AdaptNet for 29 October 2013

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Risk Management and Climate Change

The financial sector plays a fundamental role in developing mechanisms for adaptation to climate change and risk sharing arising from resulting effects. This paper raises awareness of the role financial services can play in adaptation to climate change. It explores how the financial sector can assist in managing climate related risks, and identifies where the sector must adapt products and practices as a result of these factors.

Risk Management and Climate Change: The Role of the Financial Services Sector, Kevin Davis and Martin Jenkinson, Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research (VCCCAR), Melbourne, Victoria, Australia [1.83 MB, PDF]

Adaptive Capacity and Integrated Water Resources Management

The paper gauges the extent to which integrated water resources management (IWRM) principles can enhance the adaptive capacity of water management through reducing vulnerability and increasing the resilience of social-ecological systems. It suggests that IWRM has significant potential for supporting some of the key determinants of adaptive capacity. However, despite IWRM being promoted as an attractive approach, the paper argues that IWRM, as currently practiced, cannot readily enhance flexibility and adaptability required for climate change adaptation.

Can Integrated Water Resources Management Increase Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change Adaptation? A Critical Review, Animesh K. Gain, Josselin J. Rouillard, David Benson, Journal of Water Resource and Protection, vol. 5, pp. 11-20, 2013 [157 KB, PDF]

An Adaptation Strategy for the European Union (EU)

The EU adaptation strategy helps contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe. It comprises a series of publications that include an EU climate change impact assessment, adaptation documents for specific sectors (e.g. coasts, environmental health, infrastructure), and guidelines for integrating adaptation into EU development policies. The strategy takes account of global climate change impacts, such as disruptions to supply chains or impaired access to raw materials, energy and food supplies, and their repercussions on the EU.

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: An EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, European Commission, 2013 [1.20 MB, PDF]

Disaster Risk Governance at National and Local Levels

This paper highlights evidence of disaster risk governance at national and local levels in Indonesia. Drawing upon the strength of a social network approach, it analyzes and presents the network of actors in disaster risk reduction policy reform in Indonesia where civil society plays a vital role. The paper concludes that disaster reduction policy reform at different levels in Indonesia have been equally co-produced by civil society, local governments, national government and international actors.

What are the Roles of Civil Society in Governing Disaster Reduction? Case Study from National and Local Levels in Indonesia, Jonatan A. Lassa et al., Working Paper No. 6, Institute of Resource Governance and Social Change, Indonesia, June 2013 [963 KB, PDF]

A Resilient Planet Needs Robust Science

This report asserts that the more widespread integration of science into disaster risk reduction. It describes specific examples of scientific learning being employed to enhance disaster risk reduction, providing evidence that science is useable for disaster risk reduction. The report demonstrates that science can: (i) be driven by the need to address the adverse effects of disasters on lives, livelihoods, economies and societies (ii) enable more focused disaster risk assessment (iii) reduce the impact of disasters by better forecasting, and (iv) improve disaster risk mitigation programmes.

Using Science for Disaster Risk Reduction: Report of the ISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group, Southgate RJ et al., the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), 2013 [2.90 MB, PDF]

Conference - Sustainable Business, Energy & Development

Building on the success from the last years, the 2014 Conference on Sustainable Development and Business in Asia will be held in Hiroshima, Japan from March 17-19, 2014. The conference will offer a platform for scholarly and applied conversations among a wide variety of stakeholders concerned with the continual challenge of advancing the sustainable development and business agenda: people, planet, and growth.

Conference on Sustainable Development and Business in Asia, Venture Greenhouse, City University of Hong Kong, MAEJO University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and others, Hiroshima, Japan**,** March 17-19, 2014

For further information, please contact the editor, Saleem Janjua: daptnet@rmit.edu.au

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Professor Darryn McEvoy, Program Leader, RMIT University Climate Change Adaptation Programme

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Dr. Saleem Janjua, Editor, AdaptNet

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Nautilus Institute
608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email: nautilus@nautilus.org