



Climate change

With a focus across adaptation, mitigation & development, the climate change guide covers agriculture & food security, natural resource management, poverty & vulnerability, governance, health, gender, finance, & low carbon energy.

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Eldis Climate Change and Development Reporter

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<http://www.eldis.org/climatechange>

This is our regular bulletin that highlights recent publications on climate change and development issues.

The documents are available without charge on the web. If you are unable to access any of these materials online and would like to receive a copy of a document as an email attachment, please contact our editor at the email address given below.

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When disasters and conflicts collide: improving links between disaster resilience and conflict prevention

Authors: Harris,K.; Keen,D.; Mitchell,T.

Produced by: Overseas Development Institute (2013)

This paper by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) argues for increased focus on the conflict-disaster nexus in fragile and conflict-affected states. It is based on a study assessing the evidence base on the ways in which natural disasters affect conflict, how conflict affects natural disasters and how people are affected by multiple risks. The authors consider what can be learned from current practices to improve conflict prevention, statebuilding and disaster risk management to build resilience. They find that the complex conditions of intersecting vulnerability and risk require grounding an understanding of them in specific contexts. In most cases, natural disasters are found to exacerbate pre-existing conflicts. The paper reveals that conflict and fragility increase natural disasters impacts, particularly by increasing vulnerability to natural hazards. There appears to be a close association between the risk of mortality from drought, state fragility and climate change vulnerability; however, the intersection between mortality risk from other natural hazards (such as cyclones and earthquakes) and state fragility appears to be much less pronounced.

Recommendations for international policy, programming and finance include the following.

- Managing risk in fragile and conflict-affected states should be a key feature of the post-2015 disaster risk reduction (DRR) agreement (Hyogo Framework 2).
- The World Bank 2014 World Development Report should set a new agenda for managing risks in fragile and conflict-affected states.
- The Political Champions for Disaster Resilience Group should promote inter-agency coordination to build resilience in fragile and conflict-affected states, developing regional and national approaches to ex-ante risk management in such settings.
- The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) should scale up programming in fragile and conflict-affected states and create closer links with the conflict prevention work of the World Bank.

The paper further recommends that bilateral donors and United Nations agencies create joint risk taskforces in key fragile and conflict-affected states and explore new ways of working and building the evidence base about how to better invest in ex-ante risk management measures. Developing new conceptual frameworks and analytical tools is also advised, as well as modifying existing ones (such as statebuilding, peacebuilding and conflict sensitivity frameworks) to reflect disaster risk and vice versa.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63704>

Rural households in a changing climate

Authors: Baez, J. E.; Kronick, D.; Mason, A. D.
Produced by: World Bank (2013)

This World Bank policy research working paper investigates household-level strategies for adapting to climate change in rural settings, looking particularly at the adaptive capacity of poor rural households – a subject the authors claim has received little attention due to its broad and complex nature. The paper argues that climate change poses two distinct sets of challenges for rural households, which it broadly defines as ‘shocks’ and ‘shifts’:

- shocks signify events that temporarily disrupt a household's modal environmental conditions, i.e. increased weather variability, and increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events;
- shifts permanently change the modal conditions, i.e. long-term shifts in temperature,

rainfall patterns, water availability and other environmental factors.

Within this framework, the authors examine evidence from existing empirical literature on topics including: determinants of household economic mobility, ambiguity risk, agricultural technology adoption, reaction to weather-related information, determinants of migration, income diversification, health and past experiences of permanent environmental changes. They synthesise the evidence from this literature into a picture of household-level strategies for adapting to climate change in rural settings. The findings and conclusions include the following examples.

- Increased frequency and severity of weather shocks is likely to have the greatest impact among the poorest rural households.
- Weather-related declines in schooling in rural areas are often associated with increases in households' use of child labour.
- Climate shocks and shifts complicate rural households' attempts to: smooth consumption (using credit, insurance, savings, etc.), smooth income (adjusting agricultural portfolios, diversifying sources of income, etc.) and evaluate options (such as migration).
- Policies and programmes that help to increase households' human capital and improve their access to physical assets, financial capital and markets can play important roles in strengthening their capacity to adapt to climate change.

