

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Mountain climate change', Issue 17 (25 November 2010), prepared for members of Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership network.

Regards,
Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) team

P.S: Compiled links to news, events, opportunities, and resources are regularly updated on our del.icio.us page. Please add apmn.media to your network. More on del.icio.us [here](#)

In this issue

[News from Regional Member Countries \(RMCs\)](#)

[Global News](#)

[Events](#)

[Opportunities](#)

[Organisations working in climate change](#)

[Resources](#)

News from Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

1. Mumbai, Chennai to submerge in 100 years?

23 November 2010

Entire Mumbai, parts of Chennai and Odisha might be no more on Earth's face after a century due to drastic climate change. A major study by J S Mani - a professor of Ocean Department, IIT Madras has revealed that these cities may be at the forefront of climate change impact. India is one of those 27 countries which are supposed to be the most affected by the rise in sea levels due to melting glaciers. The suspicions of submergence of considerable chunks of lands are not new, but this report about the complete submergence of B-town has definitely sent chilling waves throughout the country.

Source: <http://bit.ly/i4Ziz8>

2. Climate change to benefit Andhra Pradesh in future

22 November 2010

South Indian state of Andhra Pradesh will be a major beneficiary of climate change that will take place in the country in the next 20 years, according to a study titled 'Climate Change and India: A 4x4 Assessment-A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030's' conducted by Indian Network of Climate Change Assessment which comprised 120 institutions and over 220 scientists.

Source: <http://bit.ly/idZhif>

3. Oxfam Ambassador Helena Christensen witnesses the impact of climate change in Nepal

22 November 2010

Oxfam Global Ambassador and photographer Helena Christensen today completed a visit to Nepal with international agency, Oxfam, to raise awareness through her photography of the

effects of climate change. Helena saw firsthand how desperately poor communities need financial aid in order to help them adapt to the effects of climate change. In the Terai region Helena visited and photographed villages that are experiencing more extreme and unpredictable weather patterns.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fMtS9Q>

4. China feels heat of climate change rifts

22 November 2010

Coaxing China into a global grand bargain to fight climate change that also satisfies the United States and other rich nations threatens to be even more daunting and elusive than fixing the economic rifts dividing them. China is the world's biggest emitter of the greenhouse gases from human activity stoking global warming, having outstripped the United States. Those two powers will play a big part in determining whether climate pact talks in Cancun, Mexico, from Nov. 29 can make progress towards a comprehensive deal.

Source: <http://bit.ly/frtYya>

5. Climate change will make India hotter, bring heavier rain

20 November 2010

By 2030, India can expect a 1 to 1.5 degree Celsius rise in temperature and more intense spells of rain. However, the number of rainy days will be fewer. This phenomenon will directly impact water conservation making it a necessary practice, experts from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune have said.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fbYFml>

6. Heavier monsoon with climate change

20 November 2010

Climate change in the next 30-40 years will mean that the monsoon in India may get heavier by 8 to 10 per cent, but there may not be many days of rain, according to weather scientists at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune. The temperature will also increase between 1 and 1.5 degree Celsius by 2030, the experts added.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fKGIYe>

7. Western Ghats least hit by global warming

16 November 2010

There is some good news for people living in the Western Ghats areas of Karnataka. They will be cocooned from the harsh effects of global warming while the rest of the country witnesses an exponential rise in temperatures, says a report that forecast the effects of global warming in India in the next two decades. Annual temperatures in 2030 will rise to 2.2 degree Celsius compared to their 1970s levels of 1.7 degree Celsius, the report warns.

Source: <http://bit.ly/i67SFn>

[Top](#)

Global News

1. North African crops to be hit hardest by climate change

22 November 2010

North African agriculture will be the worst affected by climate change, according to an assessment of how 50 key crops will perform around the world under increasing temperatures over the next 40 years. Climate change will raise average crop productivity until 2020, after which it will decline by 5–10 per cent by 2050, according to research carried out by the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia.

