



NEPAL CLIMATE UPDATE

Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCKMC)

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Editors' Summary

Rainfall in Mustang holds the center stage in this issue. After a long decade, monsoon spells with so much devastation. July gets more than fair rain but without hope and prosperity as it used to bring before. Even rainfall along with climate change target human health, more precisely rural women health. Good news trickles that loan has been sanctioned to build resilience to climate-related hazards and initiatives has been addressed to tackle urbanization and climate change impacts. Moreover, British Council's initiatives for saving the environment through carbon footprint reduction set an example for everyone. We are excited and hoping climate change summit will commence work fruitfully.

Editors

Ramila Raut

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Nepal govt agrees climate change loan

Ministry of Environment agreed for a loan of \$36 million to build resilience to climate-related hazards through private sector participation from the Climate Investment Funds (CIF). The meeting between the World Bank officials and a team led by the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Meena Khanal, in Cape Town, decided to go ahead with the Pilot Project Climate Resilience (PPCR) through loan and grant. Initially, total fund was \$ 110 million (\$ 50 million grant and \$ 60 million loan), but after the developed countries, especially the US, failed to provide the fund as per its pledge to the CIF, the loan was reduced from \$60 million to \$36 million.

July 18

The Himalayan Times

Eco change hits women

The participants of an event jointly organized by the National Women's Commission (NWC) and Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists (NeFEJ) said that Nepali women's health bears the brunt of the environmental change. The effects are mostly seen on rural women. Climate change is also harder on women, where they stay in areas hit by drought, deforestation or crop failure.

July 18

The Kathmandu Post

Grappling urbanization and climate change issues

The Ministry of Environment (MoE), the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works and the Ministry of Local Development and UN-HABITAT jointly organized a workshop on Cities and Climate Change Initiatives (CCCI) in Kathmandu. During the program, various officials and experts expressed Nepal being vulnerable country to climate change impacts along with fastest urbanization, the linkage between cities and climate change is a critical issue for the nation. The government has taken initiatives to address climate changes and urbanization issues. So far National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) has identified urban settlements as one of six key thematic groups and included Promoting Climate Smart Urban Settlements as one of nine priority projects.

July 22

The Rising Nepal

Training on Data Analysis for Climate and Climate Change Studies

The Small Earth Nepal (SEN-Nepal) is going to organize training on "**Data Analysis for Climate and Climate Change Studies**" to make the trainees understand and analyze the climatic data which will help to broaden their knowledge in the field of climate change and at the same time effectively use the tools in their works.

Application form can be downloaded from www.smallearth.org.np

Deadline for application: 5 August 2011

Training Date: 15 – 19 August 2011

Time: 0700-1000, Venue: The Small Earth Nepal

For Details: <http://www.smallearth.org.np/detail.php?cid=39&id=10>

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SAARC nations to tackle climate change in summit

Nepal's thematic issue on "Development of Regional Roadmap on Energy Security Meeting" was held on July 28-29 to present the outcome in the Climate Summit for a Living Himalayas–Bhutan 2011 due to be held on Nov 19 this year. The meeting is part of efforts of the four SAARC countries—Nepal, India, Bangladesh and Bhutan—to come up with outcomes on four thematic areas on climate change. The summit aims at developing and agreeing on a road map for adapting to climate change in the Himalayas, highlighting the issues of climate change and its impacts on the Himalayas; and fostering partnership and networking to facilitate sharing of information and experience to deal with the impacts of climate change.

July 25/27

The Himalayan Times/Gorkhapatra

Remarkable initiatives

British Council's Green Team has initiated various activities and campaign to raise awareness about saving the environment. They used to organize workshop on making recycled paper and further to accomplish their vision carrying environment friendly activities, a tool called Environmental Framework Tool (EFT) has been devised to support environmental management across British Council's overseas operations which include five levels viz; setting the foundation for environmental improvement through management preparations and training; implementing and monitoring the management and representing exemplar performances. In addition, they were working on reducing carbon footprint.

July 26

Repubblica

Rainfall being harsh to Mustang

Incessant rainfall has affected normal life in Lomanthang and other villages in Upper Mustang with triggering flashfloods and landslides by which pipelines of various drinking water projects, irrigation canals, bridges, and roads were damaged. Many adobe houses at Lomanthang, the rain shadow zone that receives little or no rain, has been damaged. The 15th century Lomanthang palace which bears historical and cultural significance is at grave risk of collapse. Nirajan Sapkota from Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Pokhara has provided the details. As locals said, it rarely rained in the area but climate change has led the excessive rainfall.

July 27/28, July 31

The Kathmandu Post, Nepal Samachar Patra

Monsoon: July gets more than fair rain share

July, the wettest month of the four-month long monsoon season that starts from June in the country, received rainfall above normal this year after three years, according to data provided by the Meteorological Forecasting Division (MFD) on Saturday. The total rainfall recorded this month so far in the capital is 412.6 millimetres (mm) while normal rainfall for the same month is 356.6 mm. The amount of rainfall recorded in July (till July 30) in 2009 and 2010 was recorded at 311 mm and 291.8 mm, respectively. The highest 24-hour rainfall amount for the capital recorded for this month was on July 23, 2002 at 177mm.

July 31

The Kathmandu Post

Fever and typhoid menace

Dr. Shovit Thapa from district hospital of Bhojpur acquainted that continual rainfall, changing climate and unhygienic and dirty water had led viral fever and typhoid to people of Bhojpur. He said due to those ailments, more than 100 patients visit the hospital for treatment.

July 31

Kantipur