

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazard', Issue 15 (14 September 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](#)

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News from the Himalayas

1. Pilgrimage to Muktinath halted

12 September 2010

Pilgrims bound for and returning from Muktinath have been hit hard after Friday night's landslide at Tilkeni along the Beni-Jomsom road section disrupted vehicular movement.

Source: <http://bit.ly/coX09B>

2. Brahmaputra flowing above danger level

12 September 2010

Brahmaputra river is flowing above the danger level at all its gauge stations except Goalpara.

Those stations flowing above danger level include Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Nemaigaon, Tezpur and Dhubri.

Source: <http://bit.ly/azd95d>

3. 10 killed, thousands displaced in northeast floods

12 September 2010

Ten people were killed and about 300,000 displaced in flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rains in the northeastern states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, officials said on Sunday.

Source: <http://bit.ly/ckDv9j>

4. 8 killed in Arunachal flashfloods, Jairam calls off hearing on dams

11 September 2010

At least eight people were killed when flash floods and mudslides caused by the Siang — as the Tsangpo is known immediately after it enters Indian territory — washed away several houses in

Mossing village in the upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh on Thursday evening. Flash floods have also cut off road links in several districts of the frontier state.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9UT1Sn>

5. Lutheran World Relief commits \$200,000 to Pakistan Flood Relief

08 September 2010

Baltimore, Lutheran World Relief has committed \$200,000 to emergency relief in Pakistan, where record monsoon flooding has claimed lives, destroyed farmland and livestock and displaced millions.

Source: <http://bit.ly/a35oZf>

6. Four of a family killed in landslide

08 September 2010

Four members of a family were killed when landslide struck a one-storey house at Lampate, Makha-1, in Shankhuwasabha, (East Nepal) in the wee hours on Wednesday.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aF3Dh7>

7. Flood wreaks havoc, scores displaced

04 September 2010

The Mahakali river has breached its temporary embankment at Bhimdutta Municipality 11 of Kanchanpur. The water level in the river has risen by 230,000 cusec following incessant rainfall, the police said. The river had destroyed the embankment thrice in August. A total of 127 families have been displaced due to the high risks of flood and landslide.

Source: <http://bit.ly/b2rN9x>

8. Rs 144 million food aid for refugees

04 September 2010

The Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Office (ECHO) of the European Commission (EC) has agreed to finance up to 144 million rupees approximately (1,500,000 Euros) to contribute to the eligible costs of the humanitarian aid action entitled Food Assistance to Bhutanese Refugees, Nepal, implemented by the World Food Program (WFP).

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

9. Bagmati Action Plan announced

03 September 2010

With the view to restoring and conserving Bagmati River and its tributaries, the Bagmati Action Plan (2009-2014) has been announced on Friday with a proposed budget of Rs 16 billion that has been developed by the government in coordination with NTNC, UNEP and UN-HABITAT.

Source: <http://bit.ly/90Wj81>

10. Water Crisis in Asia

24 August 2010

As the contradictions of Asia's water challenges have been laid bare this summer—with millions affected by flooding while others are hit by droughts—one thing has been made clearer: the coming water crisis could exacerbate already simmering domestic and regional tensions.

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

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Global News

1. Oxygen drops 20% in waters near BP spill

09 September 2010

Hungry microbes feasting on spilled BP oil caused a drop in oxygen levels in the Gulf of Mexico, but did not create a marine "dead zone" near the wellhead, U.S. scientists reported on Tuesday.
Source: <http://bit.ly/9Lq1IB>

2. Kazakh forest fires kill five, advance to Russia

09 September 2010

Forest fires have killed five people in northern Kazakhstan, the country's Emergencies Ministry said on Thursday, as neighbouring Russia sent aircraft to fight blazes advancing onto its territory. More than 500 firefighters were trying to contain the fires, which broke out at about noon (0600 GMT) on Wednesday and have already spread into some parts of Russia.
Source: <http://bit.ly/cHjxin>

3. Ecuador's tallest waterfall to be destroyed by Chinese dam

08 September 2010

The 1,500 megawatt Coca-Codo Sinclair Hydroelectric Project will divert water flow away from the 480-foot San Rafael Falls, leaving it "high and dry." Worse, the project, which is scheduled for completion in 2016, will be pressure on Sumaco Biosphere Reserve, an area so renowned for its biodiversity that "even the oil companies spared this area during prospection and development of pipeline corridors in the Ecuadorian Amazon," according to Save America's Forests, which says the waterfalls, have become the principal attraction of Sumaco.
Source: <http://bit.ly/9r0gTO>

