

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazard', Issue 19 (26 January 2011), 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 Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

1. Pakistan: Powerful earthquake rocks Pakistan

18 January 2011

A powerful earthquake hit southwest Pakistan on Wednesday, geologists said, but there were no immediate reports of casualties. The quake struck at 1:23 a.m. (2023 Tuesday GMT), with its epicenter around 50 kilometers (30 miles) west of the town of Dalbandin, close to the border with Afghanistan, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) said.

Source: <http://bit.ly/hLQI6s>

2. Nepal: Preparing for the next earthquake

14 January 2011

The seismic strengthening of schools and hospitals is one of the Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium's high priorities. It estimates that the structure of 25 per cent are so poor they need to be demolished whilst approximately 50 per cent would require retrofitting, reports Damakant Jaishi for the Nepali Times.

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

3. India: World Bank to support Bihar to rebuild flood-affected areas and develop DRM strategy

12 January 2011

Patna - The World Bank today signaled its intention to increase support to the Government of Bihar (GoB) over the next few years, with part of the funds dedicated to help reconstruction efforts after devastation caused by the worst flooding in India in 50 years.

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

4. Bangladesh: Thrust on research to minimise losses of coastal disaster

28 December 2011

The Financial Express reports that President Zillur Rahman has called upon university teachers and students to conduct research to reduce the impact of climate related hazards, to 'invent appropriate technology to resist coastal salinity and protect environment to ensure adaptability. Source: <http://bit.ly/ifyxik>

5. Bhutan: In harmony with the four elements - Managing calamities with an emphasis on the preservation of cultural heritage

13 December 2011

Recent disasters in the country have sent strong messages not just on how vulnerable Bhutan actually is to disasters, but on the need for more preparedness when faced with such calamities, according to Kuensel Online.

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

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Global News

1. Brazil: At least 207 missing in Brazil floods, 741 dead

19 January 2011

At least 207 people are still missing after Brazil's worst landslides in decades, authorities said on Wednesday, as the death toll from the disaster in a scenic mountain region reached 741.

Source: <http://bit.ly/h4iJFV>

2. Colombia: emergency aid for 23,000 flood victims

19 January 2011

This emergency aid is separate from the large-scale humanitarian operation that the Colombian Red Cross, together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, has been carrying out across the country for many months, benefiting more than 632,000 families.

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

3. Philippines: World Bank to help Philippines fight floods

19 January 2011

A 1.5-million-dollar grant announced by the World Bank today is intended to finance a 'comprehensive flood management master plan' to reduce the impact of floods on Metro Manila and prevent disasters such as the storms that hit the country in 2009, reports AFP.

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

4. SRI LANKA: Extreme Weather Changes Could Follow Floods

18 January 2011

Weather experts warned Sri Lankan to be prepared for extreme weather changes with hardly any notice following devastating floods here that have affected over one million people. "Global weather patterns are changing, we should be prepared for extreme changes," Gunavi Samarasinghe, the head of Meteorological Department, said as the country battled floods in the east as temperatures island-wide dropped to sixty year lows.

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

5. Kenya: Coping with hardship in pastoralist regions

18 January 2011

Isiolo - Perennial drought and other threats to pastoralist livelihoods in Kenya have prompted local communities to adopt increasingly innovative coping mechanisms, say researchers.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dU8M7b>

6. Australia: Covering the cost of natural devastation

17 Jan 2011

Although the risk was known, many were ill-prepared because these floods are not just another average flood, they are of very large-scale magnitude. Three-quarters of Queensland has been declared a disaster zone. In the immediate aftermath, most of the efforts need to be focused on rescuing and helping the victims of this disaster. But what happens after that?

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

7. Disasters in Europe: more frequent and causing more damage

12 January 2011

The number and impacts of disasters have increased in Europe in the period 1998-2009, a new report by the European Environment Agency (EEA) concludes. The report assesses the frequency of disasters and their impacts on humans, the economy and ecosystems and calls for better integrated risk disaster management across Europe.