Source: <http://bit.ly/eIGtx6>

2. Cloud study predicts more global warming

22 November 2010

Current state-of-the-art global climate models predict substantial warming in response to increases in greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. The models, though, disagree widely in the magnitude of the warming we can expect. The disagreement among models is mainly due to the different representation of clouds. Some models predict that global mean cloud cover will increase in a warmer climate and the increased reflection of solar radiation will limit the predicted global warming. Other models predict reduced cloudiness and magnified warming.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gGwlwZ>

3. Climate costs set to rise, technology can help-UN

22 November 2010

GARDERMOEN, Norway, Nov 22 (Reuters) - Costs of combating global warming will rise inexorably if the world fails to cap greenhouse gases by 2015, but new technologies can curb the price, the head of the U.N. climate panel said on Monday. Rajendra Pachauri also told Reuters he felt "reasonably optimistic" that a U.N. climate meeting in Mexico from Nov. 29 to Dec. 10 would make at least modest progress towards curbing climate change.

Source: <http://bit.ly/eyQGj8>

4. USAID study says climate impact on Himalayas remains unknown, but worrisome

22 November 2010

Glaciers in the Himalayas are shrinking slowly, but their retreat still presents major risks for more than a billion people who rely on glacier-fed rivers, says a new report by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The agency says more information about the glaciers' behavior is needed to help communities adapt to climate change-driven changes in glacier melt and the region's water cycle. More than 50,000 glaciers help supply water for Asia's major rivers, including the Ganges, Indus, Mekong, Yangtze and Yellow.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dQ4fyC>

5. Leaking Siberian ice raises a tricky climate issue

21 November 2010

Gas locked inside Siberia's frozen soil and under its lakes has been seeping out since the end of the last ice age 10,000 years ago. But in the past few decades, as the Earth has warmed, the icy ground has begun thawing more rapidly, accelerating the release of methane — a greenhouse gas 23 times more powerful than carbon dioxide — at a perilous rate.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dla8y0>

6. 2009 carbon emissions fall smaller than expected

21 November 2010

Carbon emissions fell in 2009 due to the recession - but not by as much as predicted, suggesting the fast upward trend will soon be resumed. Industrialised nations saw big falls in emissions -

but major developing countries saw a continued rise. The report suggests emissions will begin rising by 3% per year again.

Source: <http://bbc.in/hiDqyz>

7. White House takes a more modest Plan B to Cancun climate talks

20 November 2010

This is what the 2010 midterm elections will change about U.S. climate policy: Cap-and-trade was dead. Now it will be deader. The election may do relatively little to alter U.S. climate policy before United Nations climate talks begin in Cancun on Nov. 29.

Source: <http://wapo.st/ekifPV>

8. West Virginians down to Last Mountain – yet wind income would be 50 times more

20 November 2010

These remaining seventeen years of coal would bring in just \$612,000. Then, it's finished. By contrast, the first seventeen years of wind farm revenue would bring in \$28.9 million. And that's just for the first seventeen years. There is no peak wind. When parts such as turbines need to be replaced, construction and replacement would create an additional 200-300 local job.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gOfS4e>

9. Weather satellite work begins

19 November 2010

A contract has been signed that will finally allow an industrial consortium to begin work on a new generation of Meteosat weather spacecraft for Europe. Six satellites will be built to give forecasters up-to-the-minute data on developing weather systems. Thales Alenia Space (France) and OHB System (Germany) have now been told they can proceed with the work. A contract initiating the detailed design of the spacecraft was signed between the companies and the European Space Agency (Esa), which will oversee the technical aspects of the programme.

Source: <http://bbc.in/hxFdmw>

10. Climate change and disease will spark new food crisis, says UN

18 November 2010

A food crisis could overtake the world in 2011, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, an agency of the United Nations. Climate change, speculation, competing uses such as biofuels and soaring demand from emerging markets in East Asia are the factors that will push global food prices sharply higher next year, claims the FAO.

