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Disaster Management Community



106th Community Update

15th July, 2013

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From the Resource Team

Dear Members,

Greetings from the Resource team and welcome to DM Community's 106th Update!!

India's largest general insurer New India Assurance expects about Rs 150 crore claims, or 10 per cent of the total claims arising out of Uttarakhand disaster. These claims would mainly be on account of damages to some hydroelectric projects in the state. [Read More](#)

Recent monsoon flooding disaster in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand has prompted officials in other flood-prone regions to establish Amateur Radio facilities to provide emergency communication. Taking lessons from Uttarakhand where ham radio operators are playing a pivotal role in coordinating rescue work in the absence of effective and fast normal telecommunication. [Read More](#)

The new *For Comments query* on **Floods in Uttarakhand: A New Deal Relief** invites your views, suggestions and comments on AIDMI's draft document. We request members to actively participate and enrich the discussion. The query closes on 19th July.

Interested members may check out the [vacancy section](#), and [resources](#) section.

We hope you find this update useful and we welcome contributions from you for the next issue of the Community Update which would be posted on 31st July 2013. We look forward to your continued encouragement and support.

Regards

G Padmanabhan and Rani Sahay
Resource Team
Disaster Management Community
Solution Exchange

IMPORTANT

Members

Please update your profile with your current affiliation, email, postal address and contact numbers.

Write to se-drm@solutionexchange-un.net.in

If you wish you can spread word within your network and to Disaster Management professionals and practitioners about Solution Exchange Disaster Management Community and share its URL
<http://www.solutionexchange-un.net.in/communities/disaster-management>

NEW

From Anil K. Gupta, Associate Professor, NIDM, New Delhi
(email: anil.nidm@nic.in)

National Institute of Disaster Management is organizing a High Level Policy Dialogue on

"Uttarakhand Disaster: Forensic Analysis and Future Strategies"

on 12th August 2013 at NIDM, with a Special session to draw the lessons/ critical views.

NIDM requests Disaster Management and Environment fraternity colleagues to suggest their views about luminary invitees and topics/issues.

NIDM will shortly share further details in this line for your comments/suggestions.

In the News

15 July 2013, Vancouverdesi.com

Thoughtful construction style saved Kedarnath from serious damage

The thoughtful construction style of the Kedarnath temple in Uttarakhand saved the 11th century structure from any serious damage during last month's devastating floods, says an Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) official, adding that a barrier would be constructed to protect the shrine from any future calamity. "The safety of the structure despite this calamity is because of its orientation and style of construction. The domes of the temple are interlocked with each other using iron clamps; that is why they are intact. Only loose and cracked stones of the temple have come out," B.R. Mani, ASI additional director general, told IANS in an interview. "Another rare aspect of this temple is its north-south orientation. Mostly temples face east or west. But this temple is facing south, which is a rare phenomenon. It may be possible that in the 11th century the people had thought of the stones rolling down from the north or any such calamity; hence they structured it like this," he added. [Read More](#)

14 July 2013, The Economic Times, Mumbai

New India Assurance stares at Rs 150-cr loss from Uttarakhand tragedy

Country's largest general insurer New India Assurance may see about Rs 150 crore claims, or 10 per cent of the total claims from arising out of Uttarakhand disaster, mainly on account of damages to some hydroelectric projects in the state, according to a top company official. "New India Assurance's losses are about Rs 150 crore due to the Uttarakhand disaster, total claim from which will be around Rs 1,500 crore," company's Chairman and Managing Director G Srinivasan told PTI. [Read More](#)

14 July 2013, Daily News and Analysis

Another earthquake of magnitude-4.5 rocks Himachal Pradesh

Less than a week after a moderate intensity earthquake rocked Himachal Pradesh, another quake in the state triggered panic among the people, an official said here Sunday. However, there was no loss of life. Tremors of the magnitude-4.5 earthquake were felt for some seconds in several parts of the state at 11.20 p.m. Saturday, an official of the meteorological office said. The epicentre of the quake, which was mild, was in Kangra district. Earlier, a moderate intensity earthquake of magnitude-5 hit the state July 9. [Read More](#)

13 July 2013, Zee News

CWPRS to suggest flood control measures in Uttarakhand

The Centre is dispatching a team of experts to rain-ravaged Uttarakhand to recommend flood control guidelines for the Ganga river and suggest future constructions in riverside areas. Water Resources Minister Harish Rawat has asked a team from Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune to visit Haridwar for the overview of flood control measures and suggest remedial options. [Read More](#)

13 July 2013, IndiaToday.in

Uttarakhand flood: NDMA to file status report on rescue work by July 26

The Supreme Court has asked the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to submit its status report on rescue operations in rain-ravaged Uttarakhand by July 26. A bench headed by Justice A K Patnaik asked the NDMA to file an affidavit on the status of rescue operations within two weeks. The bench posted the matter for further hearing on July 26. The court was hearing a PIL filed by a lawyer, who has sought the apex court's directions to the Centre and the state government to rescue people stranded in the flood-hit areas in Uttarakhand. [Read More](#)

