



AFRICA-ASIA DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT PEER ASSISTANCE NETWORK



July 2011 Issue

Special Topic

Africa-Asia Drought Adaptation Forum 2011

The first Africa-Asia Drought Adaptation Forum (ADAF 2011) was held on 14-15 June 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the co-sponsorship of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR). The forum was attended by over thirty representatives from various sectors of government, non-governmental organizations, academia and development partners and donor community, engaged in different aspects of drought risk management issues in Africa and Asia. The stimulating presentations and deliberate and active discussions helped improve the understanding on what the observed drought risk related issues are, how they should be framed and where the good practices exist. The forum also set a clear vision on how the AADP should operate and establish modalities of information sharing and peer assistance, proving insights and opportunities on how to ensure a sustainable mobilization of knowledge and financial resources beyond the forum. The detailed workshop report is currently under development.

During the forum, the results of the AADP online survey, which was conducted in May 2011 and responded by some 400 people, were also presented and analyzed. The AADP Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to these who participated in the survey. The study report will be finalized by the end of July and distributed to all the survey participants. It will also be posted in the future issue of the AADP Newsletter.

This issue of the Newsletter mainly features some the institutions, initiatives and mechanisms presented and shared at the ADAF2011.



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About AADP

Africa-Asia Drought Risk Peer Assistance Network (AADP) is a network 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 the DRM practitioners and policymakers with a variety of peer learning and capacity development support to, based on their priorities, operational gaps and capacity needs, building on the pool of experiences and expertise of the ongoing [African Drought Risk and Development Network initiative \(ADDN\)](http://www.undp.org/drylands/aadp.html).

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

For more information, please visit <http://www.undp.org/drylands/aadp.html>.

Resources and Networking Opportunities

Africa Adaptation Programme



The Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) is a four year programme (2009-2012) established with the financial support of the Government of Japan under the Japan-UNDP Joint Framework for Building Partnership to Address Climate Change in Africa. This US\$92.1 million programme is implemented by the UNDP in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the UN Children's Fund and the World Food Programme together with the government counterparts in 20 countries in African continent: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Tanzania and Tunisia. Many of the programme countries are already at the constant risk of drought and other hydro-meteorological disasters and their frequency and severity are projected to increase further in the future as a result of climate change.

The AAP seeks to enhance the government capacities in the programme countries to identify climate-related risks to their national development priorities, and design and implement holistic climate-resilient adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans to address these risks. This objective is achieved through the national projects, which support development of planning mechanisms, institutions, policies, financial options and knowledge base that will be needed to respond to climate change in the years to come. The Inter-Regional Technical Support Component of the programme provides a package of support to the country teams to link the country projects together and produce high quality results collectively. All countries will benefit from and contribute to a much wider knowledge base founded on best practices. In addition, the AAP launched in 2010 the Media Capacity Project, as the vehicle for improving media engagement in climate change discourse. This component aims to foster mutual reliance among African journalists that will in turn deepen their professional capacities to cover climate change over the years to come and help inform the transformation of African societies from climate vulnerability to resilience. It will provide a range of technical assistance, including training workshops, developing a climate journalism guide and nurturing the including of climate related courses in African journalism school curricula.

Please visit <http://www.undp-adaptation.org/africaprogramme/> for more information on the AAP and its components.

Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning



Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning is the regional initiative for Asia and the Pacific region launched in September 2010 under the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development. The mechanism is intended to provide satellite products for drought monitoring to over 60 member states of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and to assist the governments in developing localized products and services for relevant decision making.

Satellite information, resources and technical services provided by the national and regional monitoring/research institutions will be delivered 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. The mechanism will also provide an information portal, the Asia-Pacific Gateway on Disaster Risk Reduction and Development, where member States can draw on technical services and exchange knowledge, and also engage UNESCAP's other technical support for the social and economic elements of disaster risk reduction.

Partners to the mechanism include, among others, National Disaster Reduction Center of China, National Remote Sensing Centre of India, Korea Aerospace Research Institute, Geo-Informatics and Space Technology and Development Agency (GISDTA) of Thailand, Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission, Russian Federal Space Agency, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, World Meteorological Organization, Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation organization and Typhoon Committee Secretariat.

