

22 September 2008

**Natural Hazard Updates:****22 Sep, Philippines: Typhoon "NINA"**

Weather issued at: 5:00 a.m., 22 September 2008

At 2:00 a.m. today, the eye of Typhoon "NINA" was located based on satellite and surface data at 260 kms East Northeast of Aparri, Cagayan (18.7°N,124.3°E) with maximum sustained winds of 160 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 195 kph. It is forecast to move West Northwest at 19 kph. Typhoon "NINA" has intensified further as it nears Extreme Northern Luzon. <http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/>, [http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/wb/tc\\_up.html](http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/wb/tc_up.html)

**23 Sep, Typhoon Hagupit**

Typhoon Hagupit (locally known as "Nina") is forecast to strike China at about 20:00 GMT on 23 September. Data supplied by the US Navy and Air Force Joint Typhoon Warning Center suggest that the point of landfall will be near 21.3 N, 113.5 E. Hagupit is expected to bring 1-minute maximum sustained winds to the region of around 166 km/h (103 mph). Wind gusts in the area may be considerably higher. According to the Saffir-Simpson damage scale the potential property damage and flooding from a storm of Hagupit's strength (category 2) at landfall includes:

- Storm surge generally 1.8-2.4 metres (6-8 feet) above normal.
- Some roofing material, door, and window damage of buildings.
- Considerable damage to shrubbery and trees with some trees blown down.
- Considerable damage to mobile homes, poorly constructed signs, and piers.
- Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before arrival of the storm center.
- Small craft in unprotected anchorages break moorings.

There is also the potential for flooding further inland due to heavy rain.

[http://members.alertnet.org/thefacts/reliefresources/TSR/200818W\\_18W.htm](http://members.alertnet.org/thefacts/reliefresources/TSR/200818W_18W.htm)

**Gale Warning**

<http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/wb/glfct.html>

**21 Sep, India: South Asia floods kill 33, displace thousands**

Rescue workers evacuated some 200,000 people after flooding by one of India's largest rivers, while overflowing rivers inundated parts of Nepal and killed 17 people, officials said on Sunday. Large parts of India's coastal Orissa state were inundated after authorities were forced to open dozens of sluice gates of a dam on the Mahanadi river following heavy rain in the catchment area. Monsoon rains and flooded rivers have brought huge devastation across South Asia this year, killing more than 1200 people, mostly in India and Nepal.

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SP354253.htmIndia>

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/DFA2234BFA4B59DD652574C90049E9D4?OpenDocument>

[http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/5\\_lakh\\_flee\\_homes\\_in\\_flood-hit\\_Orissa/articleshow/3504478.cms](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/5_lakh_flee_homes_in_flood-hit_Orissa/articleshow/3504478.cms)

<http://www.hindu.com/2008/09/20/stories/2008092055921200.htm>

[http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Evacuation\\_begins\\_in\\_Orissa\\_as\\_flood\\_situation\\_turns\\_critical/articleshow/3502625.cms](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Evacuation_begins_in_Orissa_as_flood_situation_turns_critical/articleshow/3502625.cms)

<http://thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=55747>

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/4846C635A70E3B0E652574C9002FB433?OpenDocument>

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/00200809190942.htm>

**20 Sep, Bangladesh: A series of 6 small earthquakes were recorded by the Dhaka University Seismic Network** and were felt in central parts of Bangladesh, including in the capital Dhaka between 11:14 UTC (17:15 BST) and 12:00 UTC (18:00 BST) on 20 September 2008. The events at 11:14 UTC (ML=3.6), 11:42 UTC (ML=3.0) and 11:52 UTC (ML=4.4) were felt in Dhaka. Multiple events were also felt at Chandpur and Madaripur but information is lacking on which of the 6 events were felt. As a result of the tremors, people went outdoors at Dhaka and remained on the streets for a while. Some buildings are believed to have developed cracks. At Madaripur, people ran outdoors in panic when the tremors struck. Seismic seiches were observed in canals, rivers and ponds as a result of the tremors. Three further tremors were recorded by the Dhaka University Seismic Network at 12:01 UTC (18:01 BST, ML=3.5), 12:21 UTC (18:21 BST, ML=2.7) and 14:16 UTC (20:16 BST, ML=2.2).

