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EDITORIAL

Building a Strong Research Foundation in Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR) through the Research Training Network at Huddersfield university in United Kingdom

We are pleased to present the highlights and accomplishments of the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR), conducted by Huddersfield University. This comprehensive two-week training program aimed to address the pressing issue of climate change and its impact on disaster risks.

The training program saw the participation of eight esteemed Sri Lankan universities (University of Colombo, University of Ruhuna, University of Moratuwa, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Eastern University, Sabaragamuwa University, Kelaniya University) academics who engaged in collaborative discussions and knowledge-sharing activities. These academics, with their diverse expertise and perspectives, played a pivotal role in the development of a comprehensive research road map on CCA-DRR. This road map will provide vital direction for future research and actions in mitigating the impacts of climate change on disaster risks in Sri Lanka.

One of the major highlights of the training program was the two-day International Symposium on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver. This symposium provided an open platform for 37 researchers to present their findings and insights on CCA-DRR. The presentations were structured across five key themes (page 6). These themes ensured a comprehensive coverage of the various aspects of CCA-DRR, fostering valuable discussions and knowledge exchange among participants.

Furthermore, this symposium showcased the immense potential for collaboration and cross-disciplinary research in addressing CCA-DRR. The diverse research presentations revealed innovative approaches, methodologies, and findings, which will undoubtedly contribute to a better understanding of the relationship between climate change and disaster risks.

This symposium successfully brought together experts, practitioners, and policymakers, facilitating an environment conducive to fruitful dialogue and fostering new research collaborations.

As a result of the research training network, we are proud to announce that five joint research papers on CCA-DRR will be formulated for publication in prestigious Q1 or Q2 journals. These papers will disseminate the valuable research findings and recommendations generated through the training program, allowing for broader awareness and understanding among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. This dissemination of knowledge is crucial for driving meaningful change and action in tackling climate change as an underlying disaster risk driver.

The success of the Research Training Network on CCA-DRR reflects the commitment and dedication of all participants and organizers involved. This collaborative effort has laid the foundation for future research and action, inspiring us to continue our pursuit of understanding and effectively addressing climate change-driven disaster risks.

In conclusion, we extend our deepest gratitude to Huddersfield University for spearheading this valuable initiative and providing a platform for academic collaboration and capacity-building. We also commend the Sri Lankan university academics who actively participated in the training program for their valuable contributions. We look forward to witnessing the impact of the joint research papers and the continued progress in tackling climate change as an underlying disaster risk driver.



Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR)

Impact

The collaboration within the Network, as teams worked together to create a research roadmap, joint research papers, and generate ideas for effective plans, greatly contributed to enhancing the capacity of Sri Lankan Universities. This capacity-building process aimed to empower these universities to produce exceptional research that addresses climate change and its influence on disaster risk, aligning it with the country's initiatives.

By participating in the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR), Sri Lankan Universities gained valuable knowledge and expertise in conducting high-quality research. This knowledge transfer equipped them with the necessary skills and tools to generate policy and practice-oriented studies that effectively contribute to Sri Lanka's endeavors in mitigating the impacts of climate change.

The shared experiences and collaborative atmosphere within the Network fostered an environment conducive to innovation and problem-solving. Through seminars, workshops, and interactive discussions, participating universities were able to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and enhance their capacity to produce research that informs climate change policies and practices.

Furthermore, the Network's activities facilitated ongoing netw-

-orking and knowledge-sharing opportunities between universities, researchers, and policymakers. This effective communication and partnership-building played a crucial role in strengthening the collective effort to tackle climate change-related challenges and disaster risk management comprehensively.

Overall, the active engagement of Sri Lankan Universities in the Network provided a solid foundation for improving their research capacity. Through this capacity-building initiative, they were able to contribute significantly to the nation's climate change resilience, ensuring that policies and practices are grounded in evidence-based research.

Development of Research Roadmap on CCA-DRR

The Development of the Sri Lankan Research Road Map on CCA-DRR during the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR) is a significant and essential step towards effectively addressing the challenges of climate change and disaster risk reduction in Sri Lanka.

The research road map acts as a comprehensive guide, outlining the priority areas of research and mapping out the necessary actions and interventions to address these issues.

The road map not only provides a clear direction for researchers and policymakers but also acts as a tool for better resource allocation and collaboration amongst stakeholders.

