

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Water and Hazard', Issue 20 (25 February 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.

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News from ICIMOD Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

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1. India: New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) launches disaster management centre

20 February 2011

New Delhi - The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) Saturday launched its maiden disaster management centre - the fourth such facility in the city - which would provide emergency help during man-made or natural calamities.

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

2. Pakistan: Pakistanis' resilience, efficient response helped cope with floods: Haqqani

17 February 2011

WASHINGTON, (APP): Six months after unprecedented floods uprooted millions of lives, Pakistan has defied all gloomy predictions to emerge stronger through resilience of its people and efficient governmental response to the catastrophe, Islamabad's envoy to the United States said.

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

3. World Bank seeks closer cooperation with the Asian Disaster Reduction Center

16 February 2011

TOKYO, - The World Bank and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation and regional partnerships for disaster risk reduction, and to enhance capacity-building and knowledge-sharing in disaster prevention, mitigation and response across East Asia and the Pacific. The signing was followed by a high-level workshop identifying the main needs in the current disaster risk management and climate change adaptation agenda, and concrete ways in which the WB and ADRC can jointly deliver expected results.

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

4. Afghanistan: Floods, heavy snow kill 25 in two weeks

14 February 2011

KABUL, (IRIN) - Flash floods and heavy snowfall killed 25 people and damaged up to 3,000 houses in different parts of Afghanistan over the past two weeks, according to government officials.

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

5. India: Jammu & Kashmir highway closed for traffic due to flash floods, landslides

14 February 2011

JAMMU: The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was today closed for traffic due to flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rains in Ramban district, leaving over 1200 vehicles stranded.

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

6. Nepal: Otero urges regional engagement for disaster risk reduction

14 February 2011

KATHMANDU: Addressing a two-day "High Level Symposium on Disaster Risk Reduction" that kicked-off in Kathmandu Monday, US Under Secretary Otero said India and China will play important roles both as first responders and as potential victims themselves when a major disaster strikes Nepal. "Nepal should establish mechanisms for a meaningful dialogue and cooperation with these countries and others," she said.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gMgG8T>

7. Pakistan: Pakistan Sinking Into Water Crisis

10 February 2011

VIENNA, (IPS) - Pakistan is still reeling from flooding that caused one of the world's costliest natural disasters in 2010, with millions of people lacking shelter, infrastructure in ruins and donations falling short of appeals. But worse may come.

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

8. Nepal: Getting Ready for the Next Big Quake in Nepal

3 February 2011

In rows of benches with barely an inch between each other's crisp blue-and-red uniforms, the kids dutifully listen to their teacher's lesson. Once dismissed, they dash out, forming a bottleneck in the narrow passage that constitutes the hallway in this school in Kathmandu. Dozens of children fill each of the cramped rooms in the bare, crudely assembled three-story building.

Source: <http://ti.me/gWq0rD>

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Global News

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1. New Zealand earthquake leaves 65 dead

22 February 2011

At least 65 people have died after a 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island, Prime Minister John Key says.

Source: <http://bbc.in/gcgoP1>

2. Australian feared dead in Vietnam boat sinking

17 February, 2011

Vietnamese immigration police have released a list of those killed in this morning's sinking of a boat in the tourist haven of Halong Bay. Local authorities still say one Australian man died, but immigration police say that at the moment they do not believe that is the case.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fl6zQq>

3. Sri Lankan floods cause \$50 million in damages to irrigation networks

16 February 2011

PANSALGOLLA, Sri Lanka (AlertNet) – Gamhevage Dayananda, a Sri Lankan rice farmer, used to earn a decent living off his two acres of paddy rice. In January, however, floodwaters

destroyed the irrigation network that fed his village's rice fields, taking his livelihood with them.

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

4. Researchers Link Extreme Rains To Global Warming

February 16, 2011

Scientists have been saying for years that as the planet heats up, we will have to deal with more severe weather. But pinning any particular event — such as a specific hurricane — to global warming is difficult at best.

Source: <http://n.pr/gFqtCe>

5. Death toll from floods, landslides rise to 75

2 February 2011

MANILA, Philippines (Xinhua) -- Floods and landslides triggered by continuous rain have killed 75 people and injured 13, and 22 others are still missing, government statistics today showed.

Source: <http://bit.ly/h3gNDL>

6. Lake Community Threatened By Floods

21 February 2011

The cold keeps large blocks of ice from melting, leading to ice jams and possible flooding. Southeast of Fremont is one area of major concern tonight. Officials are already calling for flood warnings.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fp4Z21>

7. Floods force rail project rethink

21 February 2011

Last month's floods have prompted a redesign of the Surat Basin rail project in southern and central Queensland.

