

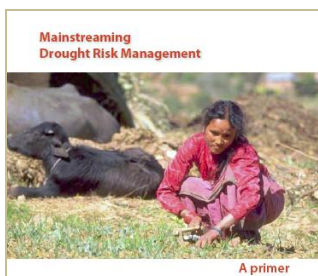
AFRICA ASIA DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT PEER ASSISTANCE NETWORK



April 2011 Issue

Special Topic

Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management: A Primer



We are pleased to announce the release of the UNDP-DDC's new publication: *Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management: A Primer* (English) and *Intégration de la Gestion du Risqué de Sécheresse: Manuel introductif* (French). The overall purpose of this Primer is to provide a basic roadmap for mainstreaming DRM into development planning and programming at different levels. It suggests and outlines a stepwise approach to define the drought risks within a given context. It also presents a methodology for translating the risk assessments and metrics into specific policy measures, planning instruments and measurable interventions. The generic stepwise approach suggested within this document can be readily modified and adapted to various country-specific contexts, sectoral structures and technical arrangements, and thus serve as a useful guide for various drought-focused projects.

The full publication is available for download at

<http://frameweb.org/adl/en-US/7123/file/962/Mainstreaming%20DRM-English.pdf>.

Le but général de ce manuel est de proposer une feuille de route pour l'intégration de la risque de sécheresse dans la planification et la programmation du développement à différents niveaux. Il présente une approche par étapes de la définition des risques de sécheresse dans un contexte donné. Il contient une méthode pour traduire les évaluations et métriques du risque en des mesures de politique, des instruments de planification, et des interventions mesurables spécifiques. Il est attendu que l'approche générique par étapes proposée dans ce document pourra être facilement modifiée et adaptée à différents contextes, structures sectorielles et dispositions techniques spécifiques-pays, afin de servir de guide utile pour divers projets consacrés à la sécheresse.

Cette publication peut être téléchargé sur <http://frameweb.org/adl/en-US/7124/file/963/Mainstreaming%20DRM-French.pdf>.

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About AADP

Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network (AADP) is established under the *Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Project*. The project is designed to mitigate the risks of drought and improve human livelihoods in Africa and Asia by creating an enabling environment for inter-regional knowledge sharing among drought-prone countries and facilitating the up-scaling of proven drought risk management (DRM) practices.

AADP provides DRM practitioners and policymakers with a variety of peer learning and capacity development support, based on their priorities, operational gaps and capacity needs. It builds on the pool of experiences and expertise of the ongoing [African Drought Risk and Development Network](#) initiative.

The project is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by the UNDP Drylands Development Centre (DDC).

Resources and Networking Opportunities

Global Information and Early Warning System



Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) is an open forum for the exchange of information on food security. The system continually receives economic, political and agricultural information from a wide variety of official and unofficial sources. Since 1975, institutional links and information-sharing agreements have been established with several UN organizations, 115 governments, 4 regional organizations and 61 NGOs. Numerous international research institutes, news services, private sector organizations, and specialized government agencies also collaborate. A small unit in FAO's Rome headquarters is responsible for coordination with participating organizations.

GIEWS's main objective is to support policy-makers and policy-analysts with timely warnings of possible changes in the food supply and demand and/or related aspects to allow effective measures to prevent a potential problem. Drawing on over thirty years of time-series statistics, GIEWS officers continuously update and analyse data on food production, trade, food aid, stocks, consumption and subnational food security, including:

- **Crop Prospects and Food Situation**, a quarterly publication available in English, French, Spanish and Chinese focusing on developments affecting the food situation of Developing countries and the Low-Income Food-Deficit Countries in particular, which provides a review of the food situation by geographic region and a list of countries in crisis requiring external assistance;
- **Food Outlook**, a biannual publication (May/June and November/December) issued in English, French, Spanish and Chinese, which focuses on developments affecting global food and feed markets and provides a global perspective on the production, stocks and trade of cereals, other basic food commodities and fertilizers, through an analysis of trends and prospects;
- **Global Food Price Monitor**, a short report issued monthly in English, which describes current food prices at world, regional and country level with focusing on developing countries; and
- **Special Reports and Alerts**, short reports issued on a need basis, which describes the food supply and agricultural situation in countries or sub-regions experiencing particular food supply difficulties and alerts the international community on measures to be taken.