Moreover, the road map serves as a valuable resource for showcasing the current and future capacity of Sri Lanka, demonstrating the country's commitment towards climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. By being transparent about the prioritization of work, the road map ensures that all stakeholders are aware of the specific goals and objectives of the research training network.

Additionally, the research road map highlights potential improvements and identifies gaps in existing research efforts, allowing for targeted interventions and interventions to strengthen the overall research framework in Sri Lanka. It also provides a platform for researchers to showcase their work and demonstrate its impact on the larger community.

In conclusion, the development of the Sri Lankan Research Road Map on CCA-DRR during the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver is a significant step forward in advancing research efforts towards climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Sri Lanka.

Joint Research Papers

Joint Research Papers Collaboration has always been an integral aspect of academic work, but in today's globalized research environment, international collaborations have become even more vital. The capacity to address the most critical scientific problems or develop innovative technologies often necessitates collaborative efforts across disciplinary boundaries, as well as across national and international borders. This merging of different fields has the potential to achieve remarkable goals.

At the CCA-DRR research training event, four joint research papers were developed, highlighting the significance of collaboration in advancing knowledge and addressing pressing challenges. These papers incorporated input and expertise from diverse researchers, harnessing their collective wisdom and experience.

By bringing together individuals from different disciplines, joint research papers have the potential to provide comprehensive insights and approaches. They can catalyze innovation by allowing for the exchange of ideas and methodologies that may not have been possible within a single discipline. Such collaborations contribute to a more holistic understanding of complex issues and facilitate the development of sustainable solutions.

Furthermore, international collaborations play a crucial role in overcoming limitations imposed by geographic boundaries. They allow researchers to access a broader pool of resources,

expertise, and data. By working together across borders, joint research papers can draw upon a rich tapestry of knowledge and perspectives, leading to more robust and impactful findings.

In conclusion, in today's interconnected world, joint research papers are an essential vehicle for advancing scientific knowledge and addressing complex challenges. By fostering collaboration across disciplines and international borders, these papers contribute to remarkable achievements and pave the way for transformative breakthroughs.

Research Bidding

During the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR), a panel discussion was conducted on the topic of "research bidding." The discussion aimed to shed light on the process and strategies involved in securing funding for climate change research. Panellists shared their experiences and insights on successful research bidding, including identifying relevant funding sources, tailoring project proposals to meet funder requirements, and effectively communicating the potential impact of the research. Attendees gained valuable knowledge on navigating the competitive landscape of research funding and were inspired to enhance their own bidding strategies to contribute to tackling climate change as a disaster risk driver.

Field Excursion

A 14km hike to Haworth in the UK unveils a world of ancient importance. As one traverses the breathtaking landscapes of Yorkshire, an ethereal beauty intertwines with tales of historical significance. Haworth, a charming village nestled amidst the moors, holds immense cultural weight. It is here that the renowned Brontë sisters—Charlotte, Emily, and Anne—penned their literary masterpieces, forever shaping the landscape of English literature. The hike weaves through rugged terrains, enchanting forests, and quaint hamlets, allowing hikers to delve into the timeless magic this region encapsulates.



Symposium on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver

The Symposium on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver was organized as part of the Research Training Network on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver (CCA-DRR). The symposium aimed to bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and other stakeholders from around the world to discuss the relationship between climate change and disaster risk and explore strategies to effectively mitigate and manage these risks.

The International Symposium had 37 research presentations structured across 5 key themes and 2-panel discussions. The key themes include:

Theme 1: Climate change action for resilience in agricultural and food systems

Theme 2: Climate change adaptation for coastal ecosystems and flood management

Theme 3: Business continuity, policy and governance

Theme 4: Climate change adaptation in the built environment

Theme 5: Climate change risk management

The symposium provided a platform for participants to share their research findings, insights, and experiences related to climate change as a driver of disaster risks. It facilitated discussions on the latest advancements in the field and fostered collaboration among participants to address the complex challenges posed by climate change and its impact on disaster risk.

Furthermore, the symposium served as a networking platform, facilitating connections between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners working in related areas. This networking aspect enabled the establishment of collaborations and partnerships that can contribute to further research, policy development, and implementation of strategies to effectively tackle climate change as an underlying disaster risk driver.

Overall, the Symposium on Tackling Climate Change as an Underlying Disaster Risk Driver was a comprehensive and detailed event that provided a forum for stakeholders to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and build collaborations. It contributed to advancing the understanding of the complex dynamics between climate change and disaster risk and paved the way for innovative approaches and solutions to tackle this global challenge.