4. Quake-hit New Zealand city struggles back to business

07 September 2010

New Zealand's second-biggest city, Christchurch, struggled to get back to business on Tuesday as aftershocks caused more damage and kept parts of the city cordoned off three days after a magnitude 7.1 quake. Aftershocks, the strongest with a magnitude of 5.4, were still rocking the region as Prime Minister John Key, who was brought up in the city, pledged to rebuild.
Source: <http://bit.ly/9Q6WEe>

5. Wildfire still a hazard in US

06 September 2010

The Oklahoma Forestry Division reported 996 acres were burned in Sequoyah County during August, and 30 structures were saved, worth an estimated \$1.25 million. One structure, a mobile home, was lost at a cost of \$15,000. A two-acre wildfire along Interstate 40 late Friday was quickly doused by Sallisaw firefighters as it moved toward the Shiloh Training Center on the north side of the interstate.
Source: <http://bit.ly/9hIxSx>

6. Flood risk from lake under a glacier in the French Alps

25 August 2010

The lake is trapped under a glacier on Mont Blanc, and contains enough water to flood the valley below in just 15 minutes. Engineers are now trying to drain some of the water out of the lake to stop it flooding.

Source: <http://bbc.in/a36y6Z>

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Events

1. 06-08, July 2011

35th WEDC International Conference; Call for Papers; Loughborough University, UK

Due to space restrictions, the numbers are limited to 250, with priority given to delegates from low-income countries and we particularly encourage those from the public and private sectors, Higher Education and research institutes, donors and bi-lateral agencies and NGO practitioners to submit papers on the theme of the conference.

Deadline: 01 December 2010

Contact: Martine Morton; Phone: +44 (0)1509 222885; Fax: +44 (0)1509 211079

Email: wedc.conf@lboro.ac.uk

Event website: <http://bit.ly/aLXFfv>

2. 21-24, September 2010

Safety 2010 World Conference: Call for Participation; London, UK

The key theme of the conference is Safe and Equitable Communities. This theme has been chosen to reflect the disproportionate burden from almost all types of injuries that falls on poorer Communities within countries, between countries and even between global regions. The conference programme will cover all aspects of injuries and safety.

Deadline: Not available

Contact: Andrew Bennett; Webster Street, Liverpool L3 2ET; Tel: +44 (0) 151 231 8797

Email: info@safety2010.org.uk

Event website: <http://bit.ly/clsnVr>

3. 06-10, December 2010

5th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management ; Call for abstracts; Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, JAMAICA

The Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management is the instrument for promoting knowledge dissemination in the areas of risk reduction, disaster preparedness and response, and adaptation to climate change.

Deadline: 29 November 2010

Contact: Anna Inniss

Email: Anna.Inniss@cdema.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/9yNeul>

4. 19- 20, February 2011

2011 International Conference on Technological; Advancements in Civil Engineering (ICTACE 2011): Call for abstracts; Hyderabad, INDIA

The conference will bring together leading researchers, engineers and scientists in the domain of interest from around the world.

Deadline: 01 October 2010

Contact: International Association of Computer Science & Information Technology (IACSIT).
Chengdu, Sichuan, China 610017; Tel: 4006-999-648 (National), +86-28-8652-8228
(International)
Email: ictace@vip.163.com
Event website: <http://bit.ly/9jk2qV>

5. 13- 15, December 2010

Casualty Care Middle East 2010: Call for Participation; Abu Dhabi, UAE

With this in mind, Defence IQ is delighted to announce that Casualty Care Middle East 2010 will take place with the official support of the Health Authority Abu Dhabi, between the 12th and the 16th December 2010 at The Sheraton Abu Dhabi Hotel & Resort, UAE.

Deadline: Not Available

Contact: Valeria David; Phone: 1-800-882-8684

Email: info@iqpc.com

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/b7Rvxs>

6. 25 -27, July 2011

Environmental Health Risk 2011: 6th International Conference on the Impact of Environmental Factors on Health; Call for Participation; Riga, LATVIA

The conference aims to provide a forum for the dissemination and exchange of information on the diverse aspects of the impact of environmental factors on health across different disciplines.