For more information on the GIEWS, please visit <http://www.fao.org/giews/english/index.htm>.

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development / Centre Africain des Applications de la Météorologie pour le Développement



African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD) is the Weather and Climate Centre with African continental competence. It was created in 1987 by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the World Meteorological Organisation. ACMAD has been operational in Niamey since 1992. ACMAD is composed of 53 Member States, in African continent. To ensure its mission, ACMAD functions primarily with meteorologists detached by its Members States.

ACMAD's mission is the provision of weather and climate information and for the promotion of sustainable development of Africa (notably within the context of national strategies for poverty eradication), in the fields of agriculture, water resources, health, public safety and renewable energy, through capacity building of National Meteorological Services (NMSs) of its Member States, technical transfer and research. The products and services provided by ACMAD include, among others:

- Regular medium-range weather bulletins (regional guidance) covering all the African sub-regions for NMSs, and a «general-public» continental bulletin intended for radio broadcast;
- Bi-monthly Continental climate monitoring bulletin for the benefit of various climate data users, covering all the African sub-regions, and training workshops on preparation and dissemination of seasonal climate predictions in Africa;
- Development and transfer of telecommunication and data visualization tools and technologies for NMSs such as African Meteorological and Environmental Diagnostic Integrated System;
- Widening of transmission channel of weather and climate information down to the end users amongst the rural communities through the adoption of Radio and Internet for the Communication of Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Related Information (RANET); and
- Applied meteorological research.

For more information on ACMAD and its resources, please visit <http://www.acmad.ne/en/homepage.htm>.

Créé en 1987 par la conférence des Ministres de la commission Economique pour l'Afrique (CEA) et l'Organisation Météorologique Mondiale, le Centre Africain des Applications de la Météorologie pour le Développement regroupe les 53 pays africains. L'ACMAD est établi a Niamey au NIGER, depuis 1992.

Les objectifs de organisation sont de Contribuer au développement durable des différents secteurs socio-économiques de l'Afrique et faire du temps, du climat et de l'environnement des ressources pour le développement durable. Les activités de l'organisation sont:

- Développement et transfert d'outils et de technologies vers les SMN;
- Transmission d'informations météorologiques et climatiques aux utilisateurs notamment en milieu rural;
- Vitrine aux partenaires technologiques dans les conditions usuelles de l'Afrique;
- Amplification de l'impact des activités des Etats membres et des partenaires; et
- Elaboration d'informations et de produits météorologiques et climatiques pour favoriser le développement durable.

L'ACMAD contribue aussi a renforcer les capacités des universités et instituts de recherche des 53 Etats membres dans. Pour de plus amples informations sur les ACMAD, merci de vous rendre sur <http://www.acmad.ne/index.htm>.

Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel / Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel



Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) is a sub-regional inter-governmental organization created in 1973 during the first great drought in the region with the mandate to study food security issues and combat the effects of drought and desertification to help reestablish an environmental equilibrium in the Sahel. In particular, it aims to mobilize the population in the Sahel and the international community to facilitate urgent need and the organization of works in various domains i.e. rainfed and irrigated agriculture, environment, transport, and communication.

As a technical arm of the Economic Community of West African States, the committee consists of 9 countries in the Sahel region of Africa, i.e. Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad, with its executive office located in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. In recent years, CILSS has extended its general coverage to the “costal states”, which include Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Togo, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Conakry.

Today, CILSS serves a regional competence centre for food security, natural resource management and combating desertification, providing not only agro-hydro-meteorological data and information, but also other services related to agriculture and natural resources such as policy development/implementation support, training, research and piloting of multi-country projects. For further information on CILSS and its resources, please visit <http://www.cilss.bf/>.

