

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazard', Issue 14 (31 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](http://apmn.media) to your network. More on del.icio.us [here](#)

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**News from Regional Member Countries**  
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**1. Rains continue to lash Delhi**

24 August 2010

Delhiites woke up to another rainy morning on Tuesday which brought with it added problems of waterlogging and traffic snarls in several areas. The rain gauges measured 20.8 mm of showers for a period of 24 hours ending 8:30 am. The city received 4.8 mm of rains after 5:30 p.m. yesterday. The Weather Office said the capital has received 670.3 mm of rains since July five when monsoon reached the capital.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9Xbw8h>

**2. Flood situation in Upper Assam grim**

23 August 2010

More than 50,000 people have been affected as more than forty villages were flooded by the swelling tributaries of the mighty Brahmaputra river in Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts, reports PTI.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9HvCvE>

**3. Seven die in floods, landslides in Western Nepal**

26 August 2010

At least seven people were killed in floods and landslides triggered by incessant rainfall across the country within the past few days in Dang, Rukum, Dadhaeldura, and Shyangja. Floods and landslides have been causing havoc across the country since the onset of the monsoon, claiming dozens of lives and displacing hundreds of families.

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

**4. 2 drown, 8 missing in floods; Koshi recedes slightly**

24 August 2010

Eight persons have been missing in landslides and floods following incessant rainfall across the country.

The flow of the Koshi river, which had increased to 331,135 cusecs (cubic feet per second) Tuesday evening, exceeding this year's previous high registered on Monday, receded to 319,235 cusecs later in the evening.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cosOU4>

#### **5. Mahakali flood displaced to be sheltered at schools**

22 August 2010

A meeting of Natural Disaster Rescue Committee, Kanchanpur, (Far west Nepal) has decided to settle those displaced by the Mahakali River flood in local schools for a temporary period, state-owned news agency RSS reports. Arrangements have been made to shift the displaced people at local Siddhanath Secondary School and Chaukisuru Primary School.

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

#### **6. One killed, three injured in landslide**

24 August 2010

A woman was killed while three others were injured in a landslide that took place at Gotri VDC-5 of Bajura district (Far west Nepal) on Monday. To recall the recent disaster report of the district, seven people lost their lives Barabise VDC a week back.

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

#### **7. Government unlikely to meet water-for-all target**

23 August 2010

The National Planning Commission in Nepal, which had aimed to supply drinking water to 85 per cent of the population by the end of the last fiscal, failed to realise its target. With the same target figuring in the next periodic plan, the Water Quality Standard Commission's 2005 announcement to supply potable water to the entire population by 2015 appears hollow. The government plan to supply drinking water to all the Nepalis by 2017 is unlikely to materialize unless a miracle happens.

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

#### **8. Floodwater level rises by 15ft in Jaffarabad, 52 killed**

23 August 2010

On Sunday, dozens of flood victims most of them children suffering from gastroenteritis and other waterborne diseases were brought to Dera Murad Jamali Sibi and Quetta hospitals. During the last few days after the worst-ever floods hit Balochistan's districts, over 52 persons infected with waterborne diseases have died.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aJ6WGX>

#### **9. Thousands more flee flood in Sindh**

23 August 2010

Authorities evacuated tens of thousands from flood-threatened areas in the south on Sunday, but insisted that the 2.5 million people of Hyderabad were safe from the country's worst-ever floods. Half a million people are living in about 5,000 schools in the flood-hit areas where poor hygiene and sanitation, along with cramped quarters and the stifling heat, provide fertile ground for potentially fatal diseases such as cholera.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cOted6>

**10. Pakistan floods prompt mass evacuations in south**

27 August 2010

Hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis have been ordered to evacuate their homes as flood waters threaten several cities in the south of the country. The flood surge, after weeks of monsoon rains, has breached embankments on the Indus River, inundating villages and swamping vast areas of farmland.

Source: <http://bbc.in/ax5yYI>

**11. Fresh Pakistan floods displace 1 million more people**

27 August 2010

About one million more people have been displaced in Sindh over the last 48 hours as devastating floods continue to spread across south Pakistan, the United Nations said on Friday.