12 July 2013, Business Insurance

India: Government mulls inclusion of insurance products in disaster management policy

India's government is mulling the inclusion of insurance products in the National Disaster Management Policy, Business Standard reported. The recent flooding in the state of Uttarakhand prompted the government to consider this notion. Union Minister of State for Finance Namo Narain Meena said the approach to disaster management has shifted from "reactive and relief centric" to "holistic and integrated." Mr. Meena also said levels of insurance penetration to GDP for nonlife has increased from 0.56% in 2001 to 0.78% in 2012. [Read More](#)

13 July 2013, The Times News Network, New Delhi

Badrinath on alert after landslide forms 'lake bomb'

An alert has been issued in areas around Badrinath after a landslide near the source of the Alaknanda river has partially blocked the passage of water, leading to formation of a 450-metre-long lake that could burst and flood the river. Officials, however, allayed fears of any immediate threat from the blockage because water was still flowing downstream from the spot. The development still triggered an alert and chief minister Vijay Bahugana held a meeting with top officials, including chief secretary Subhash Kumar, to review the matter. [Read More](#)

13 July 2013, The Times News Network, Hyderabad

Flood alert as Hussainsagar water reaches full tank level

Authorities alerted people living near the Hussainsagar lake to prepare for possible evacuation as water reached the full tank level after the city was lashed with 86.4 mm rainfall, the highest in a 24-hour span this season. Eight people were killed in heavy rains across the state, with four getting washed away in flash floods in remote districts and a woman dying in a house collapse in the city. In Hyderabad, moderate to heavy showers pushed up water levels in the 450 year-old Hussainsagar to 513.41 metres, the highest in three years. [Read More](#)

11 July 2013, NDTV

Uttarakhand disaster: Army opening new route to Kedarnath

Army has begun work to open a new, 20-km route to Kedarnath Valley, the worst-hit in the Uttarakhand flash floods, as bad weather has been severely affecting relief operations by air. With the Met department forecasting more rains, opening a new land route was the only solution to gain continued access to the famous, 8th-century Kedarnath shrine, an Army release said today. On request from the civil administration and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), teams of the Army's Surya Command have conducted a reconnaissance of the area and commenced work to open a land route along a fresh alignment, it said. [Read More](#)

10 July, 2013, Times News Network, Shimla

Cloudbursts pose serious threat in Himachal Pradesh

Increased frequency of cloudbursts has made Himachal Pradesh prone to severe disaster during monsoon season as these could lead to breaches in the 249 glacial lakes in the state. A breach could result in gushing of lake waters down the mountain slopes together with debris, boulders and uprooted trees with a great velocity and damage any structure that comes in the way. There could be a significant loss of life, property and natural habitat in such a scenario. [Read More](#)

4 July, 2013, The Times of India, New Delhi

4,536 large dams without emergency action plan

Even as the Uttarakhand floods bring to the fore debate over strength of dams, there are over 4,500 such structures in the country which are operating without an 'emergency action plan' rendering huge area and property vulnerable to cascading effects of dam failure. The Central Water Commission (CWC), which works under the water resources ministry, had issued guidelines in May 2006 for development and implementation of emergency action plan (EAP) for large dams in the state. [Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

Training Courses

From Daman Dev Sood, Continuity and Resilience, New Delhi

Implementing a World Class Business Continuity Management System (BCMS) using ISO 22301

Date: 17 July 2013

Institution: Continuity and Resilience (www.continuityandresilience.com)

Location: New Delhi

Free Webinar on ISO 22301 with Daman Dev Sood. Pre-registration is mandatory – go to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/298291296>

For more information click [here](#)

From Niti Mishra, IFRC-TISS Team

12-month Disaster Management Professional Development-certified course

Date: Starts 23 September 2013

Institution: IFRC-TISS

Location: Online (Web based course)

Deadline For Application: 19th August 2013. For Application Form, Click [here](#)

Bursary/ Scholarship Application Deadline: 24 July 2013. For details on Bursary, click [here](#)

Course fee or cost: 990 USD for Red Cross Red Crescent participants and TISS alumni.