Le Comité Permanent Inter Etats de lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel(CILSS) a été créé le 12 septembre 1973 à la suite des grandes sécheresses qui ont frappé le Sahel dans les années 70. Le CILSS regroupe aujourd’hui neuf Etats dont 4 Etats côtiers : (Gambie, Guinée-Bissau, Mauritanie, Sénégal), 4 Etats enclavés : (Burkina Faso ; Mali ; Niger ; Tchad) ; 1 Etat insulaire : (Cap Vert). Son mandat actuel est de s’investir dans la recherche de la sécurité alimentaire et dans la lutte contre les effets de la sécheresse et de la désertification, pour un nouvel équilibre écologique du Sahel.

Au regard du mandat ci-dessus décrit, le CILSS a conduit depuis sa création divers projets et programmes dans différents domaines. Certaines de ces interventions relèvent de la prévention et de la gestion des crises conjoncturelles à court terme, et d’autres s’inscrivent dans le long terme. C’est dans ce cadre que les décideurs et autres acteurs sahéliens ont demandé au CILSS d’élaborer et/ou de suivre la mise en oeuvre d’un certain nombre de programmes régionaux dont (i) le Cadre Stratégique de Sécurité Alimentaire durable (CSSA) conçu dans une perspective de lutte contre la pauvreté, (ii) le Programme d’Action Sous-Régional de Lutte contre la désertification en Afrique de l’Ouest et au Tchad (PASR-AO) et (iii) le Programme d’Action de Ouagadougou (PAO) sur la population et le développement durable. En plus de ces programmes, le CILSS a pris une part active dans l’élaboration de la politique agricole de la CEDEAO (ECOWAP en anglais), de la politique environnementale de la CEDEAO (ECOWEP en anglais) et de La Politique ouest africaine de l’eau.

Par ailleurs, le CILSS s’est investi dans la mobilisation de ressources financières et la mise en oeuvre des programmes et projets de gestion durable des ressources naturelles (PREDAS, PRSII, IREMLCD et le Fonds Italie-CILSS LCD-RPS) et dans l’élaboration de programmes/projets régionaux avec les OIG sous-régionales, tels que le programme d’action sous régional de réduction de la vulnérabilité de l’Afrique de l’Ouest et du Tchad face aux changements climatiques (PASR-RV-AO), le système d’information agricole de l’Afrique de l’Ouest (AGRIS), etc.

Pour de plus amples informations sur les CILSS, merci de vous rendre sur <http://www.cilss.bf/>.

Southern African Development Community Drought Monitoring Centre



Southern African Development Community (SADC) Drought Monitoring Centre is Responsible for monitoring and predicting of climatic extremes such as droughts and floods for its 15 member states – namely Angola, Botswana, Congo DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe – in a timely manner with respect to their intensity, geographical extent, duration and impact upon various socio-economic sectors and giving early warning for the formulation of appropriate strategies to combat their adverse effects thus contributing to minimizing their negative impacts.

The centre monitors near real-time climatic trends and generating medium-range (10-14 days) and long-range climate outlook products on monthly and seasonal (3-6 months) timescales. These weather and climate advisory products are disseminated in timely manner to the communities of the sub-region principally through the National Hydro-meteorological Services, regional organizations, and also directly through email services to various users who include media agencies. It also develop and archive global, regional and national quality controlled climate databanks and conduct training and capacity building activities in the generation and application of climate products.

For more information on the SADC Drought Monitoring Centre, please visit <http://www.sadc.int/dmc/>.

Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) launched a Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning in Nanjing, China, at the *Stakeholder Meeting on the Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning* on September 16, 2010. The Mechanism will provide satellite products for general drought monitoring and higher resolution products for identified high drought risk areas, and assists its members in developing localized products and services for relevant decision making. Space capable countries in the region committed to provide satellite information based technical services through the Mechanism, to drought prone ESCAP member countries to help them achieve effective monitoring and early warning of drought events so that the Governments and relevant stakeholders will have more lead time to take measures in preventing drought hazards become major disasters.