Source: <http://ind.pn/hd2Vlz>

11. Weatherathome: how you can predict the effects of climate change on extreme weather events

17 November 2010

The world's biggest climate forecasting project is inviting net users worldwide to join its latest experiment – here's how you can get involved. climateprediction.net has harnessed computer time donated by hundreds of thousands of volunteers to run Met Office climate models and explore the uncertainties in global climate predictions in unprecedented depth.

Source: <http://bit.ly/ghuwIQ>

12. Investor group representing over US\$15 trillion calls for action on climate change

16 November 2010

The world's largest global investors have a powerful message for governments and policy-makers around the world as well as climate negotiators in Cancun: take action now in the fight against global warming or risk economic disruptions far more severe than the recent financial crisis. Citing potential climate-related GDP losses of up to 20 percent by 2050 and the economic benefits of shifting to low-carbon and resource-efficient economies, investors released a major statement today calling for national and international policies that will spur private investment into low-carbon technology.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dMNt7D>

13. Newly discovered drumlin field provides answers about glaciation and climate

16 November 2010

The landform known as a drumlin, created when the ice advanced during the Ice Age, can also be produced by today's glaciers. This discovery, made by researchers from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, has just been published in the scientific journal *Geology*. Drumlins generally consist of an accumulation of glacial debris – till – and are found in areas that were covered by ice sheet. As the ice advanced, it moved rocks, gravel and sand and created tear-shaped raised ridges running parallel with the movement of the ice.

Source: <http://bit.ly/hXUBiC>

14. Catastrophic drought looms for capital city of Bolivia

12 November 2010

Catastrophic drought is on the near-term horizon for the capital city of Bolivia, according to new research into the historical ecology of the Andes. If temperatures rise more than 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius (3 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit) above those of modern times, parts of Peru and Bolivia will become a desert-like setting. The scientists found that during two of the last three interglacial periods, which occurred between 130,000-115,000 years ago and 330,000-320,000 years ago, Lake Titicaca shrank by as much as 85 percent.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gclCgz>

[Top](#)

Events

1. 23-26, March 2011

International Conference on Tropical Island Ecosystems: issues related to Livelihood, Sustainable Development and Climate Change, Call for abstracts/proposals, Andaman Nicobar, INDIA

The main aim of the conference are: Exchanging up-to-date information on the climate change adaptation plans, island-centric resource planning for livelihood and nutritional security, strengthening international cooperation between Tropical Island Nations and Borderless Islands within Sovereign Nations and exploring the possibilities and evolving strategies for establishing an International Research Institute for Tropical Island Agriculture to address the HRD needs for island resource planning and management.

Deadline: 30 November 2010

Contact: Dr. R. C. Srivastava, ramesh_cari@yahoo.co.in, director@cari.res.in,

Tel-03192-250436/250341(O), 03192-233370(R) Fax- 03192-233281/251068

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/gKLkYd>

2. 18-19, May 2011

Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change in Low-Income Countries, Call for abstracts/proposals, Washington, DC, US

The conference will focus on autonomous adaptation, policy-making given deep uncertainty, and case studies of adaptation in low-income countries.

Deadline: 31 January 2010

Contact: adaptation@gwu.edu

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/dPHwB8>

3. 10 – 13, April 2011

1st International Conference on Clean Energy, Call for abstracts/posters, Dalian, CHINA

This 1st International Conference on Clean Energy offers a unique opportunity for international researchers to discuss the latest developments in clean energy and energy storage research, and the fundamental issues surrounding the scientific challenges faced ahead.

Deadline: The deadline for the receipt of abstracts for oral presentations is 26 November 2010, and for poster presentations is 31 January 2011.

Contact: chinanano2009@nanocr.cn, Tel: +86-10-68597772, Fax: +86-10-68597748

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/fMGpGj>

4. 24-27, January 2011

Asia-Pacific Forum: Youth Action on Climate Change Exploration through Cultural Expression, call for participation, Bangkok, THAILAND

SEAMEO-SPAFA is pleased to announce the hosting of this event that provides a platform to highlight the dynamic role that youth can play vis-à-vis climate change alleviation and adaptation. The participatory format of the Forum will include presentations of short films, photo and poster exhibitions, art works, and performance. Expression through the medium of Arts is a powerful and engaging way to convey messages that capture the imagination and have an immediate but lasting impact.