More information regarding the Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning is available at <http://www.unescap.org/unis/press/2010/sep/g39.pdf>.

AGRHYMET Regional Centre



The AGRHYMET Regional Centre (ARC) was created in 1974 with the mandate to invest in research on food security and combat the effects of drought and desertification for a new ecological balance in the Sahel. It is a specialized institute of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), which composed of nine member States: Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad. ARC aims to contribute to sustainable food security, increased agricultural production and rational natural resource management in the sub-region through capacity building of member state technical offices and production and dissemination of information to various decision makers.

Inter alia, ARC established robust mechanisms for prevention and management of drought and other disaster risks. They monitor the disaster trends based on rainfall data, periodic agricultural survey, health and nutrition data, market updates and other indicators and circulate the early warning information back to the country partners. They also established a crisis prevention network at sub-regional level to improve the coordination among the sub-regional organizations and development partners whereby the monitoring system is verified collectively and the areas of cooperation for intervention are identified.

Please visit <http://www.agrhymet.ne/eng/centre.htm> for more information on the ARC.

Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management

Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM) is a partnership between Central Asian countries and international donor community to combat land degradation and improve rural livelihoods and adapt to climate change in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. It was a 10 year programme running from 2005 to 2015, created as part of the the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Subregional Action Programme for Central Asian Countries in Combating Desertification and Drought with the aim to restore,

maintain, and enhance the productive functions of drylands in Central Asia, leading to improved economic and social well-being of those who depend on these resources while preserving the ecological functions of the land.

In order to implement projects effectively, each member country has developed a National Programming Framework (NPF) for tackling the root causes of desertification. The NPF describes each country's problems of land degradation and analyzes the natural and human-made causes. The NPF has projects/activities in the following areas: capacity building for strengthening the enabling environment; capacity building for integrated land-use planning and management; sustainable agriculture in irrigated land; sustainable forest and woodland management; sustainable pastureland management; integrated resource management; protected area management and biodiversity conservation; and remediation in the Aral Sea. These national level activities are supported by multi-county support for information exchange, capacity building, partnership building, etc.

For further information on CACILM, please visit <http://www.adb.org/Projects/CACILM/default.asp>.

Desert Research Foundation of Namibia / Forum for Integrated Resource Management



The Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN) is a non-governmental organization for arid land studies and development that strives towards enhancing capacity for sustainable development on all levels of society. It intends to achieve food security, poverty reduction and enhanced livelihoods through the provision of training support and facilitation of appropriate, participatory and applied short- and long term research on the three main thematic areas: energy, land and water. Although the DRFN is a Namibian NGO, its training/research/awareness raising focus has broadened to encompass the Southern African Development Community region.

Forum for Integrated Resource Management (FIRM) is one of the approaches promoted by the DRFN to combat the process of desertification and reduce the risks and impacts of drought by promoting sustainable and equitable use and management of natural resources. FIRM puts rural communities in charge of management and development processes in their areas. A community-based organization appointed as the leading entity facilitates the mobilization, planning, coordination and monitoring of natural resource management and climate risk adaptation measures implemented by various governmental and non-governmental organizations called 'service providers.' The FIRM approach is currently being tested within a variety of communal farming areas in Namibia and neighboring countries.

For more information regarding the DRFN and FIRM, please visit <http://www.drfn.org.na/>.

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center / Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management



The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) is a non-profit organization established in 1986, which supports the advancement of safer communities and sustainable development, through implementing programs and projects that reduce the impact of disasters upon countries and communities in Asia and the Pacific, by: developing and enhancing sustainable institutional disaster risk management capacities, frameworks and mechanisms, and

supporting the development and implementation of government policies; facilitating the dissemination and exchange of disaster risk management expertise, experience and information; and raising awareness and enhancing disaster risk management knowledge and skills. ADPC's programmes and projects are governed and guided by a Board of Trustees (21 members representing 15 countries) and advised by a Regional Consultative Committee (32 members from 26 countries) and Advisory Council (55 members from a wide range of agencies).

