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Weekly News Alert

November 11- 15, 2019

News



The power of trees: fighting floodwaters

Trees save approximately 400 billion gallons of stormwater runoff in the USA annually by absorbing rainwaters, creating more permeable soils and reducing erosion. This is specifically important as climate change is increasing the number of extreme rainfall events, resulting in a new USA record for the wettest 12-month period in 2019.

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How Earth Observation data are saving mangrove ecosystems in Sierra Leone

The Sierra Leone's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is helping to protect mangroves through Earth Observation (EO) data provided by the African Regional Data Cube (ARDC). The ARDC satellite data have enabled policymakers to protect shorelines, guide interventions and decision-making to

decrease flood risk.

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Caribbean Biodiversity Fund approves millions of US dollars for Ecosystem-based Adaptation implementation

On 5 November 2019, 11 organisations successfully submitted funding applications under the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Facility's 1st Call for Proposals. The grant, totalling 12 million US dollars, will provide opportunities for starting EbA projects for coastal and marine zones in 10 Caribbean countries.

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Project Insight



Reducing Disaster Risks in Oman

A workshop organised by the Ministry of Environment and Climate, Government of Oman and the UN Environment Programme took place from 4-7 November 2019. The workshop focused on how to reduce the increasing risk of disaster in the country. Indeed there is predicted to be greater drought in the North, higher rainfall in the South and a higher frequency of cyclones in the future. Ecosystem approaches in extremely dry areas may be limited and require hybrid approaches including a combination of check dams and water management systems, and dryland grazing management. With generous support from the Government of Norway, the workshop outcomes include an action plan for greater uptake of hybrid green and grey infrastructure approaches to reducing disaster risks in Oman.



Urban resilience workshop by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre

The 2-day Urban Resilience Workshop in Yangon, Myanmar was conducted on 6 November 2019 by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC). It focused on reducing disaster risk and adapting to climate extremes. The most densely-populated city in Myanmar is located around the Yangon River connected to the Andaman Sea. This exposes the residents to severe weather conditions, landslides and flooding.

Scientific Corner

From flood risk mapping towards reducing vulnerability: the case for Addis Ababa



De Rissi et al. (2019) investigate how flood risk maps can be used in urban areas in developing countries, where data are often scarce. The paper specifically focusses on Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, assessing the efficiency of two mitigation strategies: floodplain storage and structural upgrading to improve building resilience. De Rissi et al. (2019) conclude that floodplain storage is more effective where in less dense built environments, which for Addis Ababa, is in the northwest part of the streamline.

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Upcoming Events

World Conservation Congress 2020: One nature, one future

11-19 June 2020

114 Rond-point du Prado, Marseille, France

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has opened registration for the World Conservation Congress (WCC) 2020 in Marseille. Over 1,300 government, civil society and indigenous people's Member organisations as well as artists, scientists, academics, educators, influencers and explorers from around the globe are expected to attend WCC 2020, to discuss the Sustainable Development Goals and the fight against climate change.

[Register and find out more here](#)

Job Opportunities

Compliance Office

Organisation: Green Climate Fund
Location: Korea
Deadline for application: 27 November

[See here](#)

Field project Coordinator

Organisation: UNOPS
Location: Geneva, Switzerland
Deadline for application: 20 November

[See here](#)

Nationally Determined Contributions Implementation Specialist

Organisation: Climate Analytics Inc.
Location: New York City, USA
Deadline for application: 15 November

[See here](#)

Environmental Finance Expert

Organisation: UN Environment Programme
Location: Home-based
Deadline for application: 24 November

[See here](#)



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