

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazard', Issue 13 (17 August 2010), prepared for members of Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership network.

Regards,
Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) team

P.S: Compiled links to news, events, opportunities, and resources are regularly updated on our del.icio.us page. Please add apmn.media to your network. More on del.icio.us [here](#)

Quick Links

[News](#)
[Events](#)
[Opportunities](#)
[Organisations working on Water and Hazard](#)
[Resources](#)

News

1. Curb on groundwater extraction soon
16 August 2010

Waking up to reports that the Kathmandu Valley is drying up and groundwater level is decreasing, the government is introducing a groundwater management policy within two weeks to regulate extraction of groundwater. Such a policy will be the first of its kind that will restrict the extraction of groundwater in the "danger zone" and help the government launch different water recharging programmes.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bVHWbf>

2. 3.5m Pak children at disease risk
16 August 2010

The United Nations warned today that up to 3.5 million children were at risk from water-borne diseases in flood-hit Pakistan and said it was bracing to deal with thousands of potential cholera cases.

Source: <http://bit.ly/99ffLt>

3. Wildfires spread in Portugal's national parks
12 August 2010

Authorities in Portugal are deploying firefighting aircraft and army bulldozers to halt wildfires sweeping through two of the country's national parks. Almost 300 firefighters and five aircraft are tackling two blazes in the Serra da Estrela hills in central Portugal.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bD5kpT>

4. Flood relief elusive in Nepal
12 August 2010

Many villagers of six VDCs and neighbouring areas in Susari district (East Nepal) are forced to starve and live in the open sky due to lack of relief materials. Some of them have contracted waterborne disease after they consumed contaminated water.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bi7aas>

5. China landslide toll rises to 702

11 August 2010

The death toll from landslides in northwestern China more than doubled to 702, as rescue crews in three Asian countries struggled to reach survivors from flooding that has imperiled millions. More than 1,000 other people were still listed as missing.

Source: <http://bit.ly/a0jTSo>

6. US adds \$20 mn for Pakistan flood relief

11 August 2010

The US will provide an additional \$20 million in relief funding for the flooding in Pakistan that has killed more than 1,600 people in the last two weeks, a US official said on Tuesday. That amount brings the total US contribution to \$55 million and will help account for a wider area now being affected by the flooding, said Mark Ward, acting director of the State Department's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aO3lhf>

7. Strong 6.0 magnitude quake shakes Vanuatu

11 August 2010

A strong 6.0 magnitude quake has shaken the Pacific island of Vanuatu, US monitors said on Wednesday, a day after a bigger tremor triggered a small tsunami and sent thousands fleeing for the hills. The quake hit at 2:35 am (0325 GMT) at a depth of 41 kilometres (25 miles), 75 kilometres.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cXvlBQ>

8. Seven killed in Bajura landslide

10 August 2010

Seven people, including four members of a family, died in a landslide in Bajura (Far West Nepal) on Monday night. A team of Nepal Police, Red Cross Society and locals recovered the bodies on Tuesday morning. A Nepal Army team was dispatched to the area as the village is still at the risk of landslide for it has been raining continuously. The administration provided Rs. 30,000 to the families of each victim killed in the landslide.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bxd2ym>

9. 16 Nepalese dead in Ladakh flash floods

10 August 2010

Sixteen Nepali nationals have died in flash floods in and around Leh in Jammu & Kashmir state of India. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday confirmed the death of 23 foreigners, including 16 Nepalis, in the floods that wrecked havoc in Ladakh on Friday.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cli76e>

10. UN to launch appeal for Pakistan flood disaster

10 August 2010

The United Nations is launching an appeal to help 13.8 million people hit by one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters after floods paralysed parts of Pakistan and fanned fears of disease.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cT9t1J>

11. Russian villagers battle fires with buckets, spades

10 August 2010

When Russia's deadliest forest fires in more than three decades came roaring out of the pine trees, whole families tried in vain to save their homes from the flames by digging trenches with buckets and spades.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aTf1Fd>

