

Weekly news on ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

PEDRR Shoutouts



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Upcoming Events

- 4th Conference on Community Resiliency**
Dates: August 29-30, 2013
Venue: Davos Congress Center, Switzerland
Organizers: Global Risk Forum GRF Davos & Virginia Tech
 Endorsed by the US National Academy of Sciences, this meeting of top experts, leaders and practitioners will be on "Building Resiliency into Critical Infrastructures: International Goals – National Strategies – Local Actions".
 Registration online. More information [here](#).

Job Vacancy

Climate Change and Hazard Mitigation – WADI

Organisation: Development and Training Service, Washington, USA
Key task: Provide technical support to program implementation in one or more of areas of work of the organization.
Qualifications: Fluency in English, MA/PhD or JD, at least 8 years of relevant work experience, of which 3 years working in a developing country, demonstrated experience in relevant technical areas. Details [here](#)

How did disasters fare in the post-2015 panel report?

By Tom Mitchell, Overseas Development Institute

(Published June 6, 2013, on Thomas Reuters Foundation)

In this op.ed., Mitchell talks about the topics which, explicitly and implicitly, include DRR and CCA and how these issues ultimately fit in the post-2015 development agenda. He highlights the link made in this report between poverty reduction and disaster resilience as a means to achieve sustainable development. Read the full article [here](#).

Editor's note: The final version of the Chair's Summary of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform is available [online](#). It clearly mentions the link role of environment in DRR.

The Vital Role of Ecosystems in Reducing Risk from Disasters

By Maliza van Eeden, Climate & Development Knowledge Network

Published June 7, 2013, on CDKN Global)

CDKN's Maliza van Eeden makes the case for ecosystem-based approaches (Eco-DRR) through concrete examples and best practices taken from different regions worldwide. She also mentions PEDRR's latest publication, "The Role of Ecosystems in Disaster Risk Reduction" as reference of current knowledge on Eco-DRR.

As disasters become more frequent and losses increase, a balanced combination of "hard infrastructures and green approaches" is a step toward a better and much safer future. Read the full blog [here](#).

Image of the Week

Community-made 3-D model of the Lukaya River Basin (DR Congo)

This 3-D model of a section of the river basin allows communities living in the river basin to identify hazard risks in the area.



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Hydro-meteorological Hazards Special

Europe Adapts to Increasing Flood Risk

(Published June 5, 2013, on European Environment Agency website)

Hydro-meteorological events are becoming more and more costly due to increase in frequency of events and exposure of population and assets, as demonstrated by the recent widespread flooding which affected the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria.

Adaptation measures mentioned in the latest EEA report on climate change adaptation in Europe include strategic policies, as well as engineered and ecosystem-based measures. “Green” infrastructures such as wetlands contribute in reducing flood risk by absorbing the excess water. Flood response is also an integral part of the climate adaptation process. The European Earth Observation Programme dubbed Copernicus provides maps of areas affected by flooding which are vital during relief activities. Read the full article [here](#).

A helper cleans the bank of the river Elbe in front of the historical Blue Miracle bridge in Dresden, Germany, on June 6, 2013 (AP Photo/Jens Meyer)

Source: ctvnews.ca

Flooding in Germany: Why Were They So Severe?

by Susanne Kailitz (translated from German)

(Published June 11, 2013, on Zeit Online)

Earlier flood protection plans in the German State of Saxony met with protests from different groups, thus halting the projects or reducing their scope. In addition to that, diminishing memory of a disastrous event through time or loss of interest in developing protective measures is yet another hurdle in the disaster preparation.

After the “flood of the century” in 2002 and the recent events which hit the country, people are starting to believe that extreme events are becoming more likely in the future. Jurgen Stamm, Professor at the University of Dresden says that people should learn how to live with the rivers, not against them. Politicians have since then promised to put in place natural methods to combat flooding, while engineers believe that they should be implemented in conjunction with engineered structures. Read the full article [here](#).



Trainings

- **International Workshop on Forecasting Rainfall-Induced Hazards at a European Scale**

Date: July 4, 2013

Venue: Emergency Response center of the EU Civil Protection (79, Rue Joseph II, Brussels, Belgium)

Organizers: European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Unit & Hazard Assessment based on Rainfall European Nowcasts (HAREN)

Experts will present advancements in short-term rainfall forecasting models (“nowcasting”) and case studies from various European countries. More details [here](#).

Managing Water Resources is Key to CCA

(Published June 11, 2013, on Global Water Partnership (GWP))

“Water is the connecting link because climate impacts are largely felt through the medium of water” says Dr. Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, Chair of the Global Water Partnership during one of the side events at the Climate Change Conference in Bonn (June 3-14, 2013). Participants during the event highlighted several challenges to overcome namely, an integration of climate resilience in development planning and stronger transboundary cooperation to address water-related issues. To read the full report, click [here](#).

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