Source: <http://bit.ly/h8wBmQ>

8. Floods bring crocs as boy taken in creek

21 February 2011

ABOUT 300 people were evacuated from a flooded and crocodile-infested town in the Northern Territory after the deluge from Cyclone Carlos caused the Daly River to rise to 14.9m. Authorities estimate nearly every resident of the Town of Daly River, located 200km

south of Darwin and named after the creek that runs through its centre, had been moved by boat to a school at nearby Woolianna.

Source: <http://bit.ly/e2QRhl>

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Events

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1. March 24-25, 2011

National Conference on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR)

As a part of our learning process on CMDRR, a National Conference will be organized to Promote a culture of risk reduction, by providing access to knowledge, experience and effective practices on disaster risk reduction and its increased application (i.e. availability and utility) of public administrative policy, professional involvement and public understanding to reduce the impact of future hazards on societies.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Sunil T. Mammen, edms@caritasindia.net

Event website: <http://bit.ly/ezz8Ey>

2. 23 May - 1 June, 2011

International Carbon Action Partnership (ICAP) Training Course on Emissions Trading 2011 in Beijing, China

Following the successful ICAP Summer Schools held in previous years in Berlin and The Hague, the course is addressed to 25 to 30 carefully selected policy makers and other stakeholders from the nongovernmental, academic and private sectors. It will convey an in-depth understanding of emissions trading as an instrument to mitigate greenhouse gases, and build capacity on the technical design and implementation of carbon trading systems.

Deadline: 11 March 2011

Contact: trainingcourse@icapcarbonaction.com

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

3. 12-13 April, 2011

Second Workshop on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins: challenges, progress and lessons learnt

The workshop will be organized on 12 and 13 April 2011, back-to-back with the fourth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate (14 April 2011). It will bring together

countries and other stakeholders engaged in activities on water and adaptation to climate change, in particular in transboundary basins.

Deadline: 1 March 2011

Contact: UNECE secretariat, olga.carlos@unece.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/ensGA4>

4. 18-20 July, 2011

Asian wetlands symposium (AWS) Sabah 2011

The Asian Wetland Symposium (AWS) is a series of international symposia aimed at providing a platform for active discussion on issues related to wetland conservation and the wise-use of wetland resources. It is the premier forum for management, research, education and public awareness on wetlands.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Mr. Gerald Jetony, +60-(0)88-424-654, Gerald.Jetony@sabah.gov.my

Event website: <http://bit.ly/fBB45J>

5. 11-13 October, 2011

Asian Wetland Symposium: Human Wellbeing and Wetlands, Wuxi, Jiangsu, China

The Asian Wetlands Symposium aims to identify practical strategies and mechanisms for enabling integrated biodiversity conservation, with a focus on wetlands. There will be two symposia held in 2011, one in Sabah, Malaysia 18-20 July and one in Wuxi, China 11-13 October. The symposium in Wuxi will also include a field visit to Tai-Hu Lake.

Deadline: 31 May 2011

Contact: Ms. Chen Jing, cj@wetwonder.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/gBp8MI>

6. 15 April, 2011

International Summit on Water in Developing Countries 2011, National Press Club, Washington, DC

A unique Summit where Ambassadors from scores of developing countries will discuss their nation's needs before representatives from the United Nations, National governments, International NGOs and global businesses.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: postmaster@watersummit.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/fzUTJ5>

7. 10-11 May, 2011

International Conference Environmental Knowledge for Disaster Risk Management, New Delhi, India

The conference on 'Environmental Knowledge for Disaster Risk Management (ekDRM)' has been conceptualized for addressing emerging issues and tools/techniques that require focus in order to strengthen the holistic framework of disaster risk management.

Deadline: 15 March 2011

Contact: Ms Reetika Goyal, +91-9873893849(M), ekdrm2011@gmail.com.

Event website: <http://bit.ly/ie33P1>

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Opportunities

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1. Vacancy: Regional Disaster Risk Management Project Coordinator

Candidate will be the goal owner of the consistency and cohesion of the activities at regional, national and local level. You will implement and follow-up the DIPECHO-funded regional project on Disaster Risk Management, by guaranteeing the respect of the project cycle management under the framework of the grant agreement between HI and the European Union. You will remotely manage the in-country Project Managers (7) in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka and carry out frequent missions to the field.