ASC RECENT EARTHQUAKES MAP <http://asc-india.org/maps/recentquakes.htm>

### **19 Sep, Japan: Tropical Storm Sinlaku continues to move along southern coast**

Tropical cyclone 15W (Sinlaku), remains at tropical storm strength, and continues moving up along the south facing shore of Honshu Island, the Hawaii-based Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) reported Friday (September 19). According to the latest Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) warning #46, top winds were 50 knots (58 mph), with gusts to near 65 knots (75 mph). Sinlaku is speeding up now that it has gained latitude, moving towards the east-northeast (70 degrees) at 17 knots (20 mph). The latest JTWC forecast has Sinlaku moving offshore from Tokyo, Japan, and at its quickened pace, the flooding problems over land will be reduced to some degree, the PDC reported. The good news continues to be that the most heavy portion of the storm, where the strongest winds reside, will remain over the offshore waters. Ships in the path of this tropical storm should steer clear, giving a wide berth to the high sea conditions while it moves through the area, the PDC advises.

<http://metocph.nmci.navy.mil/jtwc/warnings/wp1508.gif>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601101&sid=a62qeeFGujic&refer=japan>

### **Sep 19, Thailand: At least six dead in Thailand floods**

By Friday (September 19), floods across Thailand have claimed the lives of at least six people, the Thai News Agency (TNA) and China's official Xinhua news agency reported Director-General Anucha Mookavesa of the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department as saying. According to TNA, two more deaths were reported Friday. In Mae Hong Son province, a flash flood in Mae Sariang district swept away a couple and left one person dead. In Phichit's Wangkrot municipality, one person died in a flash flood. According to TNA, flooding in Phichit municipality is still critical, as waters from the Nan River joined with mountain torrents raise floodwater levels. In Nong Bua La Phu, four deaths were reported while the Chee River overflowed its banks and flooded 28,000 acres of farmland in Maha Sarakham, TNA reported. Around 520,000 people across 18 provinces have been displaced or affected by the floods.

<http://enews.mcot.net/view.php?id=6347>

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/ACIO-7JM3Z?OpenDocument&rc=3&cc=tha>

### **Sep 17, Bangladesh: Two killed, hundreds missing as tidal surge hits Bangladesh**

Bangladeshi meteorologists said Wednesday (September 17) that at least two children had been killed, 400 people were missing and thousands had been stranded since a monsoon depression in the Bay of Bengal caused a tidal surge that flooded seven coastal districts of the low-lying nation. Major flooding was reported in the towns of Patuakhali, Jhalakathi and Cox's Bazar, where the deaths were reported. Parts of Patuakhali were under 6.6 feet (two meters) of water Wednesday, Deutsche Presse-Agentur (DPA) reported. Many residents fled to higher ground as the sea surge hit, but hundreds of fishermen ignored warnings and

remained at sea. According to Reuters, about 400 fishermen were missing Wednesday.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/homepageCrisis/idUSDHA290797.CH.2400>

[http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/2\\_killed\\_thousands\\_affected\\_as\\_heavy\\_rain\\_hits\\_Orissa/articleshow/3495243.cms](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/2_killed_thousands_affected_as_heavy_rain_hits_Orissa/articleshow/3495243.cms)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/LSGZ-7JKM7Z?OpenDocument>

<http://www.ndmindia.nic.in/flood-2008/floodMonth/SEPT08/SITREPNO.109DATED17.09.2008.pdf>

## News:

### **21 Sep: India Forms New Remote Sensing Centre**

The Government of India has formed a new agency, the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC). NRSC uses people and assets from the old National Remote Sensing Agency run by the Department of Space. The move was announced on 1 September. The NRSC will be one of the centres of the Indian Space Research Organization. The agency can trace its history back to the Department of Science & Technology, which in 1974 set up an organization to facilitate remote sensing activities in India. It was transferred to the Department of Space during the early 1980s with the growth of indigenous efforts in space-borne remote sensing. It is expected that NRSC will work closely with other parts of ISRO in the development and operations of the ground segment of India's large constellation of remote sensing satellites. It will also take a bigger role during the R&D phase of the program. Dr V Jayaraman has been appointed the Centre's inaugural director in Hyderabad.

