

Preface

This book, titled “Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards”, is one of the outcomes of the “World Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation”, held in Manchester, UK, on 2–4 September 2015. The event was co-organised by Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and the Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), in cooperation with the Baltic University Programme in Uppsala (Sweden), International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP) and the United Nations University initiative “Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development” (RCE).

The aims of the “World Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation” were as follows:

- (i) To provide research institutions, universities, NGOs and enterprises all round the world with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation
- (ii) To foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice
- (iii) To discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how the principles of climate change adaptation may be implemented in practice
- (iv) To network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event was to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences on climate change adaptation available today across the world. To this purpose, this book, which contains the papers presented at session 4 (Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including floods)), has been compiled. It addresses the perceived need for publications which look at the links between adaptation tools and methods on the one hand and the means to handle hazards and foster resilience on the other. This publication departs from the

hypothesis that countries and communities need to strengthen their resilience to a variety of hazards, whilst tackling the underlying causes of vulnerability, which entail elements as different as geographical conditions, governance, poverty and inequality. As shown via some of the examples documented here, much can be gained by affording risk and vulnerability a greater level of attention, since they are instrumental in resilience efforts and in achieving resilience outcomes.

This book is divided into two parts. Part I, titled “Climate Change Adaptation Practices”, encompasses Chaps. 1–10, all of which describe the theory and practice of climate change adaptation under different angles.

Part II, titled “Fostering Resilience and Handling Hazards”, offers a comprehensive overview of approaches related to resilience and entails Chaps. 11–22.

We want to thank all authors for sharing their know-how, as well as for the support they have provided in producing this book. All in all, the experiences gathered in this book serve the purpose of documenting and disseminating a wide range of experiences on climate change and resilience available today.

Enjoy your reading!
The Editors

Hamburg, Germany
Manchester, UK
Caparica, Portugal
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Walter Leal Filho
Haruna Musa
Gina Cavan
Paul O’Hare
Julia Seixas

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Leal Filho, W.; Musa, H.; Cavan, G.; O'Hare, P.; Seixas, J.
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