The authors also provide examples of country experiences with better systems of information for adaptation and climate-adapted risk management instruments (such as indexed production insurance) and social safety nets that are targetable and scalable on the basis of weather events.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63651>

National climate funds: learning from the experience of Asia-Pacific countries

Authors: Irawan,S.; Heikens,A.; Petrini,K.

Produced by: United Nations Development Programme (2012)

This discussion paper from the United Nations Development Programme examines the experiences of Asia-Pacific countries in establishing and managing extra-budgetary national climate funds (NCFs). The purpose is to provide an overview of the key issues decision-makers face in designing, implementing and managing climate funds in the region; and to offer practical examples of countries' experiences.

The paper begins by contextualising NCFs within the overall national climate finance environment and by explaining the methodology of the research (including literature review, e-discussions, case study analysis and a regional clinic). The report itself covers three main phases of establishing NCFs:

- Decision-making – This includes information on defining strategic goals, evaluating options and capacity, identifying beneficiaries and sources of funds, and time/cost considerations. A range of questions, recommendations and notes of caution for decision-makers are presented in order to aid with the development of a feasibility analysis prior to establishing an NCF.
- Designing NCFs – The report explains the intricacies of the various fund types available, and their legal and governance requirements. Design features should be

selected according to pre-defined strategic goals and take into account the political commitment and resources available, as well as the target time for when the fund should be operational. An option that should be considered as an immediate and temporary solution is external (of government) sinking funds. As the simplest fund type, they do not require parliamentary approval and can be administered by multilateral agencies. If the aim of the fund is to provide sustainable income from investments whilst channelling it to intended beneficiaries, then an endowment fund is the suggested choice.

- Managing NCFs – The paper outlines aspects of the fiduciary standards required and explains the importance of performance based monitoring (both technical and financial), working alongside beneficiaries at the local level, and adapting or initiating new programmes should monitoring indicate a drift from intended goals.

The report concludes with a note on the importance of integrating a strong capacity development strategy into NCF design.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63574>

Resilience of outdoor spaces in an era of climate change: the problem of developing countries

Authors: Hatuka, T.; Saaroni, H.

Produced by: Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (2013)

This paper suggests a framework for integrating climate change into the design of public spaces in developing countries. The aim is to explain the urgent need for public-space design codes in developing countries that factor in global warming and climate extremes. The paper argues that environmental considerations must form an integral part of such design to ensure human wellbeing. It suggests a regionally-sensitive conceptual model capable of managing the growing challenges, including rapid urbanisation, growing slums and ineffective planning policies. Present policy and urban development is often limited by rigid frameworks, which are unsuitable to managing such an informal and dynamic system.

The report suggests a generic conceptual framework for developing regional design codes for public spaces called the 'Regional Codes for Outdoor Spaces Model'. Taking account of residents' daily lives, it incorporates community participation in both the development of the codes, as well as the maintenance of the space itself.

The model includes three key steps:

- Analytic – This step involves investigating the relationship between the physical and cultural, both on a psychological level (place-related identity, attitude to public space, etc.) and a practical one (traditional clothing, comfort, etc.). This is important since cultural factors can directly affect one's perception of thermal comfort, meaning that perception cannot be neatly correlated with temperature metrics.
- Evaluative – Consisting of interviews and observation, this crucial step should carefully consider both the length of stay and space typologies, dividing analytic results accordingly.
- Regulative – This includes the development of design guidelines focused on shading, vegetation, wind and ventilation, water use, and materials. All of these factors impact thermal comfort, though it is important that implementation is context-sensitive.