Of all the people in the world that were killed by disasters in 2008, more than 96 per cent were from the Asia-Pacific region. Droughts severely affect the Asia-Pacific region. From 1980 to 2009, droughts were the second most devastating disasters only after floods in terms of affected population, with 1.3 billion people affected, and economic losses amounting to US\$ 53 billion worldwide. The Mechanism will help members access the Asia-Pacific Gateway on Disaster Risk Reduction and Development, a regional cooperation initiative bringing together all the stakeholders of disaster risk reduction and management in the Asia-Pacific region. This Gateway will consist of a one stop information portal where member states will exchange knowledge, and obtain ESCAP's expertise in areas such as the development of policies, and post-disaster assessments of damage and losses.

For more information on the Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning, please visit http://www.unescap.org/idd/events/2010_Drought_Nanjing/.

East Asian Drought Monitoring System

The East Asian drought monitoring system was established in 2008 by the Department of Environmental Atmospheric sciences, Pukyong National University in South Korea. It provides the spatial and temporal distribution of droughts using variables such as the drought intensity and duration. The main feature of this system is the effective drought index, in which the drought intensity is calculated by considering cumulative precipitation as a weighting function of time. In addition, this system provides an available water resources index, which represents the hydrological index. These indexes were calculated using the monthly precipitation data obtained from 298 stations in East Asia: China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan and Republic of Korea.

Information on drought is provided in terms of monthly spatial distribution from 1842 to date and is presented in the text and a time series. This system will contribute to drought prevention by diagnosing drought in real time. It will also provide fundamental data for further studies on drought by detecting the time and location of droughts.

All the historical data of the East Asian Drought Monitoring System is available at <http://atmos.pknu.ac.kr/~intra2/>.

Event and Training Opportunities

Global Earth Observation System of Systems Workshop XL: Managing Drought through Earth Observation (Sydney, Australia; April 10, 2011)



The one-day Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) Workshop XL on Managing Drought through Earth Observation will be held in Sydney, Australia, on April 10, 2011, prior to the 34th International Symposium for Remote Sensing of the Environment on April 10-15, 2011. It will be organised in association with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the IEEE Committee on Earth Observation, the Open Geospatial Consortium, International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, and Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

It will bring together the Earth Observation community, modeling, and other water management communities to look at issues of drought and management approaches in various regions (Asia/Australia, America, Europe and Africa) and the needs of the community for GEOSS-derived information. The workshop will consist of a series of presentations, breakout sessions and discussions. A report will be written with recommendations for GEOSS.

For more information on the workshop, please refer to <http://www.ieee-earth.org/events/geoss-workshop-xl-drought-management> and <http://www.ieee-earth.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/GEOSS-Workshop-XL-Flyer7.pdf>.

The 5th International Wildland Fire Conference (Sun City, South Africa; May 9-13, 2011)



The 5th International Wildland Fire Conference (or Wildfire 2011), to be held in Sun City, South Africa, will provide a platform to bring together members of the science community with those involved in the technical

operational fire management. This also includes those affected by fire and the authorities concerned and mandated with developing policies and strategies in wildland fire management. The goal of this collaboration is learning, innovating and sharing practices and lessons common to sustainable use of the environment, wildland fire risk management and disaster reduction at local, national, regional and global scales.

Building on the outputs of the previous International Wildland Fire Conferences (Boston 1989, Vancouver 1997, Sydney 2003, Seville 2007), the objectives of the 5th conference are to:

- Provide a forum for fire management leaders, politicians, professionals, researchers and practitioners from throughout the globe to discuss and work on critical fire issues affecting communities, resources and ecosystems in all regions and co-operatively work on the consolidation of a global wildland fire management strategy;
- Strengthen the effectiveness of the Regional Wildland Fire Networks and support their links into the UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network;
- Strengthen International Cooperation and Exchange in Fire Management Practice; and
- Provide a platform for the fire management industry, research organizations and fire specialists to display innovations, new technologies, products and methods for wildland fire management and interact with the conference participants.