Location: Bangladesh - Dhakha

Deadline: 14 Mar 2011

Contact: recrut14@handicap-international.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/e6sNcj>

2. Job: Wageningen UR (University & Research centre) - PhD student NWO - ESS

Wageningen UR is looking for a PhD candidate on Water Resources and Global Change. The project will be done in collaboration with PBL in Bilthoven and the successful candidate will need to spend part of his/her time in Bilthoven. Within the project funding is available to work at collaboration institutes in Europe, the USA or Japan.

Deadline: 28 February 2011

Contact: Fulco Ludwig, +31 317 486443, Fulco.ludwig@wur.nl

More at: <http://bit.ly/ekaNZ4>

3. Call for Chapter Proposals: “Knowledge Management and Drivers of Innovation in Services Industries”

Knowledge Management is concerned with all aspects of eliciting, acquiring, modeling and managing knowledge, as well as its role in the construction of knowledge-intensive systems and services for the semantic web, knowledge management, e-business, natural language processing, intelligent information integration and so.

Deadline: February 28, 2011

Contact: Dr. Patricia Ordoñez de Pablos, patriop@uniovi.es

More at: <http://bit.ly/eC3XtV>

4. Call for Chapter Proposals: Green Technologies and Business Practices: An IT Approach

This book aims to be an international platform to bring together academics, researchers, lecturers, and persons in decision making positions, policy makers and practitioners from different backgrounds to share new theories, research findings and case studies, enhancing understanding and collaboration in green issues in business and the role of information technologies and analyse recent developments in theory and practice.

Deadline: March 15, 2011

Contact: Dr. Patricia Ordoñez de Pablos, patriop@uniovi.es

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

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Organisations working on Water and Hazard

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1. International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM)

Responding to such increasing severity of water-related hazards worldwide, the United Nations and UNESCO have embarked on many initiatives; the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR 1990-1999) to increase awareness of the importance of disaster reduction, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). In accordance with such policy development, the International Flood Initiative (IFI) to promote collaborative activities for effective flood management was jointly launched by UNESCO.

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

2. SAARC Disaster Management Centre

SAARC Disaster Management Centre (SDMC) was set up in October 2006 at the premises of National Institute of Disaster Management in New Delhi. The Centre has the mandate to serve eight Member Countries of South Asia Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka - by providing policy advice and facilitating capacity building services including strategic learning, research, training, system development and exchange of information for effective disaster risk reduction and management in South Asia.

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

3. Earthquakes and Megacities Initiatives

EMI is an international, not-for-profit, scientific organization dedicated to the reduction of disaster risk in megacities and major metropolises. It was founded in 1998 in response to the urgent need to stimulate urban earthquake preparedness and mitigation in developing countries. EMI serves as a catalyst for the delivery of scientific and technical knowledge to local government officials, policymakers, practitioners, and disaster management technical personnel.

URL: <http://bit.ly/hZ3cKw>

4. United Nations Development Programme, Myanmar

Myanmar is exposed to a plethora of natural hazards - cyclone, flood, drought, earthquake, tsunami and seasonal fire. Whereas its coastal regions are particularly exposed to cyclones, tropical storms/storm surges and Tsunamis, rainfall induced flooding, is a recurring phenomenon across the country. Additionally, the whole country is at risk from earthquakes, droughts and fires while the country's hilly regions are also exposed to landslide risks.

URL: <http://bit.ly/f1Kib9>

5. Disaster Preparedness Network – Nepal

Established in 1996, the Disaster Preparedness Network (DP-Net) is envisioned as a loose association of individual organisations within the development sector in Nepal, which are concerned with disaster management. The network aims to assist individuals and organisations to prepare for, and respond to and manage disaster should it strike. DP-Net works closely with Government of Nepal through its agencies, which are concerned with disaster preparedness and management.

URL: <http://bit.ly/e8v1hW>

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Resources

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1. **GLIMS: Global Land Ice Measurements from Space**
<http://bit.ly/gWqPC6>
2. **National Snow and Ice Data Centre**
<http://bit.ly/fBviOe>
3. **EM-DAT: The International Disaster Database**
<http://bit.ly/hhLWwq>
4. **ReliefWeb**
<http://bit.ly/fErz1c>
5. **National Institute Of Disaster Management, Government of India**
<http://bit.ly/en6mfP>
6. **United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**
<http://bit.ly/h9XIdA>
7. **Disaster Diplomacy**
<http://bit.ly/hQALZc>
8. **India Meteorological Department**
<http://bit.ly/i0ju0h>

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