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# AdaptNet for 2 December 2014

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### -----NOTICE-----

This is the last issue for 2014. AdaptNet will resume on Tuesday, 10 February 2015. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest and support throughout 2014. You are one of over 1400 subscribers to AdaptNet in fifty different countries. We would appreciate your feedback on how AdaptNet is currently being used and how it might be improved in future. Please send comments to us by hitting 'reply'.

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1. [Social Representation Theory and Climate Change](#)
2. [Climate Change Adaptation Study in Indian Context](#)
3. [Economic Risks of Climate Change in the United States](#)
4. [Comparative Analysis of Surface UHI - Australia](#)
5. [Strategies for Improving Adaptation Practice in Developing Countries](#)
6. [International Conference - Climate Change Innovation and Resilience](#)

## Social Representations Theory and Climate Change

The paper attempts to investigate what Australians, across different social groups, understand the term 'climate change'. It collects data in Australia (from persons identifying as having a scientific, government, or general public background) by asking to write the first words that come to minds when they think about climate change. The paper articulates findings through the theoretical framework of social representations theory.

[Using Social Representations Theory to Make Sense of Climate Change: What Scientists and Nonscientists in Australia Think](#), Gail Moloney et al., Ecology and Society, vol. 19, no. 3, 2014 [1.20 MB, PDF]

## Climate Change Adaptation Study in Indian Context

The neonatal morbidity increases in non-climate-controlled settings during periods of extreme high ambient temperatures. This paper compares neonatal morbidity in a non-air-conditioned hospital during the 2010-heat wave in Ahmedabad, India to morbidity in the prior and subsequent years. It demonstrates the importance of simple surveillance measures in motivating a hospital policy change toward climate change adaptation.

[Research Article: Neonates in Ahmedabad, India, During the 2010 Heat Wave: A Climate Change Adaptation Study](#), Khyati Kakkad et al., Journal of Environmental and Public Health, vol. 2014, article ID 946875, 8 pages, 2014

## **Economic Risks of Climate Change in the United States**

The report examines the economic costs of climate change. It applies risk assessment to the critical issue of climate change, and takes a fact-based look at the potential risks facing specific sectors (coastal, agricultural and labor productivity) and regions of the American economy. The report finds that the American economy faces multiple and significant risks from climate change. However, the U.S. can still avoid most of the worst impacts and significantly reduce the odds of costly climate outcomes by acting now.

[Risky Business: the Economic Risks of Climate Change in the United States, A Climate Risk Assessment for the United States](#), Kate Gordon et al., Risky Business, United States, June 2014

## **Comparative Analysis of Surface UHI - Australia**

The City of Sydney, Australia is increasingly experiencing the UHI (Urban Heat Island) effect due to its numerous urban development projects and changes in climate. In this context, the paper explores the most heat resilient urban features at precinct scale. It covers five high density precincts (based on a nocturnal remote-sensing thermal image) in central Sydney.

[Comparative Analysis of Surface Urban Heat Island Effect in Central Sydney](#), Ehsan Sharifi & Steffen Lehmann, Journal of Sustainable Development; vol. 7, no. 3 (2014)

## **Strategies for Improving Adaptation Practice in Developing Countries**

The paper provides a review of climate adaptation practice in developing countries by focusing on the international community's support for adaptation through numerous funding mechanisms. It identifies three areas deserving greater scrutiny: in-country priorities, entry points and delivery systems, and how to improve adaptation practice. The paper argues that these concerns, if not addressed, have the potential to increase the vulnerability of intended beneficiaries of the adaptation agenda.

[Strategies for Improving Adaptation Practice in Developing Countries](#), Nature Climate Change, vol. 4, pp. 339-342, 2014 [subscription required]

## **International Conference - Climate Change Innovation and Resilience**

This international conference will take place in Kathmandu, Nepal from 12-14 January 2015. It aims to focus on innovative approaches from the physical and social sciences to support economic development in mountain and lowland South Asia, which faces serious climate hazards along with food, water, and soil management and environmental justice challenges. Registration for the conference is open now.

[International Conference on Climate Change Innovation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood](#), Kathmandu, Nepal, January 12-14, 2015

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