The conference will be an Associated Event to the Third Session of the UNISDR Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and will be connected to policy makers of about 180 countries by a panel discussion on video conference. For more information on the Wildfire 2011, please visit <http://www.wildfire2011.org/index.php>.

International Conference on Environmental Knowledge for Disaster Risk Management (New Delhi, India; May 10-11, 2011)



The International Conference on Environmental Knowledge for Disaster Risk Management (ekDRM) has been conceptualized for addressing emerging issues and tools/techniques that require focus in order to strengthen the holistic framework of disaster risk management. Jointly supported by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) in India and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), ekDRM aims at understanding the existing framework, assessing strengths and challenges, identifying gaps and developing strategic approaches and tools for environment based DRM interventions. The objectives of the Conference are:

- To emphasize environmental aspects of disaster risk management through use of statistical/decision-support system for assessment, planning and case-studies;
- To promote effective networking and training with emerging/innovative methods including e-learning, consultation and workshops in the areas of the project;
- To promote effective use of web-based system for human resource development and training management in the areas of the project;

- To promote international cooperation on exchange of ideas, expertise and sharing of experience on aspects of environment and knowledge management for DRM.

The themes identified for deliberations in the Conference are:

- Environmental statistics and decision-support system for disaster management;
- Legal framework and regulations for environment and disaster management;
- Special planning/information system for chemical-industrial disaster management;
- Environmental services and impact assessment in disaster management; and
- Natural resources management linkage to disaster management.

Further information on ekDRM is available at <http://nidm.gov.in/PDF/ekdrm2011.pdf>.

World Day to Combat Desertification (Multiple locations; June 17, 2011)



The World Day to Combat Desertification is observed every year on 17 June all over the world. The aim of the United Nations in designating a day of observance is to sensitize the public and policy makers to the increasing dangers of desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) for the international community. The observance events are designed to get everyone to undertake at least one action that year to help minimize the threat highlighted. This being the International Year on

Forests, the World Day to Combat Desertification for 2011 will focus specifically on the forests in the drylands areas of the world stressing the need for forests that serve people, guided by the motto: 'Forests keep drylands working'.

DLDD threaten human security by depriving people of the means to decent livelihoods. They undercut food production, access to water and the means to economic activity, and even destroy their homes. At worst, they lead to a breakdown in national and regional security as people are forced to leave their homes or to engage in low- or high-level intensity conflicts over increased or extended periods of resource scarcity.

Scientists and experts agree that this link is most evident and felt in the drylands where trees play multiple roles for the communities. They provide food and medicine for the people and their livestock. They are their places of worship and shelter and their decision-making centers. Trees mean life here and are not taken for granted by the close to 2 billion inhabitants that call drylands 'home'.

For more information on the World Day to Combat Desertification, including its history and events around the world, please visit <http://www.unccd.int/publicinfo/june17/2011/menu.php>.

Employment and Grant Opportunities

Programme Specialist – UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (Closing Date: April 12, 2011)

The goal of Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery's (BCPR) presence in UNDP Regional Service Centers (RSCs) is to ensure substantive advice on crisis prevention and recovery issues to all UNDP work streams. Specifically, the BCPR/RSC component provides substantive partnerships support and performs cross-practice integration and coordination functions strengthening BCPR support to UNDP country offices. In full consultation with Country Support Management Team in New York, the BCPR/RSC presence aims to provide proximate and immediate technical and advisory services to Country Offices in the region on conflict and disaster issues, mainstreams CPR practice issues in country office and regional programmes, and provides localized hands-on support during emergencies. BCPR/RSC supervision is matrixed to the BCPR Africa Public Service Division in NY (primary reporting line) and the RSC management (secondary reporting line).

