

High-level experts meet to discuss linkages between ecosystem management and disaster risk reduction

Media Release

12 December 2014

NAY PYI TAW, Myanmar – Asian Disaster Preparedness Center's (ADPC) Myanmar Office in cooperation with ACTED will organize a conference on *Ecosystem Management and Disaster Risk Reduction: Best Practices Based on Practical Field Experience* on 16 December 2014.

Specialists from research and environmental protection agencies, international non-governmental organizations, and civil society will come together to discuss potential linkages in ecosystem management and disaster risk reduction in Myanmar.

Well-managed ecosystems, such as wetlands, forests and coastal systems, act as natural infrastructure, reducing physical exposure to many hazards and increasing socio-economic resilience of people and communities. Ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction covers sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems to reduce disaster risk, with the aim to achieve sustainable and resilient development. Through an interactive agenda, the conference participants will explore issues related to environmental protection to reduce impacts of natural disasters.

“ Ecosystem management not only offers an opportunity to strengthen Myanmar's natural infrastructure and human resilience against the impacts of disasters, but also generates a range of other social, economic, and environmental benefits for multiple stakeholders, which in turn feed back into reduced risk, ”

says Angeliki Parasyraki, Country Manager of ADPC in Myanmar.

The panel at the conference will include Mr. Samuel Monet, Country Director of ACTED, Ms. Angeliki Parasyraki, Country Manager of ADPC, and Dr. Rishiraj Dutta, Environmental Technical Officer at ADPC.

The conference is organized with support from USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).



NOTE TO EDITOR:

Date:

Tuesday 16 December 2014 at 9.00

Venue:

Royal Ace Hotel
Block (15/16), Taw Win Yadanar Road
National Guest House Compound,
Dekhinathiri, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

BACKGROUND:

For nearly 30 years, **Asian Disaster Preparedness Center** has been making the Asia-Pacific region safer by strengthening disaster resilience at all levels. ADPC has been working in Myanmar since 2008, and has played an important role in supporting the government in the development of the Myanmar Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and mapping the disaster risk profile of the country.

ACTED is a non-governmental organization that has successfully implemented over 35 projects in Myanmar since opening its operations in the country in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis in 2008. From emergency assistance and early recovery support to affected communities, ACTED's programs have grown to encompass long-term recovery and development activities. Strong community-based and participatory approaches are integral to ACTED's strategy of ensuring increased sustainability and full ownership of its projects by the communities.



ACTED

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