

# Ecosystem Resilience in a Changing Climate

Mon, 01 Jun 2015 09:36:00 BST



Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Thailand invited GDRC's Professor Richard Haigh and Dilanthi Amaratunga to provide their expert input to a key training programme on "Ecosystem Resilience in a Changing Climate", which has been developed to build up awareness among officials and stakeholders working in environment, agriculture, irrigation, disaster management sectors and policymaking and legal bodies, banks, insurance companies, at the local governance level, about how ecosystems deliver goods and services that improve livelihoods. This programme was held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015 at the SIHYMECC Auditorium, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.

The course also provides guidance for possible interventions to mitigate undesirable impacts within the ecosystem and improve ecological resilience of local ecosystems.



Photo: section of the participants

This programme helped the participants to:

- Understand an ecosystem, the services it provides and issues that impact the sustainability of these services;
- Understand and interpret weather and climate and weather data to optimize agricultural operations in order to meet the climate change associated impacts to an ecosystem; and
- Enhance knowledge and skills to assess the ecosystems and find the ways and means to improve the resilience of an ecosystem.

This training course consisted of several modules: Concepts of Social Ecological Systems and Resilience; Climate Change, Impacts and Application of Weather and Climate Information in Reducing the Impacts; Sustainable livelihood and design of Interventions to Build Resilience of Ecosystems; and a Table-top Simulation Exercise.

Richard led a training session on Disaster Resilience – Theory & Practice, in addition to overall programme evaluation.



Richard Haigh - Vietnam

Photos above: Professor Richard Haigh – delivering his keynote

The development of this training course is part of the project entitled Mainstreaming Climate Information Application for Enhancement of Agro- ecosystem Services and Functions in Nilwala Basin in Sri Lanka and Lower Mekong Basin in Vietnam. Launched in 2012, the project is implemented by Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in cooperation with the University of Ruhuna in Sri Lanka and Sub-Institute of Hydrometeorology and Climate Change (SIHYMECC) in Vietnam. The program is funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID).



Photo: Training programme inauguration

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