Deadline: 30 November 2010

Contact: spafa@seameo-spafa.org, Tel- 662 280 4022 to 29, Fax- 662 280 4030

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/hmkEeg>

5. 2nd International Exergy, Life Cycle Assessment, and Sustainability Workshop & Symposium (ELCAS-2), Call for Papers, Nisyros Island, GREECE

The workshop will provide a window towards the developments in the areas of exergy and life cycle assessment. All participants will have a chance to discuss the future direction and priorities in the fields. Papers on related topics such as exergy (e.g. exergy analysis, entropy generation minimization and thermoeconomics), life cycle assessment, not only in engineering but also in all other disciplines (e.g. physics, chemistry, biology, ecology, economics and management) are expected. Also, welcome are studies devoted to method, modeling, theory, computational simulation, design, experiment, and measurement.

Deadline: 31 January 2011

Contact: Dr. Christopher J. Koroneos, koroneos@aix.meng.auth.gr Tel: +30 2310 995968, Fax: +30 2310 996012

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/hzW3hK>

6. 12 -15, May 2011

Advances in Applied Physics and Materials Science Congress, Call for abstracts/proposals, Gebze Kocaeli, TURKEY

APMAS 2011 intends to be a global forum for researchers and engineers to present and discuss recent innovations and new techniques in Applied Physics and Materials Science. The Organizing Committee also encourages companies and institutions to showcase their modern products and equipment in the conference area. The congress will be held in Kemer - Antalya, attracting millions of people with its beautiful nature and historical riches.

Deadline: 29 October 2011

Contact: A. Yavuz Oral, info@apmas2011.org Tel- +90 (262) 605-1309 Fax- +90 (262) 605-1337

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/gMf2gt>

[Top](#)

Opportunities

1. 2010 Asia Pacific Human Development Academic Fellowship

The UNDP Human Development Academic Fellowship for Asia Pacific carries an award of US\$10,000. The students will be required to submit to UNDP a copy of their final approved dissertation. In addition, fellows may be expected to present their work in workshops, seminars, and other events arranged by UNDP.

Deadline: 30 November 2010

Contact: HDfellowship@icfi.com

More at: <http://bit.ly/eslvlg>

2. International Climate Protection Fellowships

The aim is to create a network in which German and foreign experts will work together on a sustainable, international basis to combat climate change and its global consequences. The programme, which is being funded under the International Climate Initiative by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, includes a preparatory intensive language course in Germany, a several-week introductory seminar, a two-week training course and a final meeting in Berlin. These activities will enable you to gain additional insights into academic, social, cultural, economic and political life in Germany.

Deadline: 25 December 2010

Contact: info@avh.de

More at: <http://bit.ly/f1O1Uo>

3. Scholarship program for masters studies in Geospatial Technologies - Erasmus Mundus

The three-semester Masters program targets holders of Bachelor degrees in application areas of Geographic Information (GI), e.g., environmental planning, regional planning, geography, logistics, transportation, marketing, energy provision, computer science. GI is a rapidly growing market, lacking qualified GI personnel and offering excellent career chances. Therefore, the Masters Program targets life-long learning for graduates and professionals in the fields of geography, surveying, planning, local administration, etc., who are willing to acquire additional GI skills for applying them in their respective GI application area.

Deadline: 15 January 2010

Contact: Not available

More at: <http://bit.ly/i29RKE>

4. Vacancy: Associate Editor - Nature Climate Change

Nature Climate Change is looking for a social science Associate Editor to join its London-based team. The international monthly journal, which launches in April 2011, aims to be the world's leading journal on the impacts and implications of global climate change for society, policy, the economy and the world at large.