Since 2000, ADPC has been serving as the Secretariat of the Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC), a consultative mechanism of 30 members representing 26 countries for regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction. The main roles of the RCC are to identify disaster-related needs and priorities of Asia and the Pacific countries, promote regional and sub-regional cooperative programmes and develop regional action strategies for disaster reduction. Annual meetings bring together the RCC members and provide them with the opportunities to share achievements made, challenges identified and good practices generated in different aspects of disaster risk reduction. The third RCC annual meeting in 2002 in New Delhi, India, focused on drought risk management and discussed the trends, advances and opportunities for regional cooperation on drought preparedness and management.

Please visit <http://www.adpc.net/2011/> and <http://www.adpc.net/rccdm2011/index.php> for more information regarding the ADPC and the RCC.

Drynet



Drynet is a networking and capacity building initiative implemented since 2007 with the financial support of the European Union by 14 civil society organizations (CSOs) working in 17 countries around the globe at policy and community level on sustainable rural development, desertification, land degradation and drought issues, and community empowerment. Building strong CSO platforms that are able to support dryland communities on the one hand, and giving coordinated input to relevant development and land use planning processes in their countries on the other hand has been the main aim of the network. Another important aim of the network is to build international links between CSOs, so that they can learn from each other's experiences, share knowledge and together inform the global stakeholders on relevant dryland developments.

To these ends, Drynet has focused on a number of activities in each programme country, and as a network world wide:

- Mapping of national actors and activities and analyzing of the political context related to drylands in each country, in order to build and strengthen national networks and cooperation;
- Reviewing and strategizing with national CSOs in order to improve CSO participation in the development and implementation of relevant policies, to be able to jointly draw more attention to dryland issues;
- Capacity building trainings for project partners and target groups on lobby and advocacy, fundraising, project development, communication and networking;
- Collecting, translating and spreading inspiring initiatives, stories, news and relevant scientific developments on our website and in a series of national language newsletters and radio programmes; and
- Joint development of positions on topics related to drylands and desertification, sharing them through position papers and side events at relevant seminars and conferences.

Building on the outputs and progresses achieved during the first phase (2007-2009), the Drynet commenced its second phase of operation from January 2011, with the support of Swiss Development Cooperation. Please visit <http://www.dry-net.org/index.php> for more information on the Drynet initiative.

Cap-Net: Capacity Building for Sustainable Water Resources Management



The Cap-Net is an international network for capacity building in integrated water resources management (IWRM). It is made up of a partnership of autonomous international, regional and national institutions and networks committed to capacity building in the water sector. Cap-Net provides a logical framework for scaling up capacity development in integrated water management through 21 capacity building networks and three thematic networks, which link hundreds of capacity building networks across the developing world. Thematic foci of the training courses are selected based on user demand and, the results and impacts of the training support are measured through self-assessment tools. The strategy of the Cap-Net operation is built on three principles:

- Local ownership. To the extent possible, capacity building must be delivered from the local resource centres. This achieves social and cultural relevance as well as sustainability.
- Partnership among capacity builders. In a complex world skills are spread widely and must be assembled locally and even weak institutions have some great strengths. Partnerships build a critical mass, overcome resource constraints and can increase efficiency.
- Response to demand for capacity building. Scaling up capacity building becomes possible not only through adopting local ownership and partnerships but also requires improved linkages between water stakeholders and capacity builders.

The Cap-Net website serves primarily as a database of IWRM tools and training materials, an information source for capacity building networks and a communication tool for the global network. It contains the training manual on hydro-climatic disasters in water resources management. The main objective of this training material is to build the capacity of water managers and others to develop strategies for coping with hydro-climatic disasters such as floods and drought within the context of IWRM.

Please visit <http://www.cap-net.org/> for more information on the Cap-Net and its IWRM training packages.