The authors note a paucity of studies on micro-climate and thermal comfort in developing countries, especially with regard to the impacts on social dynamics.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63576>

Understanding relationships between biodiversity, carbon, forests and people: the key to achieving REDD+ objectives. A global assessment report

Authors: Parrotta, J. A.; Wildburger, C.; Mansourian, S.

Produced by: International Union of Forest Research Organizations (2012)

This report seeks to better understand the relationships between biodiversity, carbon, forests and people, so as to support the achievement of REDD+ objectives. It summarises the latest scientific literature to make sense of the complex web of relationships, how they may be affected by the implementation of REDD+ management activities, and the potential trade-offs and synergies between and among environmental and socioeconomic objectives.

The introduction provides a summary of the issue, presenting contextual data to illustrate the importance of, and challenges faced by, forest ecosystems. It also discusses REDD+ and its aims of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, as well as conserving, managing and increasing forests as carbon stocks.

The report is split into four chapters. The first chapter explores the relationships and impacts of deforestation and forest degradation on biodiversity, carbon and other ecosystem services. Covering a range of forest types, it gives a broad overview of biodiversity and carbon relationships in potential REDD+ programme regions.

Impacts of forest and land management on biodiversity and carbon are the focus of the second chapter, which explores management and action approaches, identifying areas for improving agricultural practice, measures to reduce the impact of various extractive industries, and indicators for the effective monitoring of carbon and biodiversity.

Social and economic considerations relevant to REDD+ are covered by the third chapter, including the social and economic context of governance and its consequences. This chapter concludes that REDD+ activities can greatly benefit poor people (particularly through participatory practices) and generate significant financial flows.

The fourth chapter examines existing and future options for governance of REDD+, forest management and biodiversity. It explores options to synergise climate, forest management and biodiversity at both the national and international scale, including information on data collection, planning, policies and finance. The report concludes that governance is likely to remain pluralistic; rather than impose a singular solution, this complexity should be embraced.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63521>

Global climate risk index 2013: Who suffers most from extreme weather events? Weather-related loss events in 2011 and 1992 to 2011

Authors: Harmeling, S.; Eckstein, D.

Produced by: Germanwatch (2012)

This report analyses the extent to which countries have been affected by weather-related loss events. It warns that the window for putting the world on a track to stay below two degrees Celsius is rapidly closing and preparations must be made for potentially more frequent or severe weather events in the future. Published in the lead up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP18 held from 26 November to 7 December 2012 in Doha, Qatar, the paper calls on the conference delegates to insert new dynamics, and on the international community to scale-up its response to addressing climate change and associated (and increasing) loss and damage.

The publication begins with instructions for reading the Global Climate Risk Index. Although it does not provide an all-encompassing analysis of the risks from anthropogenic climate change to countries, it does indicate a level of exposure and vulnerability to extreme events. The following are among this report's key messages.

- Honduras, Myanmar and Nicaragua were the countries most affected by extreme weather events from 1992 to 2011.
- Eight of the ten most affected countries (1992-2011) were developing countries in the low-income or lower-middle income country group – two belong to the upper-middle income countries.
- In total, more than 530,000 people died as a direct consequence from almost 15,000 extreme weather events and losses of more than US\$2.5 trillion (in PPP) occurred from 1992 to 2011 (US\$1.68 trillion overall losses in original values).
- In 2011, the ranking of the most affected countries is led by Thailand, Cambodia, Pakistan, El Salvador and the Philippines.
- An ambitious work programme on near-term mitigation as well as Kyoto II targets in line with the two degrees Celsius limit are key actions required.
- Adequate financial and institutional support should be provided by developed countries to further increase disaster preparedness and resilience of poor countries.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63536>

Market-based climate mitigation policies in emerging economies

Authors: Moarif,S.; Rastogi,N. P.

