please visit <http://www.aaknet.org/index.php/knowledge-base/publications/item/198-the-role-of-ecosystem-services-in-climate-change-adaptation-and-disaster-risk-reduction>

PUBLICATIONS

Accessing International Funding for Climate Change Adaptation – A Guidebook for Developing Countries

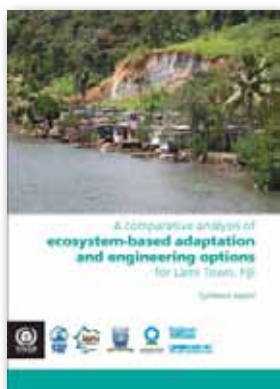


This guidebook aims to provide countries participating in the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) Project with practical guidance that will help them secure financing for adaptation technology transfer projects identified in their Technology Action Plans (TAPs). The guidebook also presents a number of concrete tools and recommendations that will help identify and access funding to implement their TAPs.

For more information, please visit http://orbit.dtu.dk/fedora/objects/orbit:116107/datastreams/file_8fec30f8-f6e4-44e7-8570-55aebb098dc8/content

REPORTS

SPREP Analyses Ecosystem-based Adaptation Options in Fiji



This report presents a cost-benefit analysis of four adaptation scenarios ranging from ecosystem-based to engineering-based. The report argues that the highest benefit-cost ratio is for ecosystem-based options, with FJ\$19.50 benefit for every dollar spent.

For more information, please visit <http://climate-l.iisd.org/news/sprep-analyzes-ecosystem-based-adaptation-options-in-fiji/>

VIDEOS

CARE Vietnam: Ethnic Minorities Tackle Climate Change



The video shows how ethnic minorities in the Northern mountainous areas of Vietnam are working to tackle a changing climate. It highlights how communities and the government take a holistic approach to understand the vulnerability and capacities of ethnic minority people and the ecosystems to develop community-based strategies and plans for long-term adaptation to climate change.

For more information, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ok4k91HR7-8>

Vital Food - Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change – Fiji



This video depicts how Climate Change is affecting food security in Fiji and what techniques can ameliorate the effects of flooding and even the flooding itself.

For more information, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yx4U8vwSHhw>

OPPORTUNITIES

Training on Enterprise-Based Early Warning System for Enterprises, 17-21 June, 2013, Bangkok, Thailand



RIMES is organising this training course with an aim to build participants' understanding and skills in designing and implementing their early warning systems and creating risk management and contingency plans tailored to their own needs. This training will also bring in future collaboration opportunities with RIMES in establishing and sustaining their enterprise-based early warning system against various hazards of different timescales.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.rimes.int/em/?p=1166>

Course on Long-Term Biodiversity and Climate Change in Asia-Pacific, 24 June - 12 July, 2013, Canberra, Australia



The Australian National University will open this course with the objective of providing participants with an understanding of how to reconstruct past environments and the implications this information might have for the conservation and survival of life on Earth. The three week course will be a combination of in-class learning, a fieldtrip and 'hands-on' laboratory based experience. For more information, please visit http://drss.anu.edu.au/isa/_lib/doc/ANU1.pdf



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Website: www.asiapacificadapt.net