12. India goes full throttle to check oil spill off Mumbai

10 August 2010

Containment and recovery of spilled oil in present position is not feasible because of the rocky surface and the prevailing weather and tidal conditions, say Mumbai coastal authorities.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cJHnhL>

13. China Orders Polluting and Unsafe Factories To Shut Down - 2,000 Sites In 18 Industries Affected

10 August 2010

China has ordered more than 2,000 highly polluting, unsafe or energy inefficient plants to shut down within two months, state media reported Monday. Environmental campaigners welcomed the measure, saying the announcement went well beyond previous orders in naming specific facilities and outlining stiff penalties for firms that do not comply by the end of September.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dkItLG>

14. Central Europe under Water - Heavy Flooding Continues Following Deadly Weekend

09 August 2010

Eleven people died in Central Europe over the weekend after flash floods inundated several towns in Poland, the Czech Republic and eastern Germany. With waters now advancing northwards, the danger has not yet subsided. It was water level that had never been seen before. The Neisse River on the German-Polish border hit 7.07 meters (23 feet) on Sunday morning in the town of Gorlitz, the highest level ever recorded since systematic measurements began almost a century ago. Normal level for the river is a mere 1.7 meters.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cOTXj9>

15. Floods strand 300 foreigners in India's Ladakh

09 August 2010

More than 300 foreign tourists are stranded in India's Himalayan region of Ladakh, three days after flash floods killed at least 150 people and ravaged the main town of Leh, officials said on Monday.

More at: <http://bit.ly/96wU6A>

[Top](#)

Opportunities

1. IDRC's Graduate Research Awards on Climate Change and Water; Calls for Proposal

IDRC's Climate Change and Water Program (CCW) helps developing country researchers to understand the consequences of climate change on water resources and to find ways to improve the ability of citizens and governments to adapt to the changing environment.

Deadline: 15 October 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/alg4Lx>

2. Erasmus Mundus - IMRD Scholarships

The joint international master in rural development (imrd), part of the European Erasmus Mundus program, offers the opportunity to study the European vision on rural development in its diversity of approaches and applications.

Deadline: 31 December 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/aDppPy>

3. WFI Fellowships

The WFI Fellowship Program brings forestry and forest products professionals from around the world to work at the World Forest Institute for 6 to 12 months. Over 80 Fellows from 25 countries have participated in the program.

Deadline: Rolling

More at: <http://bit.ly/aRhWIm>

4. Junior Professional Officers

The Junior Professional Officer (JPO) programme provides young professionals with hands-on experience in the international arena. JPOs are professional level staff, whose applications for specific positions are submitted to UNEP through their respective governments, who then finance their assignment through trust fund arrangements, normally for a period of two to three years.

Deadline: 31 August 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/crdLMX>

5. Fellowships and Internships at Interactive Mapping and Archive Project; Social Science Baha in Kathmandu

Fellows (6 months) will be required to choose two to three case studies of residential locations (old, new and alternative) within the Valley and carry out a comparative study of the areas along the guidelines of the IMAP project. This will include collecting material (maps, pictures, interviews, policy documents) for the digital archive, as well as producing a 5,000-word research paper on the subject. The titles include Housing, Real Estate, Slums & Shanties Preservation of heritage and Environmental Impacts, Tourism. Selected fellows will receive a stipend of Rs 14,000/month for 6 months. MAP invites applications for three-month internship opportunities with a small stipend in practical digital archiving with formal learning components.

Deadline: 22 August 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/bJihyW>

6. Food Security Center Scholarships at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

FSC awards up to 29 scholarships for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers for a period of 4 to 36 months. The Center wishes to attract outstanding PhD students and postdoctoral fellows pursuing a career in academia or development collaboration.

Deadline: 30 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/aPvYvC>

7. Peter Freyberg Memorial Fund for Curriculum Research in Education Scholarship, New Zealand
The scholarship is awarded to an applicant enrolled in a thesis towards Part 2 of the Doctor of Education (EdD), who best meets the donor's wish to 'Stimulate research in curriculum' in the School of Education at the University of Waikato.

