



Community-Based Flood Early-Warning System India

The Hindu Kush Himalayan region is one of the most dynamic and complex mountain systems in the world. It is also extremely fragile and sensitive to the effects of climate change. Climate change is gradually increasing the frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events and natural hazards in the region.

To enhance the resilience of 45 vulnerable communities in the Indian Himalayan region to flood hazards, a collaboration encompassing ICIMOD, CICERO and Aranyak created the *Community-Based Flood Early-Warning System*. The information and communications technology (ICT) enabled system uses a flood sensor attached to the transmitter to detect rising water levels. When the water reaches a critical level, a signal is wirelessly transmitted to the receiver. The flood warning is then disseminated via mobile phones to appropriate agencies and vulnerable communities downstream. Critical flood levels are set with the help of local communities.

Key facts

- In 2013, five community-based flood early warning systems were installed in the Singora and Jiadhhal rivers
- The system installed in the Singora River sends flood warning signals to 20 flood-vulnerable communities downstream; 25 flood-vulnerable communities receive warnings from the system installed in the Jiadhhal River
- During the flood season of 2013, the flood early-warning system installed in the Jiadhhal River successfully informed community members of pending floods, helping them save assets and lives

More information

High-resolution images and infographics are available for download at:
<http://bit.ly/1xVnHKj>

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