

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazards' from the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN).

Regards,
APMN team

News

[1] Rains kill 42 in Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu toll 68

November 10, 2009

As many as 28 people lost their lives since Monday night in landslides and roof and wall collapses caused by rains taking the toll in Nilgiri district alone to 42 and the Tamil Nadu toll to 68, officials said Tuesday.

The district administration has advised tourists against travelling to the hill station of Ooty fearing fresh landslides. Many people were stranded as traffic got disrupted between the hill station and Coimbatore.

Source:

http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/uncategorized/rains-kill-42-in-nilgiri-district-tamil-nadu-toll-68_100272902.html

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yhxd9dv>

[2] Addressing our groundwater crisis

November 5, 2009

Throughout Australia a growing number of domestic users as well as commercial and industrial organisations are relying on groundwater to compensate for shrinking surface water reserves. But in a drying climate it is a limited and potentially fragile resource. Now, clearer information about what constitutes sustainable consumption is evolving.

Source:

<http://www.sciencealert.com.au/features/20090511-20182.html>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ya7qs75>

[3] Asia/Pacific: Disaster survivors struggle with long road to recovery

November 5, 2009

One month on from a series of natural disasters in South-East Asia, survivors are struggling to begin the long and difficult process of rebuilding their lives.

Thousands of people were killed or left homeless by earthquakes that struck Western Sumatra in Indonesia on 30 September.

Source:

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/AMMF-7XHTVF?OpenDocument>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ycqy2gg>

[4] Qinghai Lake's water level continues rising for 5 years

November 5, 2009

The water level of the Qinghai Lake on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has been rising for five straight years, up 54 cm from 2005 to 2008, according to the Qinghai Provincial Bureau of Hydrological Resource Survey.

Statistics show that the water level of the lake in northwest China's Qinghai Province may probably rise by 10 cm at the end of this year. "It is the first time since 1955 the lake's water level has been rising for five consecutive years," said Duan Shuiqiang, a senior engineer of the bureau.

Source:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-11/05/content_12390670.htm

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ycuc26l>

[5] Major quakes could be aftershocks

November 4, 2009

Many recent earthquakes may have been the aftershocks of large quakes that occurred hundreds of years ago, according to scientists.

In the journal Nature, researchers described a new pattern in the frequency of aftershocks that could explain some major quakes. They found that, away from plate boundaries, echoes of past earthquakes can continue for several hundred years.

Source:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8342600.stm>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yehzf6d>

[6] ADB to help PRC combat water shortages in the western region

October 30, 2009

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is helping the People's Republic of China (PRC) enact wide-ranging, integrated measures in Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou province, one of the poor western provinces in PRC, to tackle growing water shortages caused by rapid growth and urbanization.

Source:

<http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2009/13049-chinese-water-projects/>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yg6bkak>

[7] Asean, EAF to formulate operational standards for disaster mitigation

October 26, 2009

The Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) and the East Asia Forum will formulate Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) for natural disaster mitigation as a follow up action to the agreement between the two sides at the 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Thailand on October 23 to 25, 2009.

Source:

<http://www.antara.co.id/en/news/1256506224/asean-eaf-to-formulate-operational-standards-for-disaster-mitigation>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yj5hp3e>

[8] Seven Asian countries discuss water cooperation in UAE

October 23, 2009

Officials of seven South Asian countries met to promote water cooperation on the rivers of greater Himalayan region, WAM news agency reported. Government officials, politicians and water experts from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal and Pakistan participated in the conference.

Source:

<http://www.sindhtodaynet/news/1/64154.htm>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yzx9qzc>

Events

[1] International Mountain Day 2009 “Disaster Risk Management in Mountains”: 11 December
Forest Management Division Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Web site: www.fao.org/mnts/intl_mountain_day_en.asp (Event information will be shortly updated)

[2] Shanghai International Disaster Reduction, Emergency Management Technology & Equipment Fair 2009

13 - 15 November 2009, Shanghai, China

More information: <http://en.china-disaster.com/>

[3] E-conference on Integrated Land and Water Resources Management in Rural Watersheds

2 November - 4 December 2009

Organized by: FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

More information: <http://spmwater-asiapacific.net/econf/>