

APFM newsletter No.15 Topics

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APFM Advisory Committee and Management Committee Meeting

The APFM Advisory Committee and Management Committee Meeting were held on 31 May and 1 June 2007 in Geneva to review the progress of the programme activities during the first year of the Phase II of APFM and discuss the activity plan for 2007/2008. The Committee has appreciated that APFM is making excellent efforts towards advocating a practical and demand driven approach to flood management and is helping countries in putting into practice the concepts of Integrated Flood Management (IFM) through the national and regional activities. These efforts will be continuously developed further so that importance of IFM can be widely disseminated and adopted in county policies and on the ground through IFM tools, national and regional activities, capacity development and IFM HelpDesk.

The Phase II of APFM emphasizes on wider implementation of the IFM concepts in the field, capacity development and provision of HelpDesk

services on flood management to support countries in implementation of IFM principles. While the Government of Japan has committed itself to continue to support Phase II of the programme, the Government of Switzerland has also expressed their willingness to participate and support the programme.



APFM co-organized a side-event at the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction together with UN/ISDR

APFM co-organized a side-event at the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva on 7 June 2007 together with UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). The Global Platform is the main consultative forum on disaster risk reduction at the global level. It brings together a wide range of actors in the various sectors of development and humanitarian work, and in the environmental and scientific fields related to disaster risk reduction. The side-event under the title "Managing Floods for Sustainable Development" brought together natural resources managers and emergency managers from developed and developing countries to exchange knowledge and experience in flood management. Presentations and discussion focussed on the IFM concept, its application to arid zones (case of Iran) especially taking count of the use of flood water to recharge ground water resources and mitigate drought. Further the session discussed a project Flood Risk Mapping in the Danube River Basin (ICPDR), and the development of a Flash Flood Guidance System

The APFM promotes the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM). IFM integrates land and water resources development in a river basin, within the context of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), with a view to maximizing the efficient use of floodplains and minimizing loss to life.

with Global Coverage (Hydrologic Research Centre, US).

APFM and INBO strengthen the cooperative mechanism

International Network of Basin Organization (INBO) aims to develop permanent relations with the organizations interested in a river basin management, facilitate exchange of experiences and expertises among them and promote the principles and means of sound water management to reach a sustainable development. Since Integrated Flood Management (IFM) is a subset of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), and which is realized through a basin approach as to contribute to the socio-economic basin development, APFM and INBO discussed ways and means to further strengthen the cooperative mechanism towards the implementation of IFM in the basin management and support efforts of basin organization in realizing this object. In the meeting, APFM and INBO confirmed that both organisations will:

- share practical and operational experiences in the field accumulated and available in the River Basin Organizations.
- establish the knowledge base to support the efforts in implementing integrated flood management approaches through River Basin Organizations.

APFM and JICA to collaborate for the implementation of Integrated Flood Management

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been advancing international cooperation through the sharing of knowledge and experience. APFM has been working together with JICA on capacity building by providing IFM inputs in JICA training courses. APFM with JICA has supported Kenya Government in its implementation of IFM through a study on "Integrated Flood Management for Nyando River Basin", which has been formulated based on the policy developed in the "[Strategy for Flood Management for Lake Victoria Basin, Kenya](#)". To further strengthen and fulfilment of the collaboration for the improvement of IFM in the world, WMO and JICA had a meeting on 6 August 2007.

APFM and ICHARM had a meeting for future cooperation activities

International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) was established in March 2006, under the auspices of UNESCO, in

cooperation with some ministries of Japanese Government. APFM had a meeting with ICHARM on 7 and 8 August 2007 in Tsukuba, Japan to discuss future cooperation activities, about Tools for Integrated Flood Management (IFM) and trainings of flood hazard. Since ICHARM intends to promote research, training and information networking to prevent and mitigate water-related disasters throughout the world, the discussion with APFM members covers not only training issues but also technical exchanges, such as satellite information system for the flood forecasting and warning. The participants included several experts from Sri Lanka, Nepal and so on. APFM will contribute some knowledge about the IFM in the training course of flood hazard mapping, which will be held in this autumn mainly at ICHARM.



WMO Congress report

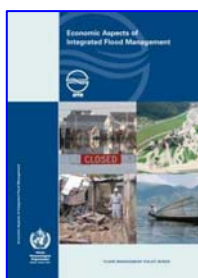
The Fifteenth Session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-XV) was held in Geneva from 7 to 25 May 2007. The most relevant outcomes of the session from the perspective of the APFM was organization in the field of water. The adopted Resolutions is resolution 3.5/2 (Cg-XV) — Strategy for the Enhancement of Cooperation between National Meteorological and Hydrological Services for Improved Flood Forecasting – This resolution flowed from the WMO Flood Forecasting Initiative and the Strategy and Action Plan developed during that process. It also introduces the demonstration project on the Flash Flood Guidance (FFG) System with global coverage. (more information on this system can be found in: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrrp/documents/FFGS4-May-2007.pdf> and http://www.hrc-lab.org/giving/FFGS_index.php)

Announcement of the APFM activities

New publication, Economic Aspects of Integrated Flood Management, has been published

Flood Management Policy Series "Economic Aspects of Integrated Flood Management" is now available. Click below to download.

<http://www.apfm.info/publications.htm>



Tools for Integrated Flood Management

Integrated Flood Management (IFM) requires various specialists to work together under a joint flood management strategy or policy. Therefore, APFM is making an effort to provide guidance tools for flood managers and various other specialists working in flood management to implement IFM.

These tools are set under the umbrella of the "Flood Management Tools Series" and following tools are now available.

- Formulating a Basin Flood Management Plan
- Conducting Flood Loss Assessments
- Applying Environmental Assessment for Flood Management

They are intended to help gain quick access to relevant technical guidance over the internet. The compilation of the tools is an ongoing process and as such these tools should be considered as a living draft. They will be periodically updated based on sharing experiences with the readers.

APFM encourages flood managers and other experts engaged in flood management to participate in the enrichment of the "Flood Management Tools Series". Please submit your inputs to the following e-mail address: apfm@wmo.int indicating in the 'Subject' line the name of the particular Tool.

(Please see more information:

http://www.apfm.info/ifm_tools.htm)

Regional Workshop on "Community preparedness and public participation for flash flood management in Europe" on 29-30 October 2007 in Krakow, POLAND

APFM and the Global Water Partnership (GWP) are working closely on the issues related to Flood Management. To this effect, together we have been working on Flash Flood issues in the Central and Eastern European Region in form of a Pilot Project to build capacities of the local level authorities to deal with flash floods by involving communities on one hand and the National Hydrological and Meteorological Services on the other. The Pilot project undertaken in Poland, Slovakia and Romania have thrown a number of interesting issues and a Synthesis Report on the experience in the Pilot Projects is being issued.

In order to discuss the outcomes of these pilot projects, to link these outcomes to the national level flood management practices, and identify broader challenges, GWP and WMO, in close collaboration with Institute of Meteorology and Water Management, Poland and under the patronage of the Mayor of Krakow, are organizing a Regional Workshop on "Community preparedness and public participation for flash flood management in Europe" on 29-30 October 2007 in Krakow, POLAND

For more information

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