



APFM Flood Management News



Associated Programme on Flood Management
Newsletter No.21

Flood Management at the World Water Week in Stockholm
Crossroads Climate and Flood Management – A Special Event during
World Climate Conference-3
National Workshop on IFM in Mauritania
IFM Capacity Building Programme in Malaysia
The IFM HelpDesk supported capacity building in Turin, Italy
Lecture in the JICA training course
Announcement

Flood Management at the World Water Week in Stockholm



As part of the Stockholm World Water Week, the APFM organized a Side Event Country: "Assistance for Robust Flood Management Policies: The HelpDesk for Integrated Flood Management", together with partners of GWP, Cap-Net/UNDP, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and the Dundee Centre on Water Law, Policy and Science. The side event helped to further raise awareness among water professionals about the available support mechanism under the HelpDesk for countries and river basins. Three additional partners joined the HelpDesk Support Base, namely the DHI Group, the Dundee Centre for Water Law Policy and Science and the SIWI.

As part of the 'Water and Climate Day' the APFM joined Cap-Net and a series of further actors in organizing a seminar "Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) as a practical approach to climate change adaptation". During the seminar the newly available Training Manual and Facilitator's Guide on the same topic was published. This training manual is available to assist capacity builders in developing training and educational programmes on the use of IWRM tools and instruments for adaptation to climate change impacts. The material is intended to increase our understanding of climate change impacts and action through better water resources management. It is available at <http://www.cap-net.org/node/1628>.



Dr. Patricia Wouters (The Dundee Centre for Water Law Policy and Science)



Dr Evzen Zeman (DHI Group)

Crossroads Climate and Flood Management – A Special Event during World Climate Conference-3



APFM organized a side event for the IFM HelpDesk on 1st September 2009 during the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3). WCC-3 was convened to provide nations with the opportunity to jointly consider Global Framework for Climate Services that would help every country access and apply climate information. Climate variability and change is likely to result in increases to the frequency and intensity of hydrometeorological extremes such as floods and droughts. Climate information will be critical for decision making as well as long-term planning of flood management options. The event was moderated by Dr. Eugene Stakhiv, US Army Corps of Engineers, with five panelists including flood management experts, policy makers and development agencies. The main theme of the panel discussion was “Role and Potential of Climate Information in support of Flood Management and the Role of the IFM HelpDesk”. The discussion recognized that climate

variability and change affect current flood management practices and demand innovative approaches. The discussion also stressed that flood managers are the traditional managers of climate variability and that climate information products must be based on the operational needs of flood managers.

Presentation material can be downloaded [here](#).

National Workshop on IFM in Mauritania

A national workshop on Integrated Flood Management (IFM) was held 1 and 2 July 2009 in Nouakchott (Mauritania). Its main goal had been to present the concept of IFM to the relevant State services, local administration and other stakeholders. The workshop had been organized following a request by the Permanent Representative of Mauritania with WMO as an element of a general strategy to improve national capacities to cope with flood events.

This event was also the very first activity to be carried out within the framework of the HelpDesk for Integrated Flood Management, which had been launched on 17 June 2009 by WMO and the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

The workshop was attended by experts and officers of the Ministries of the Interior and of Infrastructure and Transport, members of the National Crisis Commissions, parliamentarian and local administrators of flood prone areas, representatives of the various relevant technical State services as well as of UN Organizations and NGOs. The workshop was opened by the Minister of Infrastructure and Transports, Mr Diop Cheikh Baidi, and by WMO Secretary General Mr Michel Jarraud, and has been facilitated by WMO officers and an expert of the Swiss Federal Office for Environment.

IFM Capacity Building Programme in Malaysia

With the objective to embed the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM) in the overall national policy on Integrated Water Resources Management, the government of Malaysia had requested APFM to help organizing a week-long capacity building programme. Co-organized by DID, APFM and Cap-Net, the IFM Capacity Building Programme for the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) of the government of Malaysia took place from 10-14 August 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. About 50 top managers and senior engineers of DID, together with experts from other departments and NGOs participated in the programme.

A key issue of the training had been to introduce the concept of IFM into existing flood management and mitigation plans and to identify necessary measures to implement IFM in river basin planning, master plans and making it a part of institutional planning and operating procedures that require amendments with respect to the legal framework as well as flood management with respect to environmental issues, amongst others. Aiming to test IFM practices in the context of flood management in Malaysia, participants agreed to develop and implement pilot projects.