Special Unit for South-South Cooperation / South-South Citizenry-Based Development Academy / South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange



Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (SU/SSC) is a secretariat for the UN General Assembly's High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation, which is located in UNDP and coordinates the promotion of SSC within the UN system. The preeminent focus of the work of the SU/SSC is to encourage the creation and support of necessary policy frameworks for developing countries to work together to achieve international development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

One of the SSC modalities introduced by the unit is the South-South Citizenry-Based Development Academy (SS CBDA), which aims to provide capacity development support to organizations and personnel engaged in citizenry-based development-oriented disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation initiatives in the Asia and the Pacific region,

as well as inter-regionally. It provides a venue for local communities to share and learn from one another, share analysis of risks and community problems, and exchange solutions and options. In the process, the academe, NGOs, government, private sector and other stakeholders are also actively engaged and learn from community practices.

Another tool developed by the SU/SSC is South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE). SS-GATE is a virtual and physical platform launched in 2006 where entrepreneurs, civil society organizations and local governments in developing countries can interact and obtain needed technology, asset and finance in a secure environment. SS-GATE facilitates realization of actual business transaction through a market mechanism, offering both on-line and off-line end-to-end supporting services. Some of the products and services exchanged focus particularly on desertification land degradation and drought issues and are envisaged to contribute significantly to drought risk management and mitigation. SS-GATE operates through a global network of participating organizations and institutional members. Participation in SS-GATE is regulated through institutional membership.

For more information on the SU/SSC, SS CBDA and SS-GATE, please visit <http://ssc.undp.org/>.

Event and Training Opportunities

United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Desertification (New York, The United States; September 20, 2011)



The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) will convene a one day high-level meeting on the theme, 'Addressing desertification, land degradation and drought in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication', on Tuesday, 20 September 2011, prior to the general debate of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly. The high-level meeting is being organized in pursuance of General Assembly Resolution 65/160. It is a significant event in raising the awareness of desertification, land degradation and drought at the highest level, reaffirming the fulfilment of all commitments to the Convention and its ten-year strategic plan and framework (2008-2018), and ensuring a higher priority for desertification, land degradation and drought on the international agenda, in particular at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio plus 20).

The UNGA invites Heads of State or Government, ministers, special representatives and other representatives as well as the heads of the United Nations funds and programmes. The meeting will be structured around an opening plenary meeting, followed by one interactive panel in the morning, on the same theme as the high-level meeting, followed by a second interactive panel in the afternoon, followed by a closing plenary meeting. In preparation of the event, the Secretary-General will issue a background paper. The outcome of the summit will be transmitted to the tenth session of the UN Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD to be held from 10-21 October in Changwon City, Republic of Korea. It will also be transmitted to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio plus 20).

For more information on the event, please visit <http://www.unccd.int/meetings/global/unga/menu.php>.

3rd International Drought Management Conference (Canberra, Australia; October 3-5, 2011)



The 3rd International Drought Management Conference will be held on October 3-5, 2011, at Hyatt Hotel in Canberra, Australia. The first conference was organized in Zaragoza, Spain, on June 12-14, 2008 on the topic, *Drought*

Management: Scientific and Technological Innovations, while the second conference was held in Istanbul, Turkey, with the theme of *Drought Management: Economics of Drought and Drought Preparedness in the Mediterranean*. Building on the successes of the past events, the third in this important series of conferences is being organized on the theme *Drought Management: The Science, Policy and Politics of Drought*.

This conference is being hosted by the Faculty of Business & Government at the University of Canberra. Proposals for papers and posters are being sought on the following topics:

- The Policy-Science Interface
- Policy-making, risk and uncertainty
- Latest developments in drought research

For more information on the 3rd International Drought Management Conference, please visit <http://www.canberra.edu.au/droughtconference>.

