

# OKP Newsletter

May 2021



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# 'We're part of the solution'

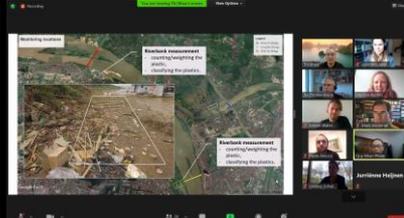
May 2021, Delft

Dear partners,

May 22<sup>nd</sup> marks International Day for Biological Diversity (or World Biodiversity Day). This is a United Nations–sanctioned international day for the promotion of biodiversity issues. It highlights why having a rich variety of species (and conserving the habitats where they are found) is vitally important for our health and prosperity. The theme of this year is: 'We're part of the solution'. Find more information on how you can be part of the solution on page 7 of this newsletter.

The recent Covid-19 outbreak in Vietnam has caused universities and schools to close in an effort to slow the spread of the virus. Hopefully they will open up again soon, but until then Vietnam requires a shift to online learning and innovative teaching methods. We will support our partners in this in the coming months.

This newsletter includes many exciting news items on ongoing activities. Also be sure to check out the many opportunities in the final pages. These include a call to abstracts for a workshop on subsidence in the Mekong delta, a new EdX course on sustainable Port cities. Furthermore we have two upcoming tailor-made trainings by TU Delft and ITC Twente! Sign up quickly to ensure your spot!

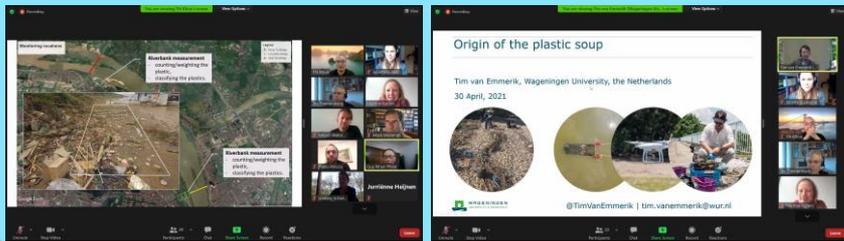


# OKP Vietnam & Myanmar: News and (planned) activities

*Unfortunately as of May 17, 2021, Vietnam's Ministry of Health confirmed a total of 4,212 cases of COVID-19. Vietnam recorded a record high on May 16 with 165 new infections. Universities are currently closed because of the pandemic.*

## Delta Future Labs Webinar: Plastic monitoring

On April 30th, Dr. ir. Tim van Emmerik and his PhD candidate (and our OKP partner) Thi Van Le Khoa gave a presentation during the Delta Futures Lab webinar. The webinar was attended by over 30 people, including many participants from Vietnam. Tim presented on the origin of 'the plastic soup' and Khoa on monitoring plastics in the Red River Delta of Vietnam. Plastic pollution of aquatic ecosystems is an emerging hazard due to its negative effect on ecosystem health and human livelihood. Tim van Emmerik is Assistant Professor Hydrologic Sensing at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. His work focuses on monitoring and modelling plastic pollution transport through river systems. Khoa started his PhD at the Hydrology and Quantitative Water Management Group of Wageningen University just a few months ago.



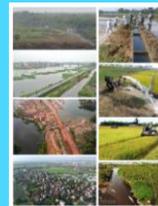
## Online courses Spring 2021

As part of OKP 'Climate Proof Vietnam', TU Delft and ITC Twente have organized two online courses in the next months for partners of HUNRE and Thuyloi. The first is a tailor-made training on Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment by Nanette Kingma which will kick off on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The second is a course on research-set-up and performing a literature review by Maurits Ertsen, which will take place in the final week of June. More information and sign-up links can be found at the end of this newsletter!

## Sustainable urbanism Red River delta



Zhongjing Zhang, a student from the faculty of Architecture at TU Delft, is carrying out research on sustainable urbanism in the Red River delta. She is looking at how and to what extent performative landscape can help to cope with socio-cultural and ecological vulnerabilities through adaptive resource co-management. She is interviewing multiple project partners for this research.



You can find more information about collaboration on the TU Delft-Vietnam website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/citg/vietnam/> and on the TU Delft-Myanmar website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/myanmar/>

# OKP Vietnam & Myanmar: News and (planned) activities

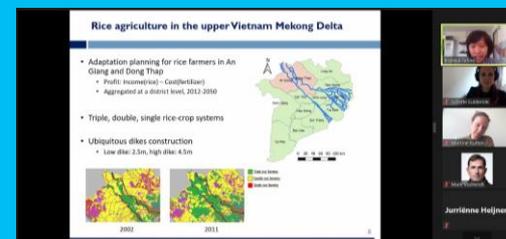
## HUNRE Water Resources student recruitment

In April, the faculty of Water Resources of HUNRE visited many high schools in different districts of Vinh Phuc and Ninh Binh province, made possible by the OKP programme. They talked to the high school students about the IWRM Programme and HUNRE in general. Promotional materials such as flyers and videos (financed by OKP) were distributed. Hopefully they convinced many students to sign up!



