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United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and the Munich Re Foundation (MRF)



**Munich Re
Foundation**
From Knowledge
to Action

announce the **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**THE RESILIENCE ACADEMY:
EXPLORING LIVELIHOOD RESILIENCE**

15–21 September 2013, near Dhaka, Bangladesh



**International Centre for
Climate Change and
Development**
at
Independent University, Bangladesh
in partnership with BCAS and IIED

The Resilience Academy:

In the most vulnerable regions of our planet, the impacts of extreme weather events such as floods and droughts threaten lives and livelihoods. The most affected regions include large deltas, small islands, and exposed coastal regions, as well as arid and semiarid lands, and areas affected by glacier and permafrost melt. People on the frontlines of climate change, in many cases, will face aggravated baseline risks, extremes and slow-onset effects, which include coastal inundation, catastrophic floods, and extended drought conditions. These stresses have the potential to render spaces effectively unproductive and uninhabitable. A central question for practice, policy, and research revolves around the resilience of peoples whose livelihoods systems and settlements are threatened by these overwhelming extremes. The Resilience Academy will provide a platform for connecting communities of expertise (early phase practitioners, academics, and policy analysts), examining livelihood resilience in the face of local and regional realities, and co-creating concepts to foster resilience.

Five years of South-South-North collaboration in the Resilience Academy:

Five Resilience Academies are planned, alternately in Bangladesh and Germany. The first four Academies form two pairs. One cohort of participants will attend the first and second Academy; a second cohort will attend the third and fourth Academy. Each set of Academies will be held once in the South, in Bangladesh near Dhaka, and once in the North, near Munich in Germany. This gives participants a chance to change perspectives. The fifth and final Academy will bring the two cohorts together. In each cohort, the participants will begin projects in the first year, and bring them into the second year. Together with the fifth event, this model will give the participants the opportunity to deepen their individual competence as well as strengthen their network.

Theme of the 2013 Resilience Academy: exploring livelihood resilience

The 2013 Resilience Academy will take place in Bangladesh. This 1st Resilience Academy will explore the following core questions with leading experts from academia, policy and practice:

- What tools exist for risk assessment and identification of climate hot spots?
- How can adaptive capacity and resilience in rural and urban livelihood systems be defined and measured?
- What are the main contributors and impediments to climate resilience, theory and in practice?
- What strategies are available for peoples facing overwhelming extremes?
- What can be done to enhance the adaptive capacity and resilience to the climate stressors they face today and in the future?

The dialogue between academia, policy and practice will be at the heart of the Academy, with opportunities for interdisciplinary engagement, time to think and collaborate on specific topics and practical interaction.

Aims and participation:

The Academy aims at a balance of participants from research, the decision making level, as well as practice:

- Researchers learn the language and views of practitioners and decision makers and other important stakeholders in the context of risk management and adaptation;
- Decision makers get ideas how tailored research can support their work and how it can be included in strategies and political processes;
- Practitioners get insight into latest research findings including appropriate risk communication useful for their work

Venue:

Bangladesh: Dhaka, 15–21 September 2013
Germany: Munich, 2014

Accommodation, local transportation and meals will be organized and funded by the hosts

Application process and deadline:

- Please write one concise paragraph on the relationship of your work to the subject of resilience in the face of environmental extremes.
- Please provide a current CV.
- For PhD students, post-docs, and practitioners, please provide a letter of recommendation.

Advanced English language skills will be necessary.

Send materials in one email with the subject line "ACADEMY" to: resilience.academy@ehs.unu.edu.

Deadline for applications: 30 June 2013.
Decisions will be made by 15 July 2013.

About the organizers

The Resilience Academy is organized in cooperation by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and the Munich Re Foundation (MRF).

Please address all inquiries to:
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