<http://www.asmmag.com/news/1180>

### **19 Sep, Kenya: Thousands facing food and water crisis in the northeast**

At least 35,000 people are facing extreme food and water shortage in Mandera in the northeast along the border with Somalia and Ethiopia due to prevailing drought and poor rains, a humanitarian official said. "Of the total affected at least 16,000 are in the Takaba area of Mandera East District," Melvin Chibole, an official with the NGO ActionAid, told IRIN. Most of the population in central and western Mandera is now reliant on water trucked from the area of Elwak 170 km away; the water is however inadequate.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=80491>

### **19 Sep, Myanmar: Poor roads hamper cyclone recovery**

Bad roads continue to restrict the delivery of much-needed relief and recovery supplies to survivors of Cyclone Nargis. The end of the rainy season this month would be the best time to begin road and bridge rehabilitation work, according to specialists. As well as impacting organized relief operations, bad roads mean fewer private Burmese donors are reportedly travelling to the affected areas, while commodity prices are up due to higher transport costs.

According to the recent Post-Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA), the national highway from Yangon, the commercial capital, to Patein in the delta is a 6m wide, bituminous sealed road, while most of the other main roads to the area are unsealed, typically 3-4m wide.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=80485>

### **19 Sep, Bangladesh: Arsenic in food chain raises health concerns**

A high concentration of arsenic in the water and soil is infiltrating Bangladesh's food chain, raising serious health concerns for millions of residents, specialists warn. The acceptable level of arsenic in drinking water has been set at 50 parts per billion (PPB) or 0.05 microgrammes per litre of drinking water in Bangladesh, while the approved global standard set by the World Health Organization (WHO) is 10PPB.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=80476>

### **GIS Programs in Central Asia**

Internationally recognised Masters and professional certificate programs in GIS are now being offered in central Asia. They are available through the UNIGIS study centre at the Kyrgyz State University for Construction, Transportation and Architecture (KSUCTA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan Republic. The UNIGIS program in geographic information science and technologies aims to help train the human capital necessary for spatial data infrastructures to be developed in the countries of the region. This new UNIGIS study centre is integrated with the Austria-Central Asia Centre for GIScience ([www.aca-giscience.org](http://www.aca-giscience.org)). It offers in-service distance education for professionals interested in geo-informatics. Courses will begin in September and lead students to degrees or certificates awarded by the University of Salzburg in Austria. <http://www.asmmag.com/news/1158>

### **Post Doctoral Opportunities on Climate Change Research for Sustainable Development**

The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand invites applications for **postdoctoral fellows or research associates** in their thematic research area of **Climate Change and Sustainable Development**.

AIT plans to continue its work in an interdisciplinary manner, cutting across research that explores:

- How science influences policy, economic planning for governance and enabling mechanisms;
- Application of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies, linking rational energy use to adaption/impact of climate change vulnerability in a geographic context;
- Building resilience in urban, rural and coastal communities and social groups;
- Research on increasing carbon sequestering, including appropriate agricultural practices through selection and management of crops and vegetation, assessment of GHG emission in rice-based farming systems;
- Efficient technologies for treating waste which mitigates GHG emissions and facilitates energy recovery;
- Efficient use of water resources, water hydrology, land use;
- Biofuel and food security challenges;
- Linkages to Millennium Development Goals (MDG's);
- Planning for new cities and other infrastructure development, prevention of further investments on unsuitable locations and vulnerability mapping using GIS;
- Use of sensors and nanotechnology-based devices for detecting of atmospheric changes;
- Business opportunities as a result of climate change adaptation and mitigation, etc.

Interested candidates should email curriculum vitae including the names and contact information of 3 references. Candidates should also provide a brief write up on the research he/she expects to carry out in the near future. This should include how such work can help AIT create a niche for itself in the area and enlarge the knowledge base. The names of agencies which may be able to support such work should also be included. The positions will remain open until suitable candidates are selected. Clarification, if any, may be sort from Prof. S.K.Rakshit, Vice President, Research, [vpresearch@ait.ac.th](mailto:vpresearch@ait.ac.th). Please send in your applications to [hro@ait.ac.th](mailto:hro@ait.ac.th).