Back-to-back with the training course a seminar was organized in which around 200 participants from central government, federal states of Malaysia, local authorities, NGOs, consulting companies and universities were present on the occasion. In lively interactions between the presenters and participants, the requirements for the implementation of the IFM approach from legal and institutional, environmental, social and economical aspects were introduced by the APFM Technical Support Unit (TSU) and resource persons of Cap-Net and discussed. Based on the outcomes of the training session it was agreed that the TSU will stand prepared to further assist DID in the implementation of IFM practices.

The IFM HelpDesk supported capacity building in Turin, Italy

On 9 November 2009 an introductory seminar on Integrated Flood Management has been held in Turin (Italy) in the premises of the Regional Museum of Natural Sciences.

It was organized in response to a request submitted by the Piedmont regional authorities to the IFM HelpDesk to present the IFM concept to a broad audience composed by officer of the regional administration in charge of environment, land-use planning, flood forecasting and civil protection as well as other professional practitioners' (engineers, geologists) involved in the same activities, and already familiar, by training and working experience with engineering, hydrological and ecological aspects of flood management.

Therefore, the seminar, after a general introductory presentation of the multidisciplinary requirements for IFM, focused on the explanation and discussion of legal, social and economic aspects of IFM by WMO staff. The theoretical presentation was complemented by the description of case studies of implementation of IFM principles in Switzerland (by R. Loat from the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment) and by a presentation on the uncertainties of hydrological modeling by L. Franzi, visiting professor of the Turin Polytechnic University and D Rabuffetti, from the Piedmont Regional Agency for Environment Protection.

The presentations were followed by an animated question and answer session in which various topics were further debated, such as legal implication of forecasting uncertainties, flood risk mapping, perception of flood hazards in the media and in the public, social implications of land use planning for flood management.

Lecture in the JICA training course

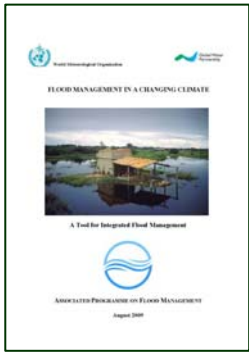
A lecture on the Integrated Flood Management (IFM) was delivered in the training course "Comprehensive Management of River and Dam" organized by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on 7 October in Tokyo, Japan. This training course provided knowledge and skills in the planning and the design of river improvement and water resources management to flood practitioners and water resources managers under the supervision of Infrastructure Development Institute (IDI) of Japan. 11 trainees from China, Indonesia, Iraq, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines and Syria participated the lecture. The concept and various aspects of IFM and activities of APFM including the IFM HelpDesk were presented to the participants. The lecture provided an opportunity to acquire comprehensive understanding of formulating flood management strategies.



Announcement

Tool for Integrated Flood Management

Flood Management Tools are guidance materials for flood management practitioners for various specific purposes. APFM has published two new tools "Flood Management in a Changing Climate" and "Risk Sharing in Flood Management".



Flood Management in a Changing Climate

The central theme of this tool is to highlight those aspects of climate variability and climate change that affect flood risks with the aim of outlining possibilities to manage flood risk. It is argued that only a combination of spatial, technical and organizational measures will lead to a more sustainable and effective management of increasing flood risks under condition of climate change.

In presenting Integrated Flood Management as an autonomous adaptation strategy, the tool provides the national and starting point for the adaptation to climate change through Integrated Flood Management.

You can download the tool [here](#).



Risk Sharing in Flood Management

The management of flood risks is based on a judicious combination of measures that address risk reduction, risk retention and risk transfer through a strategic mix of structural and non-structural measures for preparedness, response and recovery. Decision-making processes are described on how to share public risks and associated costs among government authorities, stakeholders, industry, communities and individuals.

This tool aims primarily at flood managers and in particular those that are involved in formulating flood management strategies and policies. It attempts to provide rapid access to information on risk sharing mechanisms as part of the overall flood management strategy.

You can download the tool [here](#).

The tools are considered as living documents that will be updated based on sharing experiences with the readers. You can post your comments on these tools in the Virtual Discussion Groups, one of functions of the IFM HelpDesk. Please visit [here](#).