Employment and Grant Opportunities

International Consultant: Meteorology/Climatology (Drought) – UNDP (Closing Date: July 4, 2011)



Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) became a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on December 6, 2000. The overall objective of this assignment is to provide an updated assessment of climate changes in BiH and its vulnerability to climate change with modeling efforts significantly strengthened compared to the Initial National Communication, and capacity enhanced in scenario development and climate modeling. Project-supported research and analysis for the Second National Communication (SNC) will be strengthened in five priority areas (vulnerable ecosystems, water resources, agriculture, forestry, and human health) and will introduce quantitative assessments for these areas to the greatest extent possible particularly regarding drought impacts. Economic analysis of potential adaptation measures in these areas will be prepared, and prioritized recommendations will be provided both in the chapter on vulnerability and adaptation (V&A) in the SNC and to government officials.

The incumbent should work in consultation with and under the guidance and supervision of a Project Manager (PM) and a V&A Team Leader. Specifically, his/her responsibilities are but not limited to the following:

- Conduct drought analysis based on Standardized Precipitation Index;
- Assess the potential drought impacts of climate change in each of the five areas (vulnerable ecosystems, water resources, agriculture, forestry, and human health);
- Collect new existing data for the five selected areas, including sub-regional and European-level data, and supplement with technical reports commissioned where necessary, in the area of drought;
- Contribute to preparation of vulnerability and adaptation report; and
- Produce the report of the results of relevant activities.

For further information regarding the position, please visit http://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?job_id=24042.

Regional Disaster Risk Management Program Specialist – Plan International (Closing Date: July 13, 2011)



Plan International is a humanitarian, child centred development organization without religious, political or governmental affiliation. Founded over 70 years ago, Plan International is one of the oldest and largest children's development organizations in the world, currently work in 48 developing countries across Africa, Asia and the Americas to promote child rights and lift millions of children out of poverty.

The Regional Office of Plan International in West Africa is looking for a dynamic and results oriented person to fill the position of Regional Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Program Specialist to support the implementation of Plan's Global Disaster Risk Management Policy and Strategy in West Africa by building the region's capacity in disaster management, preparedness and response; and the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Response within country and regional programmes. The post is on local contract (grade E), based in the Regional Office in Dakar, Senegal. Possible location in one of Plan's Country offices in the West Africa Region is negotiable (Benin, Burkina, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo). The roles and responsibilities of the post include the fields of: 1) disaster preparedness 2) disaster response; 3) disaster risk reduction mainstreaming; and 4) coordination, networking and fundraising.

For further details on the position and the application procedure, please visit <http://reliefweb.int/node/420113>.

Conflict Analyst – Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (Closing Date: July 20, 2011)



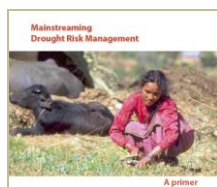
The Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) is a specialized office under the Peace and Security Division of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) mandated to undertake conflict prevention and mitigation work of seven IGAD Member States (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda) in the Horn of Africa sub-region. Violent conflicts in the Horn of Africa have caused, and continue to cause, untold suffering and extensive damage to life and property with an adverse impact on the overall economic development and security in the region.

Moreover, the region has been closely associated with recurrent cycles of drought, famine and food insecurity and large-scale population displacement, grinding poverty and political instability.

Under the overall direction of the Director of CEWARN Office, the Conflict Analysis Officer is responsible for data analysis and designing and/or recommendation of appropriate response options in conflict early warning & response; and in Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution activities. The Analysis Officer shall be responsible for, but not limited to, data analysis and designing/recommending of appropriate response options, development of a response framework for the mechanism in liaison with the Response Coordinator, monitoring and analysis of developments and dynamics in crisis situations, collection and integration of structural and supplementary data for analysis, etc.

Further information on the position is available at

http://www.cewarn.org/attachments/117_Vacancy%20Announcement%20%20-%20Conflict%20Analyst.pdf.



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 full publication is available for download at:

<http://www.undp.org/drylands/docs/Mainstreaming%20DRM-English.pdf> (English)

<http://www.undp.org/drylands/docs/Mainstreaming%20DRM-French.pdf> (French)

Useful Links on Drought Status Updates

Africa

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development: <http://www.acmad.ne/index.htm>

Experimental African Drought Monitor: http://hydrology.princeton.edu/~justin/research/project_global_monitor/

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) Climate Service 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/lweb/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>