

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazards', Issue 6 from the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN).

Regards,  
APMN team

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News  
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[1] Earthquake in China kills 7 people

January 18, 2010

Landslides triggered by a small earthquake in southern China killed at least seven people and left one person missing over the weekend, local earthquake officials said Monday.

The 3.4-magnitude earthquake struck Sunday afternoon. It was centered in Guizhou province, 100 kilometers (60 miles) southwest of the capital Guiyang, according to a report from the Guizhou Earthquake Bureau.

Source:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/17/AR2010011703928.html>

OR

<http://bit.ly/76TlCg>

[2] World scrambles to help quake-hit Haiti

January 15, 2010

Nations from all corners of the world also joined the vast relief operation, as hundreds of thousands of homeless, injured and traumatised awaited help on the corpse-strewn streets and footpaths of Port-au-Prince.

Planes began arriving at the capital's airport bringing surgeons, field hospitals, water and emergency medical supplies, while search and rescue teams with sniffer dogs readied to pick through the debris.

Source:

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/world-scrambleto-help-quake-hit-haiti/story-e6frf7jx-1225819714960>

OR

<http://bit.ly/6PPq64>

[3] Himalayas could be greater driver of South Asian monsoon than Tibetan Plateau

January 14, 2010

In a new research, scientists at the Harvard University have suggested that the Himalayas and other surrounding mountains could be a far greater source of heat and moisture that drives the South Asian monsoon rather than the Tibetan Plateau.

The findings, published in the January 14th issue of Nature, have broad implications for how the Asian climate may have responded to mountain uplift in the past, and for how it might respond to surface changes in the coming decades.

Source:

<http://www.kazakhstannews.net/story/588545>

OR

<http://bit.ly/6NTCHf>

[4] Water level in China's largest saltwater lake still rising

January 13, 2010

The water level in China's largest saltwater lake has risen for five consecutive years thanks to increased rainfall, experts in the northwestern Qinghai Province said Wednesday.

The level of Qinghai Lake rose by 17 cm year-on-year to reach 3,193.5 meters above sea level at the end of December, said Li Yan, an engineer with the Qinghai Provincial Hydrographic and Water Resources Survey Bureau.

Source:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2010-01/13/content\\_12804119.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2010-01/13/content_12804119.htm)

OR

<http://bit.ly/6McOo5>

[5] Tajikistan: Appeal for earthquake rebuilding support

January 13, 2010

While the international humanitarian community attempts to get relief to hundreds of thousands of survivors of the devastating 12 January Haiti earthquake, the Tajikistan government has appealed for support to build seismic resistant houses after some 7,000 people were affected by a 5.3-magnitude earthquake that shook the country on 2 January.

Source:

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?Reportid=87762>

OR

<http://bit.ly/7ZBkPb>

[6] Earthquake in the Pamir Mountains affects over 6,000 people

January 6, 2010

Gishkhun is one of 20 villages in the mountains of central Tajikistan that was seriously damaged by a magnitude 5.7 earthquake on 2 January. According to preliminary information, 98 houses have been destroyed, leaving 619 people homeless. An additional 921 houses - homes to 5,526 people - were

damaged and need to be repaired. Fortunately there were no casualties – the people were able to leave their houses as they felt the first tremors.

Source:

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/MYAI-7ZG4ET?OpenDocument>

OR

<http://bit.ly/6DwbHP>

[7] Landslide in northwest Pakistan kills 20, displaces 1,500

January 5, 2010

At least 20 people have been killed and many others are missing after a 4 January landslide dumped around 40 houses in northwestern Pakistan into a fast-flowing river.

“It was a terrifying thing to see. The houses slid down and took many people with them,” Ameer Mehdi, a local resident, told IRIN. “I pulled my children out of our house and my family fled up the crumbling hillside to escape.”

Source:

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?Reportid=87636>

OR

<http://bit.ly/76onXs>

[8] Arab World in Water Crisis

January 5, 2010

There are people in over 17 Arab countries living well below the water poverty line of 500 cubic metres annually, said Arab decision makers from around the Arab world, meeting on water insecurity this past Monday, in Jordan, reports the Jordan Times. They recognized climate change in the Middle East as an issue that will further impact their poorly-available water resources, noting that 75% of the surface water in the Arab world, originates from outside its borders.

Source:

[http://www.enn.com/top\\_stories/article/40895](http://www.enn.com/top_stories/article/40895)

OR

<http://bit.ly/4NqsmC>

[9] UNECE facilitates cooperation on water-related energy issues in Central Asia

January 4, 2010

The “Weekly” newsletter of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) for the period 4-8 January 2010 highlights UNECE’s recent activities on water-related energy issues in Central Asia. The newsletter reports on the first meeting of the Working Group on Strengthening Institutional and Legal Frameworks [on water resources] and the Development of the Aral Sea Basin Programme-3, which was organized on 10-11 December 2009, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, with the support of UNECE.

Source:

<http://climate-l.org/2010/01/12/unece-facilitates-cooperation-on-water-related-energy-issues-in-central-asia/>

OR

<http://bit.ly/6a0Ddv>

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Events  
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[1] 4th International Conference on Water Resources and Arid Environments, 5-8 December 2010, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

More at: [http://www.icwrae-psipw.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10&Itemid=54](http://www.icwrae-psipw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10&Itemid=54)

[2] 5th South Asia Research Conference focusing on the issue – Globalization of Governance – Implications for Water Management in South Asia, May 3-5, 2010 Thimphu, Bhutan

More at: <http://saciwaters.org/inside/upcomingevents.html>

[3] UNECE International Forum on Natural Disasters and Building and Construction Safety, 12 -18 March 2010, Baku, Azerbaijan

More at: <http://www.unece.org/hlm/prgm/hmm/construction%20safety/call.4.presentations.baku.pdf>

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Announcements  
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[1] The 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm, September 5-11: Invitation for Workshop Abstracts and Seminar Proposals

Abstract submission deadline: February 15, 2010

More at: <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/abstracts>

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Resources  
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[1] The world's deadliest quakes since 1970

Here is a list of the world's 10 most deadly quakes over the last 40 years. The list does not include Haiti's magnitude 7.0 earthquake Tuesday where officials estimate the death toll at more than 45,000.

- July 27, 1976: A magnitude 7.5 earthquake in China killed at least 242,000 people.

- Dec. 26, 2004: A magnitude 9 quake off the Indonesian island of Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed 226,000 people in 12 countries, including 165,700 in Indonesia and 35,400 in Sri Lanka, and affected 2.4 million.

- May 12, 2008: A magnitude 7.9 earthquake in Eastern China killed 88,000 people and affected nearly 45 million people in 10 provinces.

More at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/14/AR2010011403805.html?waporef=obinsite>