Source: <http://bit.ly/hX3SCX>

8. UNHCR to continue helping Balkans flood victims over the winter

07 January 2011

To date, UNHCR has helped around 600 families (2,400 people) affected by the floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina either directly or through its implementing partners, including Techniches Hilfswerk, Catholic Relief Services and Bosnia and Herzegovina Logistics Services.

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

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Events

1. 20 -22 July 2011

International Conference on Building Resilience: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Risk Reducation and the Development of Sustainable communities, Kandalama, SRI LANKA

The International Conference on Building Resilience will encourage debate on individual, institutional and societal coping strategies to address the challenges associated with disaster risk.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Prof Dilanthi Amaratunga / Dr Richard Haigh, Tel- +44-161295 4471 / 7036;

Event website: <http://bit.ly/fvKob0>

2. 04-08, July 2011

Learning with GeoInformation Conference, Call for Papers, Salzburg, Austria

Please note that there are 5 ESRI/digitalearth stipends for outstanding contributions (full paper) by young scientists covering conference fees and stay. Application for these is done when submitting a contribution - please feel free to distribute this information to your students who might like to contribute!

Deadline: 01 February 2011
Contact: edu@gi-forum.org.
Event website: <http://bit.ly/fFrWJh>

3. 27–30, April 2011

International Training Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction, Call for Participation, Avillion Legacy Melaka, Malaysia

It is organized by the World Youth Foundation in co-operation with Sunway International Business & Management Sdn Bhd (a member of Sunway Education Group)

Deadline: 28 February 2011

Contact: Ms Varsha Ajmera, Tel: +606-2320911 Fax: +606-2323911, wyf@po.jaring.my

Event website: <http://bit.ly/gDbLb1>

4. 14-16, March 2011

24th ICID European Regional Conference: GroundWater 2011, Call for 4 papers, Orléans, France

This conference is the 24th European Regional Conference of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). The conference will accept contributions from worldwide that deal with issues related to the management of groundwater resources, including human action on the system (physical, economic, institutional, regulation). Transboundary groundwater issues will not be addressed by the conference.

Deadline: 31 January 2011

Contact: Mr. Sami Bouarfa, afeid@cemagref.fr

Event website: <http://bit.ly/hZ9HXE>

5. 12-16, September 2011

UNESCO-IHE Regular Short Course: World History of Water Management, Call for application, Delft, The Netherlands

The course aims at providing a comprehensive overview of archaeological and historical developments in water management including water harvesting, water supply, transportation, delivery, treatment, hydraulic engineering and allocation in different parts of the world and various cultural contexts.

Deadline: 12 August 2011

Contact: László Hayde, l.hayde@unesco-ihe.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/if316z>

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Opportunities

1. Nuffic PhD Studies Fellowships 2011

The NFP PhD study is one of the sub-programmes of the NFP. PhD degrees can be pursued at 21 Dutch universities and institutes for international education. You can apply for a PhD fellowship only after your research proposal has been agreed with the Dutch institution. The PhD must always be pursued according to a 'sandwich' or 'picnic' model, which means that a large portion of the PhD research will take place in your home country.

Deadline: 1 February 2011

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

2. IGES Internship for the first half of FY2011

IGES is recruiting research interns for the Summer 2011 period (as stipulated in our Charter of Establishment) with the aim of promoting understanding of its strategic research. IGES internships offer an opportunity to gain on-site work experience, and are aimed at those who wish to play a part in interdisciplinary policy research toward sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region.

Deadline: 31 January 2011

Contact: rss-info@iges.or.jp

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

3. Vacancy: Programme Officer Burma/Myanmar, Cambodia

Working as part of CAFOD's Asia Middle East Team you will support and develop current programmes in Burma/Myanmar. We are seeking an enthusiastic individual with experience of working in development and humanitarian contexts, some of which will have been gained in the region. You will be competent in project and programme cycle management, assessing reports, strategic planning and capacity building of local partners.