Source: <http://bit.ly/a6MRFi>

**12. \$815 million donated or pledged, says Qureshi**

23 August 2010

The special session of the UN General Assembly in New York following the devastated floods in Pakistan marked a doubling of the \$460m emergency relief appeal launched on August 11. More than 40 countries announced pledges amounting to \$254.5 million bringing the aid total since the natural disaster struck to \$815.59 million.

Source: <http://bit.ly/96z4JH>

**13. Government decides to hold donors conference for flood aid in Pakistan**

24 August 2010

The government has decided to hold a donors conference in Islamabad on the platform of Pakistan Development Forum to raise funds for flood relief and rehabilitation. The decision was also made to distribute IRS 20,000 each for the flood affected victims with first installment of IRS 5,000 to be distributed as soon as possible in the same high level meeting.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bqA4A3>

**14. Floods destroy crops over 4.25m acres in Pakistan**

24 August 2010

Floods have destroyed or extensively damaged crops over 4.25 million acres of land out of 23 million acres cultivated in Pakistan. In an estimated breakdown of losses prepared by the Food Ministry, rice was the worst hit with an area of 1.51 million acres destroyed with the loss of 1.5 million tonnes of rice.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aNT2ls>

**15. British public donates \$45m to Pakistan Public Victims**

24 August 2010

The British publics have donated 29 million pounds (\$45 million) in aid to Pakistan, charity officials said on Monday while the government has doubled its assistance to 63 million pounds.

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

**16. ADB Announces \$2 Billion Package to Help Pakistan Tackle Flood Devastation**

19 August 2010

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) today announced that it would extend \$2 billion to Pakistan to help with the rehabilitation and reconstruction work resulting from the devastating floods.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9cA2WX>

#### **17. New storm fears in floods chaos in China**

24 August 2010

Heavy downpours last week swelled the Yalu River, which forms part of the border between China and North Korea, to dangerously high levels, sending water spilling over its banks on both sides, inundating homes, roads and farmland. Workers in the northeast toiled to clean up the mess left by severe flooding that killed four people, forced 250,000 out of their homes and left parts of a city in North Korea under water.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cQ4sRf>

#### **18. Floods leave 42 dead, 13 missing in NW China**

24 August 2010

Forty-two people have been killed and 13 others left missing after rain-triggered floods in Northwest China's Gansu province over the past two weeks. The downpours that began pounding 14 counties and districts in the cities of Longnan and Tianshui on August 11 had affected 1.15 million residents, with more than 150,000 of them evacuated. The floods had caused 30,000 homes to collapse and damaged 110,000 others. Nearly 60,000 hectares of crops had been flooded. In hardest-hit Chengxian County, floods had killed 23 people and left nine missing.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dw7Et5>

#### **19. Crazy climates will continue the rest of 2010**

24 August 2010

The country will likely experience abnormally low temperatures and freezes this winter, warned a senior official with the China Meteorological Administration. So far this year, 14 rounds of torrential rain have hit the southern region of China and areas along the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. In July, North China also suffered five rounds of rainstorms successively. On early Aug 8, devastating rain-triggered landslides hit Zhouqu county in Northwest China's Gansu province, killing at least 1,435 people and leaving 330 others missing.

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

#### **20. ADB, Japan Extend \$3 Million to Support Earthquake Resilient Schools in Bhutan**

25 August 2010

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Japan are extending a \$3 million grant to Bhutan to rebuild damaged schools using earthquake-resilient materials and designs which could potentially be replicated around the country.

Source: <http://bit.ly/8ZfFHw>

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**Global News**  
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#### **1. Spain: Asaja Murcia warns over 40% of vegetable growers severely affected by rain and hail**

25 August 2010

The agricultural professional organization ASAJA Murcia noted that after the hail storm in the area of Murcia and the rains of recent days, over 40% of the vegetable producers of Murcia have been severely affected.

