**News**

Australia: Spending wisely now will make heatwaves less costly later

Extreme heat events are the biggest climate-related cause of death in Australian cities. As Melbourne labours through its second heatwave this month, the authors of this article provide insight into how the use of green infrastructure in Australia can be improved to better serve the purpose of reducing heat loads and how to increase incentives and public appreciation for the benefits of green infrastructure.

To read more, click [here](#)  
*Source: Conversation Media Group*

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**Featured Publications**

The Pontbren project: a farmer-led approach to sustainable land management in the uplands

This brochure describes the history and activities of coordinated farming and farm woodland research carried out by a group of neighboring farmers in the uplands of north Wales. The Pontbren experiments support the use of woodland planting to ameliorate flooding. This has entailed using farm woodland and hedgerow creation to improve conditions on agricultural land, and the influence of trees in flood management and mitigation.

To read more, click [here](#)  
*Source: Coed Cymru Cyf*

Guidelines for assisting people with disabilities during emergencies, crises and disasters

This set of guidelines is intended to ensure that national governments, and their counterparts at regional and local level, civil society organizations and relevant offices in both the public and private sector obtain a clear idea of how to proceed with the provision of disaster risk reduction for people with disabilities.

To read more, click [here](#)  
*Sources: Council of Europe; European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement*

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**Upcoming Events**

Introduction to disaster risk management e-learning course

This is an introductory course of the World Bank Institute’s e-learning program on disaster risk management (DRM). The objective of this course is to familiarize development practitioners with contemporary concepts and practices in disaster management and contribute to a paradigm shift from reactive to proactive approaches in this cross-cutting field of development.

*Organizer: World Bank Institute*

*Date: 26 Feb- 19 Mar 2014*

*Location: Online course*

For more details, click [here](#)

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**Video of The Week**

Arab Region Atlas of Our Changing Environment

This video highlights the Arab Region Atlas of Our Changing Environment, which uses evocative imagery and informative descriptions to tell a story of prominent environmental change across 22 Arab countries over the last 50 years.

Watch the video [here](#)

*Source: UNEP, AGEDI, Environmental Agency- Abu Dhabi*

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