Full course fee is USD 1,980

Four PARTIAL BURSARIES are available, to be supported and allocated by TISS on the basis of an assessment of demonstrable financial need. The candidates applying for bursaries will be expected to

submit a bursary justification letter along with two referees. For further details click [here](#)

From Abha Mishra, UNDP, India

International training on Participatory Market Systems Development (PMSD)

Date: 23 – 25 September, 2013

Institution: Practical Consulting South Asia

Location: New Delhi

For more information click [here](#)

Consultations/ Conferences/ Workshops

From N. M. Prusty, CDDMASS, New Delhi

ICHL2013: 1st International Conference on Humanitarian Logistics

Date: 22-23 September, 2013

Institution: Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Raipur

Location: Raipur, Chhattisgarh

For more information click [here](#)

From G. Prasad Babu, UNDP

International Conference on Building Resilience: Individual, institutional and societal coping strategies to address the challenges associated with disaster risk”

Date: 17th – 19th September 2013

Institution: Centre for Disaster Resilience, School of the Built Environment, University of Salford, UK and RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

Location: Herritance Ahungalla, Sri Lanka

For more information click [here](#)

Vacancy

International

Expres Consultants - Disaster Risk Management

Organization: UNDP

Location: Multiple Locations

Post Level: International Consultant

Closing Date: 9 August 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

Humanitarian Affairs Officer, P3

Organization: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)

Location: New York

Closing Date: 27 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

Humanitarian Affairs Officer, P3

Organization: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)

Location: Geneva

Closing Date: 21 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

From G. Prasad Babu, UNDP

Executive Director of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Programme

Organization: Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) programme of ICSU, ISSC & UNISDR

Location: Beijing

Closing Date: 19 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

National

From Mayank Aggarwal, UNDP, New Delhi

Coordinator (Disaster Risk Reduction)

Organization: UNDP

Location: New Delhi

Closing Date: 21 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

Coordinator (Capacity Development)

Organization: UNDP

Location: New Delhi

Closing Date: 21 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

From Piyoosh Rautela, DMMC, Dehradun

Engineer Civil / Earthquake Engineering (temporary position) (1 post)

Organization: Disaster Mitigation and Management Centre

Location: Dehradun

Closing Date: 27 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

Geologist Geology / Applied Geology (temporary positions) (2 posts)

Organization: Disaster Mitigation and Management Centre

Location: Dehradun

Closing Date: 27 July 2013

For Details, Click [here](#)

Resources

From Vinay Sehgal, IARI, New Delhi

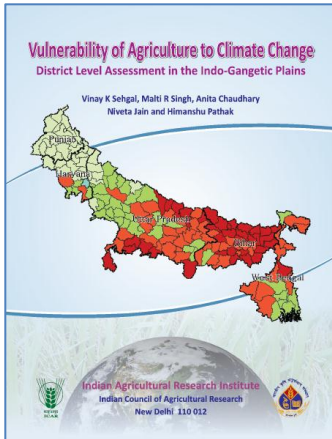
Vulnerability of Agriculture to Climate Change: District Level Assessment in the Indo-Gangetic Plains

Authors: Vinay K Sehgal, Malti R Singh, Anita Chaudhry, Niveta Jain, Himanshu Pathak

Publisher: Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi

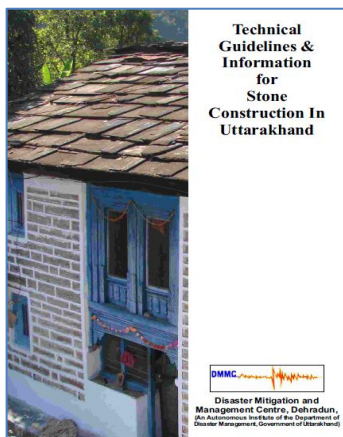
Year of Publication: June 2013

This document aims to capture the voices of community leaders to bring



the resilience priorities of poor, disaster-prone communities into debates that will shape the new policy frameworks on disaster risk reduction to be launched in 2015. The document is divided into six chapters which include community perspectives on disaster risk reduction and guidelines for building a resilient community. ([Download](#): PDF 28.58 MB)

From Rajendra Desai, NCPDP, Ahmedabad



Technical Guidelines and Information for Stone Construction In Uttarakhand

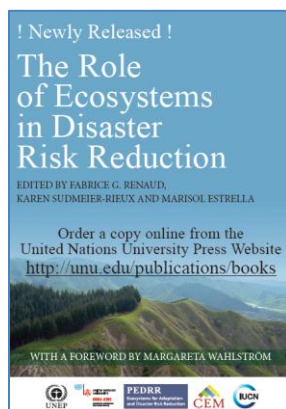
Published by: Disaster Mitigation and Management Cell (DMMC), Govt. of Uttarakhand

Prepared By: National Centre for Peoples'-Action in Disaster Preparedness (NCPDP), Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Date of publication: 2013

This document has been prepared with the objective of guiding all those involved in the construction of buildings with stone including the engineers, contractor, building artisans and people, so that they are able to construct stone buildings that will resist future earthquakes and restore people's confidence in traditional stone construction. Using good quality cement mortar is one of the requirements. The document also offers alternate affordable methods using mud and sand. ([Download](#): PDF 2.14 MB)