Source: <http://bit.ly/ah4eel>

**2. US: Despite drought, Virginia's apple harvest looks good**

23 August 2010

The drought of 2010 has been hard on many of Virginia's agricultural crops, but the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) says the outlook for the 2010 apple crop is very good. In early August, staff from VDACS' Office of Sales and Market Development contacted growers representing the three major apple-growing areas of Virginia: Southwest, Central and the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

Source: <http://bit.ly/avcQ7O>

**3. Engineers to drain water from Alpine glacier**

26 August 2010

Engineers in France have started work to drain an immense lake that has built up under an Alpine glacier on Mont Blanc, an attempt to prevent a repeat of a flood that killed 175 people more than 100 years ago.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9fH6gv>

**4. Sea level likely to rise up to 70 cm by 2100: Study**

26 August 2010

Ocean levels could significantly rise up to 70 cm by 2100 due to climate change and even the most extreme geo-engineering approaches would not be able to stop sea levels from rising, according to a new study.

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

**5. 146 dams threaten Amazon basin**

19 August 2010

Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru—are planning over 146 big dams in the Amazon Basin. Some of these dams would flood pristine rainforests, others threaten indigenous people, and all would change the Amazonian ecosystem. Now a new website, Dams in Amazonia, outlines the sites and impacts of these dams with an interactive map.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dsQPw1>

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**Events**  
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**1. 07-10, December 2010**

**Asia and the Pacific Symposium – Vulnerability Assessments to Natural and Anthropogenic Hazards; Manila, PHILIPPINES**

The symposium is expected to enhance the capability and capacity of participants in conducting vulnerability assessment. It shall also serve as venue for exchange of knowledge and initiatives in vulnerability assessment, and to build linkages and achieve synergies. The discussions shall be very useful towards preparing appropriate programmes/projects to deal with the inherent biophysical

and socio-institutional characteristics of ecosystems and the stressors of the resources including the impacts of climate change.

Deadline: 30 September 2010

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

**2. 27-28, November 2010**

**Middle East Fire & Safety Conference; Call for Participation; Dubai, UAE**

Middle East Fire and Safety Conference 2010 will focus on the codes and practices, along with the latest technologies available with case studies from the past. Hence attending this event will provide an excellent platform for discussing issues related to Fire Safety.

Deadline for abstracts: Not available

More at: <http://bit.ly/b0Y5Gv>

**3. 06-17, December 2010**

**Community-Based Integrated Watershed Management; Call for application; Silang, Cavite 4118, PHILIPPINES**

The course showcases community watershed management as a process of involving local community and local governance structures in formulating and implementing a course of action that emphasize the linkages between its upstream and downstream parts and their respective human and biophysical endowments.

Deadline: Rolling

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

**4. 07-09, September 2010**

**IGES-ADB-UNFCCC Secretariat Joint CDM Workshop' Calls for Participation; ADB Headquarters, Manila, PHILIPPINES**

The workshop invites officials from the Designated National Authorities (DNAs) -CDM focal points in the government- and private sectors such as CDM developers and financial experts. The workshop consists of a series of presentations and discussions on the proposed topics and also includes one-by-one consultations with CDM project developers.

Deadline: Rolling

More at: <http://bit.ly/a9zyim>

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**Opportunities**  
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**1. Sustainable Urban Mobility in Developing Countries; Local Development, Transportation - Web based 18 weeks course; 04 Oct - 18 Mar 2011**

The course aims to enhance the capacity of local decision makers and urban and transportation planners to formulate and implement appropriate policies that contribute to sustainability in urban transport in developing countries.

Deadline: Rolling

More at: <http://bit.ly/aG3NyU>

**2. Asian Graduate Student Fellowships – 3 months**

The course is expected to commence on 03 May 2011, and to make a presentation on their work at the Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies at the end of July 2011. Fellowships are

offered to current graduate students doing their Master's or PhD degrees and working in the Humanities and Social Sciences on Southeast Asian topics, and will allow the recipients to be based at NUS for an 'in residence fellowship' for a period of three months.

