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Climate & Health News

Monthly Newsletter of the JHU-UPF Public Policy Center Climate Change Working Group



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Vol 1 Issue 5 May 2016

*Science and news
organized by major
category:*

ADAPTATION

AIR QUALITY

CITIES

DROUGHT & WATER
QUALITY

EXTREME HEAT

EXTREME STORMS &
FLOODING

VULNERABILITY

Month in Brief

This month saw a trending theme in our News section: the risk of floods and extreme weather to coastal mega-cities. Also, be sure to check out the World Bank's recent [report](#), which suggested easy-to-use open source tools for improving resilience, as it warned that cities are "woefully unprepared" for climate change. Examples of this advisory were prevalent in the US. In Texas, Houston experienced flooding. In Louisiana, Isle de Jean Charles (near New Orleans) inhabitants faced relocation due to its land sinking and the immediate climate change risks, one of the first US communities forced to relocate.

Internationally, examples of efforts to improve resilience include how Indonesia's Jakarta used social media-based maps to build population resilience to flooding; in India's Sundarbans region, they are exploring how to use salt-resistant rice farming, as saltwater reaches rice paddy fields.

In Science, take a look at several relevant papers published this month, including [Paz et al.](#) examining climate health risks in Mediterranean cities (including Barcelona), and [Chapman et al.](#) arguing that understanding cities as complex systems will help address climate and health challenges.

Again, we appreciate any comments, news stories, resources and blog posts that you may want to contribute. For further reading, visit our Working Group website with a separate [page](#) and [blog](#) for our Climate-Healthy Cities project. Until next month!

News*

AIR QUALITY

[Here's where to find some of the cleanest air in the world](#)

[The case for climate action](#)

AIR QUALITY, VULNERABILITY

[WHO: Global air pollution is worsening, and poor countries are being hit hardest](#)
[Dirty Coal Chokes Most Polluted City as Cleaner Power Idles](#)

CITIES, ADAPTATION

[Can cities be sustainable?](#)

DROUGHT & WATER QUALITY, EXTREME HEAT

[Global water shortages to deliver 'severe hit' to economies, World Bank warns](#)

EXTREME STORMS & FLOODING

[Over a Billion People Could be at Risk of Coastal Flooding by 2060](#)

EXTREME STORMS & FLOODING, CITIES

[Climate change, runaway development worsen Houston floods](#)
[How fast is New Orleans sinking? Faster and faster, says new study](#)
[As flooding intensifies, coastal megacities turn to social media to stay afloat](#)

EXTREME STORMS & FLOODING, VULNERABILITY, ADAPTATION

[Cities "woefully unprepared" for rising disaster risk - World Bank](#)

**Source: Selected from "The Daily Climate" News Roundup; click underlined link to go to news article.*

Events

May 5-6, 2016. [Climate Action 2016, UNFCCC – Washington DC.](#)

May 10-13, 2016. [Adaptation Futures 2016: Practices and Solutions, PROVIA – Rotterdam](#)

July 6-8 2016. [Resilient Cities 2016, ICLEI – Bonn](#)

Nov 30-Dec 2, 2016. [C40 Mayors Summit, C40 – Mexico City](#)

Science*

[Understanding the systemic nature of cities to improve health and climate change mitigation](#) Projected increases in temperature with climate change may have localised health impacts, suggesting that preventative measures will need to be region-specific.

[Health Aspects of Climate Change in Cities with Mediterranean Climate, and Local Adaptation Plans](#)

The study aims to highlight health impacts of climate change in Med-cities, analyze local climate adaptation plans and make adaptation policy recommendations for the Med-city level.

Tackling air pollution and extreme climate changes in China: Implementing the Paris climate change agreement

[Perceived built environment and health-related quality of life in four types of neighborhoods in Xi'an, China](#) Development in Chinese cities is resulting in a diversity of urban environments that may influence health

[Increases in the climate change adaption effectiveness and availability of vegetation across a coastal to desert climate gradient in metropolitan Los Angeles, CA, USA](#) These results show the availability and effectiveness of vegetation on the local

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Past Issues

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climate varies tremendously throughout the Los Angeles, CA metropolitan area.
Spatial and temporal variation in the association between temperature and
salmonellosis in NZ Projected increases in temperature with climate change may have localised health impacts, suggesting that preventative measures will need to be region-specific.

**Source: New entries in PubMed; click on underlined link to go to journal article abstract.
Those with asterisk (*) published in the International Journal of Health Services Special Section on Climate Change and Health.*



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