Deadline: 22 August 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/aWjtk5>

8. 2 PhD Studentship, University of Leiden, Netherlands

Neurobiology of parents' responses to infant crying & Parents' and children's differential susceptibility to environmental influences

Deadline: 20 August 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/cL0LK7>

[Top](#)

Events

1. 14-16, March 2010

1st Global Conference Trauma - Theory and Practice; Calls for paper, Prague, CZECH REPUBLIC

This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference seeks to examine and explore issues surrounding individual and collective trauma, both in terms of practice, theory and lived reality.

More at: <http://bit.ly/cLbMKD>

2. 21 October 2010

Integrated Water Management; Call for Papers; London, UK

The aim of this conference is to explore and debate integrated water management and what it has to offer the water sector facing a wide range of new policy challenges.

Deadline: Not available

More at: <http://bit.ly/a2Jd58>

3. 04-06, November 2010

International Congress on Environmental Health; Call for Proposals; Coimbra, PORTUGAL

The International Congress on Environmental Health offers a unique opportunity for all those involved in Environmental Health, to present their work, share expertise and promote partnerships, at a nationwide context.

Deadline: 01 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/cjp8Z2>

4. 07-09, September 2011

Earthquake Resistant Engineering Structures 2011; Call for proposals; Chianciano Terme, ITALY

ERES 2011 aims to discuss the state of the art in structures subjected to earthquakes, including the geophysical aspects, the behaviour of historical buildings, seismic isolation, retrofitting, base isolation and energy absorption systems.

Deadline: Not available

More at: <http://bit.ly/ds3owC>

[Top](#)

Organisations working on Water and Hazard

1. Wetland for water and land -Wetland International

URL: <http://bit.ly/d4LjIT>

2. End Water Poverty

URL: <http://bit.ly/dspaX7>

3. The Association for Water and Rural Development

URL: <http://bit.ly/9tXYef>

4. Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief

URL: <http://bit.ly/cNuuaF>

5. WATERAID

URL: <http://bit.ly/cBEM3w>

6. Water Partners International

URL: <http://bit.ly/9efrZq>

[Top](#)

Resources

1. Natural Disasters and Other Natural phenomenon- Unified Lanshop Portal

URL: <http://bit.ly/djRBy1>

2. Flash floods inundate 230 Village Development Committees (VDC) in Jhapa and Sunsari districts in the Eastern Region; Nepal's Monthly Situation Update; Issue No. 62, covering the period 1- 30 June 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/bpEN38>

3. Nepal: Potential diarrhoea outbreak (MDRNP004) Operations update n°3 - 10 August 2010; IFRC

URL: <http://bit.ly/ctEgzQ>

4. Thapaliya, H.; Role of Women in Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in Rural Communities of Kailali District: A Comparative Study; Central Department of Home Science and Women Studies Padma kanya Campus, Tribhuvan University 20 March 2009

URL: <http://bit.ly/cdR5yV>

5. Floods In Nepal Initial Rapid Appraisal Report Oxfam GB NEPAL August 21, 2008

URL: <http://bit.ly/aTrkXj>

6. Inter-Agency Rapid Flood Assessment WFP-UNICEF-Save the Children Alliance Nepal - August 2007

URL: <http://bit.ly/9ZtpE2>

7. '50% rise in extreme rain incidence in last 50 yrs'; Jayashree Nandi, Aug 13, 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/9C2bYA>

8. Pak floods, Russia wildfires and China landslides due to global warming: Experts; ANI, Aug 11, 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/b2EMbR>

9. Satellite images for hazard management and mitigation

URL: <http://bit.ly/9ENEb3>

10. Hazard management

URL: <http://bit.ly/c150Aa>

11. The WORKING FOR WATER Programme; land Use and water Resources Research, Africa

URL: <http://bit.ly/a5AUA8>

[Top](#)

"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars" - Les Brown