Under the direct supervision of the Coordinator (Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery Team), in New York and guidance from the Practice Coordinator in Johannesburg, the Programme Specialist, West Africa, will be based in Dakar, Senegal. In full collaboration with other disaster experts within the team, s/he will be responsible for providing technical support to UNDP country offices under the thematic area of disaster risk reduction and recovery. In addition, the Programme Specialist will, as required, represent UNDP in the broader regional community of practice on Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery, including within the UN system and bilateral partners.

Duties and responsibilities of the Programme Specialist include:

1. Provides policy advice/technical support to country office programmes on disaster risk reduction and recovery, focusing on achievement of the following results;
2. Performs programme and resource management functions, focusing on achievement of the following results;
3. Contributes to national and regional strategies, focusing on achievement of the following results;
4. Performs knowledge management functions, focusing on achievement of the following results; and
5. Promotes partnerships and inter-agency coordination, focusing on achievement of the following results.

For more information on the position and the application procedure, please visit

http://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?job_id=22641.

Drought Emergency Response Project Manager - Cordaid (Closing Date: April 15, 2011)

Cordaid combines more than 90 years' experience and expertise in emergency aid and structural poverty eradication, as one of the biggest international development organizations with a network of almost a thousand partner organizations in 36 countries in Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and Latin America.

Cordaid supports Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction in pastoralist areas in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. For the current and unfolding drought situation, Cordaid and partners will implement drought emergency response activities with funding from ECHO. Cordaid will appoint a project management team to supervise and monitor the response activities, implemented by 5 of its partner organizations. In Kenya, Marsabit, Cordaid is looking for a Drought Emergency Response Project Manager, whose duties and responsibilities include:

- Overall management and supervision of the Drought Emergency Response Project;
- Monitoring of the implementation and progress of the Drought Emergency Response activities, implemented by 5 partner organizations;
- Supervision of the Cordaid Drought Emergency Response team, including project management, human resources management, financial & administrative management;
- Reporting on progress of the project to Cordaid and ECHO; and
- Networking and linking with external stakeholders and actors to support coordination of the humanitarian aid related to the drought situation.

Please visit http://www.cordaid.nl/nl/Werken_bij.html?vacid=12157&tab=tab_3 for further information on the position and the specific requirements.

Useful Links on Drought Status Updates

Africa

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development: <http://www.acmad.ne/index.htm>
 Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Africa: <http://www.fews.net/Pages/default.aspx>
 Food Security & Nutrition Working Group: Contact fsn-gha-workinggroup@fao.org for monthly FSNWG Updates
 IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC): <http://www.icpac.net/Forecasts/forecasts.html>
 Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) Africa: <http://www.irinnews.org/IRIN-Africa.aspx>
 Prevention Web Africa: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/africa/>
 Relief Web Africa: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc115?OpenForm&rc=1>
 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Drought Monitoring Centre: <http://www.sadc.int/dmc/>
 UNOCHA (Southern & East Africa): <http://ochaonline.un.org/rosea/LatestUpdates/tabid/6652/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
 UNOCHA (West & Central Africa): <http://ochaonline.un.org/Bulletinshumanitaires/tabid/3099/language/fr-FR/Default.aspx>

Asia

Asian Disaster Reduction Center: <http://www.adrc.asia/latest/index.php>
 East Asian Drought Monitoring System: <http://atmos.pknu.ac.kr/~intra2>
 FEWS NET Central Asia: <http://www.fews.net/Pages/default.aspx>
 IRIN Asia: <http://www.irinnews.org/IRIN-Asia.aspx>
 Pacific Disaster Center/World Natural Hazards Website: <http://www.pdc.org/iweb/pdchome.html>
 Prevention Web Asia: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/asia/>
 Relief Web Asia: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc115?OpenForm&rc=3>
 SAARC Disaster Management Center (SDMC): <http://saarc-sdmc.nic.in>