Deadline: Not Available

Contact: Alice Jones; Southampton SO40 7AA, UK; Telephone: 44(0) 23 80293223,

Fax: 44(0) 23 80292853

Email: enquiries@wessex.ac.uk

Event website: <http://bit.ly/aySaQU>

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Opportunities

1. Fellowships in Sustainability Science: Harvard University's Center for International Development

The fellowship competition is open to advanced doctoral and post-doctoral students, and to mid-career professionals engaged in research or practice to facilitate the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective interventions that promote sustainable development.

Deadline: 01 December 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/bsM9Rq>

2. The Shorenstein Center Fellowship Program

The Shorenstein Center Fellowship Program offers an opportunity for outstanding journalists and scholars to spend a semester at Harvard University, where they can share their knowledge and expertise in a collegial and intellectually stimulating environment.

Email: edith_holway@harvard.edu

Deadline: 01 December 2011

More at: <http://bit.ly/cl1d2O>

3. VLIR-UOS awards scholarships for 2011-2012

VLIR-UOS awards scholarships to students from developing countries so that they can follow a master or training programme in Belgium. These scholarships cover all related expenses. Every year, VLIR-UOS awards up to 180 scholarships to first-year master students and 70 scholarships to training participants.

Deadline: 01 December 2010

Email: scholarships@vliruos.be

More at: <http://bit.ly/bB9f33>

4. Gates Cambridge Scholarship at University of Cambridge

Once applicants have applied for admission and a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, the Trust asks academic departments in Cambridge to rank their very best candidates. A shortlisting committee then applies the four main criteria of the scholarships to produce a final interview list. Gates Scholars are selected after interview.

Deadline: 01 February 2011

Email: info@gates.scholarships.cam.ac.uk

More at: <http://bit.ly/94tYMJ>

5. Biodiversity foto contest up for all

GLOBAL Environment Facility, the largest funder for projects to improve the global environment dares everyone with an eye for the nice pictures or video to join a photo-competition to celebrate 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity.

Deadline: 24 September 2010

Email: GEFbiodiversityphoto2010@gmail.com

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

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Organisations working on Water and Hazard

1. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - Resource Centre Network Nepal

WASH-RCNN is a network of NGOs and INGOs involved in water and sanitation sector, which intends to facilitate the sharing of information and promote the use thereof to improve the performance of the sector as a whole.

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

2. Water supply and sanitation council

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>

3. Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre

It is involved in activities relating to developing and enhancing sustainable institutional disaster risk management capacities, frameworks and mechanisms, and supporting the development and implementation of government policies; facilitating the dissemination and exchange of disaster risk management expertise, experience and information; and raising awareness and enhancing disaster risk management knowledge and skills.

URL: <http://bit.ly/a4j1tD>

4. Mekong River Commission

MRC is the brainchild of UNESCAP and is an intergovernmental organisation based on the IWRM concept.

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

5. Episcopal Relief and Development

Episcopal Relief and Development provides ongoing emergency relief and assistance after disasters, rebuilds communities, and helps children and families overcome poverty. The organization was established in 1940 by the Episcopal Church in the United States.

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

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Resources

1. Heske, W; World Water Week podcast: 90% of water in Gaza not safe to drink; 07 Sept2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/9qoc6f>

2. Pakistan floods: why the fertile Indus river is so prone to flooding

URL: <http://bbc.in/ahvUT5>

3. SLIDESHOW: Plight of Pakistan's people after the floods

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

4. Kansakar, LK; Beautifying the Beast – DEWATS to Add Value to Wastewater; 10 August 2010; ENPHO

URL: <http://bit.ly/90gLpn>

5. Maharjan, M; Diarrhoeal Diseases in Nepal: Risk Factors and Prevention Measures; May 2010; ENPHO

URL: <http://bit.ly/bybZZ4>

6. Smits, S; (2005) Water and livelihoods; Jo Smet & Sandy Cairncross

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

7. Integrated Water Resource Management; Training Portal

URL: <http://bit.ly/b2MgRG>

8. WORST FLOODS IN LIVING MEMORY, Pakistan Flood 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/cbh819>

9. Understanding disaster management in practice: With reference to Nepal; Practical Action Nepal

URL: <http://bit.ly/a6Xf8K>

10. Climate change impacts on the water resources of the Indus Basin: Capacity building, monitoring and assessment for adaptation (2010)

URL: <http://bit.ly/bTk2cA>

11. Climate Change Impacts on Hazards in the Eastern Himalayas: Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability in the Eastern Himalayas - Technical Report 5 (2010)

URL: <http://bit.ly/bDOw6A>

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