Deadline: 31 January 2011

Contact: applications@cafod.org.uk

More at: <http://bit.ly/dMXj8z>

4. Vacancy: Vice President, Sustainable Agriculture Division for The Rainforest Alliance, New York, USA

Candidates will be senior international professionals who have worked across the agriculture, food, conservation and international development sectors. Experience of successfully managing change in complex international organisations would be very helpful.

28 January 2011

Contact: Michael Wills, rainforest@oxfordhr.co.uk

More at: <http://bit.ly/fh3MbE>

5. Vacancy: Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board, Planning and Bylaw Officer, UK

Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board based in Manby, near Louth in Lincolnshire is seeking to recruit a Planning and Bylaw Officer. The role will involve providing professional advice on development related issues to an organisation that has an ambitious view of flood risk and water level management. Good IT, administrative and relevant technical skills are essential. A major part of the role will be to consult with external partners and to provide advice and support to members of the public.

Deadline: 23 February 2011

Contact: enquiries@lmdb.co.uk, Tel- +44(0)1507 328095

More at: <http://bit.ly/dQI2Ua>

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Organisations working on Water and Hazard

1. Korea Water Forum (KWF), KOREA

KWF was established in most need of central path to the global activities related to water issues especially to promote and encourage successful participation and active contribution with its national perspective toward 4th World Water Forum.

URL: <http://bit.ly/hl7D9K>

2. World Water Council (WWC), FRANCE

The World Water Council is the International Water Policy Think Tank dedicated to strengthening the world water movement for an improved management of the world's water resources and water services.

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

3. Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Center (BDPC), BANGLADESH

BDPC is a non-profit, non-government organization, that since 1992 has provided guidance, advice, inputs and knowledge towards capacity development of actors and institutions engaged in disaster management and risk reduction activities in Bangladesh.

URL: <http://bit.ly/i3ujdn>

4. Association of Drainage Authorities, UK

The Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) is the membership organisation for those involved in water level management. Its members include Internal Drainage Boards, the Environment Agency Regional Flood Defence Committees and the Northern Ireland Rivers Agency. Associate Members include Local Authorities, Consultants, Contractors and Suppliers.

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

5. GeoHazards Society (GHS), INDIA

Its mission is to reduce loss of life and suffering around the world in communities most vulnerable to geologic hazards. GHS has been working toward global earthquake safety since 1991. GHS pursues this vital mission while remaining independent of political, business or research pressures.

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

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Resources

1. UN Resources for policy makers of Water and disaster

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

2. Water and Disaster High-Level Expert Panel on Water and Disaster/ UNSGA

URL: <http://bit.ly/e6jSkj>

3. A new water politics: World Water Council strategy 2010-2012

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

4. World Future Energy Summit, 17-20, January 2011; Abu Dabi, Report

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

5. Munich Re: Overall picture of natural catastrophes in 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/eO4u6M>

- 6. Natural Disaster Assistance for Missouri Citizens - Disaster Response Guidance for Public Drinking Water and Wastewater System, Department of Natural Resources fact sheet Missouri Department of Natural Resources**
URL: <http://bit.ly/ftel66>
- 7. Understanding disasters - Toolkits for beginner students**
URL: <http://bit.ly/gIS6wO>
- 8. Treatment of Flood-Damaged Older and Historic Building, National Trust for Historic preservation, Washiington DC**
URL: <http://bit.ly/gz8Cwy>
- 9. Natural disaster management: Global Education**
URL: <http://bit.ly/eJq72T>
- 10. Disaster Relief Resource Center for Tax Professionals**
URL: <http://bit.ly/dS1PLb>
- 11. World water day: 2011 info link**
URL: <http://bit.ly/ei8oVT>
- 12. Managing Water Resources - Methods and Tools for a Systems Approach;**
URL: <http://bit.ly/fv4Gym>
- 13. Integrated Urban Water Management: Humid Tropics**
URL: <http://bit.ly/eHG9FP>
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