### **16 Sep: We didn't see Hanna coming**

Hanna wasn't something that we saw coming. It was supposed to be a small storm that was just going to pass by the southern tip of Haiti. But it changed direction and

lingered for several days. Many of my colleagues were caught in the field, caught in the flooding of Gonaives. <http://members.alertnet.org/db/blogs/53808/2008/08/16-131810-1.htm>

#### **16 Sep, India: Floods and food: Bihar meets the global economy**

But what next? The coming months pose a worse threat than ever before to the health of these children, as food availability decreases and prices increase in the wake of this year's floods. <http://members.alertnet.org/db/blogs/53806/2008/08/16-125233-1.htm>

#### **16 Sep, India: Women flood survivors missing from State's focus**

Three weeks after floods hit, women are missing from states' focus Humanitarian crisis in Bihar continues to unfold even after three weeks since Kosi River smashed through an embankment upstream in Nepal destroying thousands of homes and displacing over 4 million people. <http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/fromthefield/aaindia/122157825017.htm>

Website: <http://www.actionaid.org/india>

#### **NATO Signs Agreement to Use Aidmatrix Network for Disaster Relief**

Today NATO EADRCC and the Aidmatrix Foundation announced their agreement to set up a partnership to help NATO EADRCC meet the challenge of managing donations in civil disaster scenarios. The agreement is with EADRCC (Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre), NATO's principal civil crisis response mechanism, which coordinates assistance in the Euro-Atlantic area from NATO Allies and Partners to countries that have been struck by a major disaster. NATO EADRCC plans to launch the Aidmatrix Network® in late September. It will be available to 63 countries. These are the 50 Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) member countries - NATO Allies and Partners, the "Mediterranean Dialogue Countries", the "Istanbul Cooperation Initiative Countries" as well as Afghanistan and Kosovo.

[http://www.responsenet.org/exchweb/bin/redirect.asp?URL=http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001nEOHUAOC8nl\\_PadyUbieAH\\_I SCLbLf4-PEyTdFYfQkDpAQoMTvqmFBScZj1peK5fuLtlHl6xwonFgGlcvnTYCjmjhr4GBt24PXGraUUII2kkk-R13FJqHA==](http://www.responsenet.org/exchweb/bin/redirect.asp?URL=http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001nEOHUAOC8nl_PadyUbieAH_I SCLbLf4-PEyTdFYfQkDpAQoMTvqmFBScZj1peK5fuLtlHl6xwonFgGlcvnTYCjmjhr4GBt24PXGraUUII2kkk-R13FJqHA==)

<http://www.nato.int/eadrcc>

<http://www.responsenet.org/reliefexchange>

[mailto:kuldip\\_nar@aidmatrix.org](mailto:kuldip_nar@aidmatrix.org)

#### **How do you cook for a camp full of hungry Indian flood survivors?**

I've flown to Bihar a few times in the last few months, following up on the aftermath of the 2007 floods, but this time it was different. Peering over the top of the latest government update, smudged from being hastily wrenched from the printer, I noted two other individuals who looked suspiciously like aid workers - you can tell by their dress sense! <http://members.alertnet.org/db/blogs/53639/2008/08/9-153509-1.htm>

### **Events**

**27-28 November, 2008**

**Philippine Meteorological Society (PMS), Inc.**

**4<sup>th</sup> National Meteorological-Hydrological Convention**

**Connection and Fusion: Coping with the Winds of Change**

**Amihan Conference Room, PAGASA**

Science Garden Complex, Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

The convention will be highlighted by paper and poster presentations under the following sub-themes:

- a. Understanding climate variability and change, forecasts, advisories and outlooks
- b. Opportunities after a disaster (dealing with atmospheric impacts)

- c. Academic and NGO initiatives
- d. Filling the Gaps (weather/climate observation network of LGUs, government and private institutions, etc.)
- e. Coding the Atmosphere (Numerical weather prediction models that are flexible, versatile, affordable and accurate)
- f. How to talk about weather, climate variability and change (Bridging social science and meteorology)
- g. Pooling resources and building bridges - summary  
<http://kidlat.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/pms.shtml>