Deadline: 15 November 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/9FJvTb>

**3. EMMEP (Erasmus Mundus Minerals and Environmental Programme Scholarships)**

It is a 2 year M.Sc. program for students in Mining / Geotechnical Engineering, Mineral Processing, Recycling and related academic studies. For the 2011-2013 programme, applications from Non-European Students are invited.

Deadline: 01 November 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/9wobHW>

**4. EDCTP calls for proposals: Member States Initiated projects on HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria and Evaluating the impact of clinical trials in Africa**

The purpose of this grant is for EDCTP to provide funding and added value to these initiatives by acting as the locus of integration for various projects and programmes that have been independently initiated and/or funded by member states.

Deadline: 16 November 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/bn5XCh>

**5. Vacancy: EDCTP Developing Countries Coordination Committee (DCCC) members**

The Developing Countries Coordination Committee (DCCC) of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) is seeking four new members to replace those who have completed their tenure.

Deadline: 20 October 2010

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

**6. IFS Research Grants: Call for applications**

Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources.

Deadline: 30 December 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/9Moyjq>

**7. Vacancy for senior Hydrologist at ICIMOD for Indus Basin Project**

ICIMOD is looking to recruit a person with outstanding knowledge on river basin wide hydrology with particular knowledge of melt water generation and its downstream usages, climate model downscaling and climate change scenarios.

Deadline: 12 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/b6XV1T>

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**Organisations working in Water and Disaster**  
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**1. American Water Works Association**

(AWWA) is a resource for information for the water profession. AWWA publishes standards, books, manuals, videos, electronic databases and reports.

URL: <http://bit.ly/bIAG4m>

**2. Gender and Water Alliance**

(GWA) is a network of 133 organisations and individuals from around the world with an independent steering committee. The Books and Publications section offers a mix of information and knowledge sharing activities such as electronic conferencing, a web site, advocacy leaflets and video, annual reports, capacity building and pilot programmes.

URL: <http://bit.ly/cZuM9V>

**3. The International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNI/INWEH)**

is a member of the UN University family of organisations. Their publications include water-related data and information.

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

**4. Sustainable Water Supply & Sanitation for All People**

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is a global multi-stakeholder partnership organisation that works to improve the lives of poor people.

URL: <http://bit.ly/dj8aRP>

**5. Cap-Net**

Cap-Net is an international network for capacity building in IWRM. It is made up of a partnership of autonomous international, regional and national institutions and networks committed to capacity building in the Water Sector.

URL: <http://bit.ly/cai7Fw>

**6. RedR**

Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief exists in order to provide suitably trained and experienced personnel to relief agencies in order to help them relieve people from the debilitating conditions which occur when disasters disrupt the normal pattern of life. Each RedR organisation maintains a register of experienced personnel from which operational agencies (government, non-government and international) can obtain the skills they require to improve their response in disaster relief. RedR does not act in an operational capacity.

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

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**Resources**  
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**1. Bhadrakumar, MK; Understanding the Pakistani floods; The Hindu; 23 August 2010**

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

**2. Warmer future, stronger hurricanes? Caribbean hurricane history: medieval cyclone peaks rivaled current ones**

URL: <http://bit.ly/d9biGh>

**3. Florian Steinberg; 2009; Rebuilding Low-Heritage Villages After Disasters; ADB**

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

- 4. Disaster Risk Management; ADB**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/cebUXw>
- 5. Carter, WN; (1991); Disaster Management: A Disaster Manager's Handbook; ADB**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/buHzmJ>
- 6. What monsoon means**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/d1Uweg>
- 7. Drought Cycle Management: A Toolkit for the Drylands of the Greater Horn**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/c8ZiN5>
- 8. Drought Cycle Management: A simplified toolkit for communities and schools**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/agGr7m>
- 9. Building Resilient Communities: A Training Manual on Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/b2dKhb>
- 10. PAKISTAN: The flood, and the response**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/aJcTNS>
- 11. GLOBAL: Fire, water, air and earth**  
URL: <http://bit.ly/bVtUU8>  
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