

UNFCCC Adaptation Calendar 2018

Local communities and indigenous peoples: Leadership for a resilient future



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

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Local communities and indigenous peoples: Leadership for a resilient future

Local communities and indigenous peoples stand at the front lines of climate change due to their dependence upon, and close relationship with, the environment and its resources.

Indigenous people care for 22% of the earth's surface, including "an estimated 80 percent of the planet's remaining biodiversity". The IPCC recognizes how much we have to learn with and from local communities and indigenous peoples, which is a "major resource for adapting to climate change".

Recognizing the need to strengthen the knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change, the Paris Climate Change Conference (COP 21) established a platform for the exchange of experience and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner.

The local communities and indigenous peoples platform broke fresh ground in 2017 by giving indigenous peoples and local communities an active role in shaping climate action, including a prominent role in the first open multi-stakeholder dialogue.

The calendar showcases the experiences and good practices of the local communities and indigenous peoples in adapting to climate change.

An interactive, electronic version of the calendar is available via <<http://unfccc.int/5854>>.

Further information:

- Local communities and indigenous peoples platform: <<http://unfccc.int/10475>>
- Local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices: <<https://goo.gl/WZR6h4>>
- Adaptation Knowledge Portal: <<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP>>

Cover photo: Fostered by Six Quechua communities of Písaq in the Sacred Valley of Peru, the Potato Park (Parque de la Papa) is a conservation initiative where local people manage and protect indigenous genetic resources and traditional knowledge. The Quechua communities of the park are adapting to climate change, through stewarding more varieties of climate-resilient potatoes and changing cultivation practices to higher elevations.

Photo: Thomas Muller/SPDA

For further information see <<http://goo.gl/03iDci>> and <goo.gl/ffUxSE>



JANUARY

2018

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Skolt Sámi fishermen combating Arctic climate change in Lapland, Finland



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Skolt Sámi indigenous fishermen of the Näättämö river basin in Lapland, Finland, are adapting to the impacts of climate change with a community-based initiative to secure their traditional fishing culture. The Skolt Sámi have worked with several organizations and implemented collaborative management to restore living conditions for the Atlantic salmon and increase resilience of their traditional culture.

Photo: Gleb Raygorodetsky

For further information see: <<http://goo.gl/MHvxYq>>



FEBRUARY

2018

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Local community building resilience in the high mountains of Nepal



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A local community in the Nepalese Himalayas fully managed and led the lowering of a lake, supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This effort now protects the community from the rising dangers of Glacier Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) in Solukhumbu district, Nepal and reduces the risk of catastrophic flooding events in the Terai and Churia Range.

Photo: UNDP CCA

For further information see: <<https://goo.gl/ZMIH5m>>



MARCH

2018

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Local farmers sharing knowledge via radio in Bangladesh



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Local farmers in Bangladesh, supported by the Rural Radio Initiative by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), are sharing their knowledge on crop cultivation and broadcasting alerts in case of disasters to increase their resilience to climate change impacts.

Photo: G.M.B. Akash/IFAD

For further information see: <<https://goo.gl/sQM4y9>>



APRIL

2018

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Local farmers in Benin adapting their agricultural calendar to be more weather-smart



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Local farmers in Benin are adapting their agricultural practices to be more weather-smart. With funding from the GEF, the PANA-1 project has set up a weather station for the community. This enables women of the Damè Village in north-central Benin to improve crop productivity by growing food all year round with bigger yields and increase resilience to climate change.

Photo: Elsie Assogba and Giacomo Pirozzi/UNDP Benin

For further information see: <<https://goo.gl/2JncZ8>>



MAY

2018

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Enhancing the adaptive capacity of communities in Papua New Guinea



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The Government of Papua New Guinea works with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to enhance the resilience of communities, especially in vulnerable coastal areas. Local knowledge and expertise are combined with improved climate and weather data to strengthen communities' abilities to increase resilience to flooding that affects both coastal and riverine communities.

Photo: UNDP CCA

For further information see: <<http://goo.gl/ng6197>>



JUNE

2018

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Young Mittimatalirmiut researching the impacts of climate change on water quality in Canada



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A group of young Mittimatalirmiut, with the help of researchers, are engaged in a research project to examine the impact of climate change on the water quality in their community in Pond Indlet. Combining scientific procedures with Inuit knowledge and principles, the group aims to develop an adaptation plan.

Photo: Timothy Soucie/ARCTICConnexion

For further information see: <<https://goo.g/YPLRvp>>



JULY

2018

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Local and indigenous communities in the Congo Basin fighting deforestation and the harmful effects of climate change



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Indigenous communities, supported by the project "Mapping for Rights", are mapping and monitoring their lands through low-cost, transferable technologies to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change. The project is funded by the Rainforest Foundation UK and its local partners in the Congo Basin region. It was one of the winners of a Momentum for Change climate change award in 2016.

Photo: Rainforest Foundation UK

For further information see: <<https://unfccc.int/9938>>



AUGUST

2018

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Reintroducing an ancient water system to improve climate resilience in Sri Lanka



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The ancient system of watertanks found in Anuradhapura was traditionally tailored to cope with Sri Lanka's climate. By rehabilitating the system, the Ministry of Disaster Management of Sri Lanka and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) helped communities adapt to climate change by providing a water system that nourishes soil, preserves biodiversity, reduces floods and droughts and cools the air.

Photo: UNDP CCA

For further information see: <<https://goo.g/J/Cc9cX>>



SEPTEMBER

2018

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Community-based resilience building in Ethiopian pastoral communities



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Pastoral communities in the Somali region in Ethiopia are improving their resilience through the Pastoral Community Development Project (PCDP III), implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The project's community-based investments provide access to water and social infrastructure to increase incomes, improve health and nutrition, and build resilience to drought and other external shocks.

Photo: Michael Tewelde/IFAD/FAO/WFP

For further information see: <<https://goo.g/ij58tH>>



OCTOBER

2018

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Working together to address climate risk and enhance resilience in Timor Leste



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Local communities, NGOs and the Government of Timor Leste are collaborating to address climate risks and enhance resilience. With the support of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), this project aims to increase the resilience of critical rural infrastructure to climate related impacts. The project reflects the needs of vulnerable communities as it is conducted through participatory approaches and strengthened local governance systems.

Photo: UNDP CCA

For further information see: <<https://goo.g/naQrmP>>



NOVEMBER

2018

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Making use of indigenous knowledge and ancient water harvesting systems in the drylands of Tunisia



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Farmers in the drylands of Tunisia use ancient water harvesting systems to irrigate olive and fig trees. This project by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) is combining scientific evidence and indigenous knowledge to address the pressing challenges arising from scarce water resources, erratic precipitation and drought.

Photo: ICARDA

For further information see: <<https://goo.gl/5WTAsp>>



DECEMBER

2018

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Chukchi community helping researchers to monitor the melting permafrost in Siberia, Russia



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The nomadic Chukchi community of Turvaargin provides researchers at the Snowchange Cooperative valuable observations on melting permafrost in the Northeastern tundra of Kolyma, Siberia. Through oral-history documenting, the researchers have been able to better understand the effects of climate change in the area as well as the adaptive capacity of Chukchi communities.

Photo: Snowchange

For further information see: <<https://goo.gl/yrTUWx>>