Deadline: 26 November 2010

Contact: Dr Olive Heffernan, nclimate@nature.com

More at: <http://bit.ly/dQRPgl>

5. Vacancy: Scientific Coordinator, Identification of Tree Species and Geographic Origin at Biodiversity International

Biodiversity International is the world's largest organization undertaking research on agricultural biodiversity and establishing the role that it can play in contributing to solutions for global issues related to food security, poverty, climate change, and environmental degradation.

Deadline: 10 December 2010

Contact: f.fabi@cgiar.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/beWhSB>

6. Vacancy: GIS/RS Specialist

If you possess a master's degree in information management, geography, agriculture or water resources, and have at least five years professional experience in the field of Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing (GIS/RS), you could fit our profile of supporting GIS/RS. This position reports to the Manager of the GIS, RS and Data Management Unit at the headquarters of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Deadline: 30 November 2010

Contact: work-at-iwmi@cgiar.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/fSLd5W>

[Top](#)

Organisations working in climate change

1. Climate Change Organisation

Climate Change Organisation (CCO) is a non-profit and non-government body formed in July 2005. It is a registered society (ROS 1074/2005 CAS) and holds equivalent charitable status in Singapore.

URL: <http://bit.ly/fyl8BW>

2. Climateprediction.net

Climateprediction.net is a distributed computing project to produce predictions of the Earth's climate up to 2100 and to test the accuracy of climate models.

URL: <http://bit.ly/gd1mNU>

3. Climate Action Network Australia

CANA is a network of over 70 Australian non-government groups working for action on climate change. It is the Australian arm of Climate Action Network International.

URL: <http://bit.ly/hFwP4p>

4. **ClimateScienceWatch**

Nonprofit public interest education and advocacy project dedicated to holding public officials accountable for the integrity and effectiveness with which they use climate science and related research in government policymaking.

URL: <http://bit.ly/hQa2gr>

5. **SafeClimate for Business**

Dedicated to helping business of all sizes understand and take action on climate change.

URL: <http://bit.ly/gYHEyD>

[Top](#)

Resources

1. **Sharma, P; (2010) Climate Change Implications, Planning, and Federalism in Nepal 2009. The 350 Journal**

URL: <http://bit.ly/fHhSgN>

2. **Podesta, J.; Ogden, P.; The Security Implications of Climate Change, The Washington Quarterly, Volume 31, Number 1, Winter 2007-08**

URL: <http://bit.ly/ghbhnr>

3. **A Robust Strategy for Sustainable Energy**

URL: <http://bit.ly/e3cs2o>

4. **Billions of trees, cleaner stoves and the power of sugar: 30 Ways in 30 Days to meet Climate Change Challenge, UNEP**

URL: <http://bit.ly/e9Yx0S>

5. **Climatology: "Climate Change Means Colder Winters?"**

URL: <http://bit.ly/gHVSGF>

6. **TDC - The Daily Climate, a Publication of Environmental Health Science**

URL: <http://bit.ly/gDD9I5>

7. **Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research PAR (List of opportunities)**

URL: <http://bit.ly/i5ISDR>

8. **Feeding Bangladesh's growing population amid rising climate challenges**

URL: <http://bit.ly/fsrZJ2>

9. **A Toolkit for Designing Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives**

URL: <http://bit.ly/hSPxNZ>

10. **CANADA: A Govt versus Its People on Climate Change**

URL: <http://bit.ly/fPQQR1>

11. **Climate Change Themes for 2011**

URL: <http://bit.ly/dItSq1>

12. Climate Change in India

URL: <http://bit.ly/hXLvn3>

13. 350 EARTH: A Planetary Scale Art Show for the Climate

URL: <http://huff.to/fqhILK>

14. Climate Change in light of the recent floods in Pakistan

URL: <http://bit.ly/hAG5s3>

15. Time to prepare for climate change

URL: <http://bit.ly/hhdiS9>

16. Climate Change in Bangladesh briefing

URL: <http://bit.ly/hAMPwX>

[Top](#)