From Jyotiraj Patra



Role of Ecosystem in Disaster Risk Reduction

Edited by: Fabrice G. Renaud, Karen Sudmeier-Rieux and Marisol Estrella

Publisher: UNU

Price: US\$ 40

Year of publication: June 2013

The increasing worldwide trend in disasters, which will be aggravated by global environmental change (including climate change), urges us to implement new approaches to hazard mitigation, as well as exposure and vulnerability reduction. Ecosystem management is a well-tested solution to sustainable development that is being revisited because of its

inherent “win-win” and “no-regrets” appeal to address rising disaster and climate change issues. It is one of the few approaches that can impact all elements of the disaster risk equation – mitigating hazards, reducing exposure, reducing vulnerabilities and increasing the resilience of exposed communities. Yet, the uptake of ecosystem-based approaches for disaster risk reduction (DRR) is slow despite some very good examples of success stories. The aim of this book is to provide an overview of knowledge and practice in the multidisciplinary field of ecosystem management and DRR to encourage and further develop dialogues between scientists, practitioners, policymakers and development planners.



From Manish Patel, AIDMI, Ahmedabad

**Ecosystem based Disaster Management Planning
Issue No. 93**

Publisher: southasiadisasters.net
Month of publication: June 2013

The issue covers topics such as Ecosystem based flood relief to recovery; Emerging challenges of DRR for Asian Development Bank; Climate-smart revolution; Addressing Natural Hazards in Planning; DRR in Post Disaster Shelter Reconstruction; Gender, Risk and Community Mobilization in Uganda etc. ([Download](#): PDF 1.05 MB)

From Komal Kantariya, GSDMA, Gujarat



Urgency to strengthen science-informed decision making in disaster risk management in India

Author: Jyotiraj Patra
Published by: Integrated Action on Resilience and Global Sustainability (InAcReGS)
Date of publication: 2013

This policy brief analyses some of the existing institutional constraints, as well opportunities, for systematic and robust coordination among scientists/researchers, policy makers and practitioners in the field of disaster risk management in India. Building on the recent experience of the Himalayan Tsunami, it suggests a set of action points and a framework that would further strengthen science-informed decision making to deal with the uncertainties and complexities in a changing disaster risk context in India. ([Download](#): PDF 944 KB)

From Komal Kantariya, GSDMA, Gujarat

Beyond Sandbagging and Embankment Repairing: Rethinking Flood Disaster Management in Odisha

Author: Jyotiraj Patra



Published by: Odisha Diary
Date of publication: July 2013

Monsoon 2013 has, so far, proved to be one of the most devastating seasons for India. The unprecedented rainfall in Uttarakhand, which resulted in the killer Himalayan Tsunami, has been attributed to the convergence of the low pressure system from the Bay of Bengal with that of an upper air trough the Arabian Sea. Floods in the coastal state of Odisha, with a dense network of river systems draining in to the Bay of Bengal, are frequent and furious destroying lives and livelihoods of tens of thousands of poor and vulnerable communities. The floods of 2011 in the Mahanadi and Bramhani-Baitarani river systems submerged around 3000 villages in 19 districts and affected more than 2.1 million populations. [Read More](#)

Must Read

India Flooding Renews Community Interest in Amateur Radio for Emergencies

from The ARRL Letter on July 12, 2013

Website: <http://www.arrl.org/>

The Times of India <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com> reports that the recent monsoon flooding disaster in the northern India state of Uttarakhand has prompted officials in other flood-prone regions to establish Amateur Radio facilities to provide emergency communication. In the Coimbatore sub-district (taluk) of Valparai in the state of Tamil Nadu, recent rain damage led to a decision to install a ham radio station to link local government with officials further up the administrative hierarchy in Coimbatore and Pollachi. The Amateur Radio Club in Pollachi, the Times reports, has said it would establish the station free of cost, to support emergency communication in disasters.

"The Uttarakhand <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Uttarakhand> disaster has prompted us to approach the authorities with such a proposal. The permission is expected to be granted soon and the radio station will be a reality in another month," the paper quotes K. Ibrahim, VU3IRH, of the Pollachi Amateur Radio Club.

Kasi Viswanathan, VU2FFM, from Udumalpet, who is also part of the project, said, "In Uttarakhand, ham radio operators are playing a pivotal role in coordinating rescue works as normal telecommunication gave way in several places. Effective and fast communication is necessary to deal with emergencies." He said Valparai officials have shown great interest in learning about Amateur Radio. Read more <http://www.arrl.org/news/india-flooding-renews-community-interest-in-amateur-radio-for-emergencies>. -- Times of India <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>; Jim Linton, VK3PC

Source:

The ARRL Letter

[Read More](#)

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

If you have items to feature in this News Update, please send it to Solution Exchange for the Disaster Management Community in India at se-drm@solutionexchange-un.net.in

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