### Information Resources:

**Report: Billions of dollars needed to protect Asia's poor from disasters:** Governments must invest billions of dollars in preparing for disasters rather than spending aid cash on responding to emergencies, development agency World Vision said in a report released on Thursday. It warns that tens of millions of people in the Asia Pacific region are in danger from rising sea levels and climate change-related disasters, which are predicted to become more frequent, severe and costly. Only 4 percent of the estimated \$10 billion allocated to humanitarian assistance each year goes on reducing the risk of disasters, according to the report, Planet Prepare, which highlights the vulnerability of Asia Pacific's coastal communities to future disasters and climate change. "No one would invest their money on the stock market on those terms," Johannes Luetz, the report's lead author, told reporters in Bangkok. "They want to invest where it's going to yield great returns, and there are no greater returns than being one step ahead of the next disaster." "There are economic benefits in preparedness," said Richard Rumsey, the organisation's regional emergency director. "There is evidence that for every dollar spent on disaster prevention, between \$4 and \$7 can be saved in reconstruction costs." [http://members.alertnet.org/db/an\\_art/20316/2008/08/18-160552-1.htm](http://members.alertnet.org/db/an_art/20316/2008/08/18-160552-1.htm)

**Report:** World Vision launched a report dealing with the plight of coastal communities in Asia-Pacific region. Download from <http://wvasiapacific.org/planet-prepare.html>.

The endeavors to make 'humanitarian action accountable to beneficiaries' and runs the leading global quality assurance scheme for humanitarian agencies. It certifies agencies which comply with the HAP 2007 Standard in Humanitarian Accountability and Quality Management \* thereby providing assurance to disaster survivors, staff, volunteers, host authorities and donors that the agency will deliver the best humanitarian service possible.

**Report:** Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP-International): 2007 Humanitarian Accountability Report: This report highlights the overall levels of accountability in the humanitarian sector measured by survey in which feedback from aid-workers of national and international organizations (HAP and non-HAP members) located at the headquarters and in the field was received.

The report is available at: [www.hapinternational.org/pool/files/hap-2007-standard\(1\).pdf](http://www.hapinternational.org/pool/files/hap-2007-standard(1).pdf)

[www.hapinternational.org/projects/publications.aspx](http://www.hapinternational.org/projects/publications.aspx)

Published copies can be requested from [secretariat@hapinternational.org](mailto:secretariat@hapinternational.org)

**Paper: Even If Greenhouse Gas Emissions Hold Steady, Warmer World Faces Loss Of Biodiversity, Glaciers:** ScienceDaily (Sep. 17, 2008) — The earth will warm about 2.4° C (4.3° F) above pre-industrial levels even under extremely conservative greenhouse-gas emission scenarios and under the assumption that efforts to clean up particulate pollution continue to be successful, according to a new analysis by a pair of researchers at Scripps Institution of

Oceanography at UC San Diego. That amount of warming falls within what the world's leading climate change authority recently set as the threshold range of temperature increase that would lead to widespread loss of biodiversity, deglaciation and other adverse consequences in nature. The researchers, writing in the online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, argue that coping with these circumstances will require "transformational research for guiding the path of future energy consumption."

"This paper demonstrates the major challenges society will have to face in dealing with a problem that now seems unavoidable," said the paper's lead author, Scripps Atmospheric and Climate Sciences Professor V. Ramanathan. "We hope that governments will not be forced to consider trade-offs between air pollution abatement and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions." <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080917145509.htm>

**Biotechnology, the means to combat climate change: M.S. Swaminathan: Chennai:** Preserving biodiversity, whether through age-old traditions or modern biotechnology, is essential to combat the impacts of climate change, according to agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan. Delivering a lecture on the management of climate change for sustainable food security at the Indian Institute of Technology here on Monday, Prof. Swaminathan called for the creation of infrastructure in "bio valleys" to conserve and nurture biodiversity. "The Bio Valley is to biotechnology what Silicon Valley is to information technology," he said. At a time when climate change threatens to exacerbate the global food, water and land crises with warmer temperatures, droughts, floods and rising sea levels, Prof. Swaminathan pointed out that biotechnology and genetic engineering could help develop species that would adapt to the changing conditions. Isolating the salt tolerance gene in mangroves or wild rice, or the drought tolerance gene in the widespread shrub *Prosopis juliflora* could form a "genetic shield" against the impacts of climate change.