Produced by: Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (2012)

This brief explores the different types of market-based climate mitigation policies being implemented across five different emerging economies: China, India, Brazil, South Africa and South Korea. Market-based policies work through raising the costs of emitting greenhouse gases and/or reducing the costs of producing or consuming lower emitting alternatives. In adjusting incentives, these policies are designed to change the behaviour of companies and individuals so that supply and demand can be directed toward low emission strategies. Each of the countries have pledged to reduce emissions, though methods of measurement (China and India measure emissions per unit of GDP, while the rest measure against predicted business-as-usual levels) and scope of target varies (spanning between 30 to 45 per cent by 2020).

Findings include a number of commonalities, including a preference for incentives, such as removing financial barriers to mitigation actions, over disincentives such as higher taxes and restricted lending. There is also a clear preference for investing in renewable energy,

for a number of interlocking reasons: climate change mitigation, diversifying energy production, energy security, improving health, meeting increasing demand, reducing pollution, etc. The brief notes that significant groundwork and monitoring is required for the implementation of these complex policies, which are prone to evolution (this is especially true of trading strategies, such as cap-and-trade).

The brief reports on each of the countries in depth. Some of the policies highlighted include the following.

- Brazil: preferential financing for ethanol-based electricity production and guaranteed tariffs for electricity from renewable sources.
- China: regional cap-and-trade is currently in pilot stage, with the aim of achieving a national, unified energy system around 2015.
- India: the Perform, Achieve and Trade scheme, which covers eight energy-intensive areas and uses carbon trading, mandatory reduction targets and penalties to reduce emissions.
- South Africa: a range carbon taxes, rising over time, aimed at emissions, goods and energy production.
- South Korea: long-running and significant subsidies for renewable energy and the removal of environmentally harmful subsidies.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63533>

Announcements:

Funding Opportunity for Collaborative Research on Climate Change Adaptation in Africa and Asia: Call for Concept Notes

The Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA) is a seven-year research program launched in 2012 and jointly funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

CARIAA supports collaborative, interdisciplinary research in three climate change hot spots in Africa and Asia: deltas, river basins affected by glacial and snowpack melt, and semi-arid regions. Visit our [website](#) for more about our approach.

We are now inviting submissions for research consortia interested in joining the CARIAA initiative. A call for concept notes on collaborative adaptation research in the three hot spots is now open until April 4, 2013. The selected consortia would be expected to lead innovative programs of research into the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations in the hot spots from 2013 to 2019.

Find out what we're looking for and how you can apply by reading the call documents and Frequently Asked Questions on our [website](#).

CARIAA encourages strong southern participation and innovative collaborations among various types of institutions in both Africa and Asia.

Note that each application must involve a proposed consortium of three to five institutions. See the call documents for details.

Available online at:

<http://www.idrc.ca/EN/Funding/Competitions/Pages/CompetitionDetails.aspx?CompetitionD=54>

Launching the Knowledge Navigator interactive tool

Produced by: Institute of Development Studies (2013)

Where do you go to find information about climate change and development?

With Knowledge Navigator, it no longer matters where people start their search. The Knowledge Navigator is a web-based interactive tool, called a widget, which can appear on any website and provide visitors with a search tool to find relevant climate change knowledge, covering adaptation, mitigation and development.

Currently, the Knowledge Navigator has a categorised dataset of over 100 online platforms, or initiatives, from across the globe. These platforms host and link to material from more than one institution or source, and are distinct from an institutional website.

If you are managing a climate change website, this widget can be embedded into existing websites for free with just two lines of code. It is available in a number of different sizes, based on website requirements, and its colours and styles can be customised to fit in with the look and feel of your website. Check out an example of this widget here:

<http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/climate-change/knowledge-navigator>

This tool also provides knowledge brokers, intermediaries and other practitioners with a clearer picture of who is working on climate change - linking up initiatives more effectively and reducing duplication of efforts.

Visit the project website at kn.ids.ac.uk to:

- See a demonstration
- Find out how to install the widget
- Browse through all the initiatives

We would value your feedback on what you think of the widget. Please contact us to share your thoughts and questions.

Available online at: kn.ids.ac.uk

See our [Climate Change Resource Guide](#) for a complete list of new additions.

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