<http://www.hindu.com/2008/09/16/stories/2008091658000200.htm>

**Climate Change: Global warming creating 'environmental refugees': Sunderbans:** Global warming and consequent rise in the sea level is posing a threat to the population, turning them into 'environmental refugees,' in the Sunderbans, the largest delta region in the world. Ocean scientists say the islands of Lohachara and Suparibhanga have been submerged. Erosion and submergence have been taking place in 12 sea-facing southern islands of the Sunderbans, putting at risk the lives of thousands of people and wildlife. A research team led by Professor Sugata Hazra, Director, School of Oceanographic Studies in the Jadavpur University, Kolkata, has found that 82 sq km land has been inundated over the past three decades. The more the sea rises fed by melting ice, the greater the erosion in the estuarine islands, Professor Hazra says. He estimates that 70,000 people, out of the 4.1 million people living in the islands, would be rendered homeless by 2020 from the Indian part of the Sunderbans. He has demanded an international provision for the displaced people, whom he terms as 'environmental refugees.' Most of the displaced people from the two submerged and six shrinking islands have been heading for Pathar Pratima island and Sagar Island where pilgrims from all over the country gather at the Kapilmuni Temple in winter. <http://www.eldis.org/go/home&id=39382&type=Document>

**Study: Humanitarian implications of climate change. Mapping emerging trends and risk hotspots Hazards associated with climate change: using GIS to identify areas of high humanitarian risk**

**Authors:** C. Ehrhart; A. Thow; M. de Blois; CARE International

**Publisher:** Reliefweb, 2008

This study identifies the most likely humanitarian implications of climate change for the next 20-30 year period. The authors use Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to map specific hazards associated with climate change – specifically: floods, cyclones and droughts – and place them in relation to factors influencing vulnerability. The results identify hotspots of high humanitarian risk under changing climatic conditions:

- flood-risk hotspots occur in Africa, including the Sahel, Great Lakes region, and Southeast Africa; Central, South and Southeast Asia; and Central America and the western part of South America
- drought-risk hotspots are mainly located in sub-Saharan Africa; South Asia, particularly Afghanistan, Pakistan and parts of India; and South East Asia
- cyclone-risk hotspots include Mozambique and Madagascar, Central America, Bangladesh, several parts of India, and Southeast Asian countries. As the range and intensity of cyclones increases, so too will the number of communities at high risk. This will include communities further in-land that are not used to coping with such hazards
- areas at risk from more than one climate related hazard warrant special concern. These areas include much of sub-Saharan Africa, especially the east coast, and much of South Asia
- there are some areas that are risk hotspots for all three hazards. These include Southeast Africa and parts of South and Southeast Asia

<http://www.eldis.org/go/home&id=39382&type=Document>

### **Climate change and the poor: Adapt or die**

From The Economist print edition

Environmentalists have long said the world should concentrate on preventing climate change, not adapting to it. That is changing

“I USED to think adaptation subtracted from our efforts on prevention. But I’ve changed my mind,” says Al Gore, a former American vice-president and Nobel prize-winner. “Poor countries are vulnerable and need our help.” His words reflect a shift in the priorities of environmentalists and economists.

[http://www.economist.com:80/world/international/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=12208005](http://www.economist.com:80/world/international/displaystory.cfm?story_id=12208005)

### **Videos and Photos**

☉ PHOTOS: Destruction caused by Hurricane Hanna

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/photoalbum/1220614932.htm?nocache=1>

☉ VIDEO: Haiti after Hanna

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/122060157463.htm>

☉ VIDEO: Death toll soars in Haiti

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/122077649313.htm>

☉ VIDEO: Hurricane Ike slams Cuba

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/12210317650.htm>

☉ VIDEO: Weather takes its toll in Asia

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/122103196019.htm>

☉ PHOTOS: Floods swamp India

<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/photoalbum/1220521297.htm>



© VIDEO: India's flood victims on the move  
<http://members.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/122049438761.htm>

***For archived DRM updates:***

**ADPC Website:**

<http://www.adpc.net/v2007/IKM/EVENTS%20AND%20NEWS/DISASTER/2008/DISASTER-NEWS-2008.asp>

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