## Inclusive adaptation planning Mekong Delta

PhD candidate Bramka Arga Jafino presented on his research in the beginning of May: 'Model-based support for inclusive adaptation planning in the Vietnam Mekong Delta'. The presentation was joined by many participants, including Vietnamese.



## TU Delft contribution to PIE seminar

The Platform for International Education (PIE) organized a webinar entitled "Crucial elements for future proof education & research partnerships with the Global South". The webinar was organized to discuss elements that are crucial for sustainable cooperation with the Global South in the field of higher education & research. On behalf of TU Delft, project partners Lindsey Schwidder and Juliette Eulerink contributed to the second breakout room, on online education and online capacity development.

You can find more information about collaboration on the TU Delft-Vietnam website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/citg/vietnam/> and on the TU Delft-Myanmar website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/myanmar/>

# OKP Vietnam & Myanmar: News and (planned) activities

## Plastic monitoring fieldwork

Vietnamese students of HUNRE have continued their plastic monitoring fieldwork campaign using new OKP equipment. Under supervision of HUNRE lecturers, Integrated Water Resources Management students have been visiting Nhật Tân Bridge to observe and monitor plastic in the Red River. This growing dataset will become part of larger (long-term) campaign to assess plastic pollution (sources) and transport in the Red River delta. Read more [here](#).



## EGU presentation on mapping WQ in Myanmar

The European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly took place at the end of April with participants from around the world. The event took place online and was free to join for participants from lower- and middle income countries. Our partner Indymo presented in session HS1.1.2, entitled “*Advances in river monitoring and modelling for a climate emergency: data-scarce environments, real-time approaches, inter-comparison of innovative and classical frameworks, uncertainties, harmonisation of methods and good practices*”. Indymo works on innovative dynamic monitoring, including water quality monitoring. They presented on their data collection and equipment testing campaign in Myanmar in 2020, which included Inle Lake, Kandawgyi Lake and the Pan Hlaing river. In their presentation “*Mapping surface water quality in Myanmar using aquatic drones*” they showed how you can use aquatic drones to create water quality maps in data-poor areas. You can read the full abstract [here](#).



You can find more information about collaboration on the TU Delft-Vietnam website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/citg/vietnam/> and on the TU Delft-Myanmar website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/myanmar/>



# 22 MAY 2021 BIODIVERSITY DAY

We're part of the solution #ForNature

**There are many fun ways to take part in Biodiversity Day!**

As the world continues to grapple with the pandemic, Biodiversity Day is once again celebrated virtually. If possible in your local context, we of course encourage you to organize activities and events to celebrate Biodiversity Day. Take advantage of this opportunity to raise public awareness and to show that you are "part of the solution"!

**52 tips for biodiversity**

[Click here](#)

**#CONNECT2EARTH**

As part of WWF, Connect2Earth has created toolkits for educators! [Check it out!](#)

You can post content and information on your social and digital channels using the hashtags: #BiodiversityDay and #Connect2Earth to help spread the message.

Interested in following the convention on biological diversity?

[Click here](#)

Convention on Biological Diversity

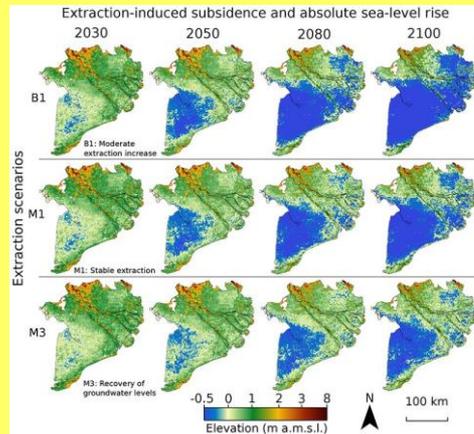
<https://www.cbd.int/biodiversity-day>

# Opportunities: events and courses

## Call for abstracts Land Subsidence Workshop

PetroVietnam University (PVU) is organizing a workshop entitled 'Land Subsidence in the Me Kong Delta and other Deltaic Plains: Causes, Monitoring, Prediction and Impacts' for which abstracts can now be submitted! The workshop will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021, but the abstract deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> May!

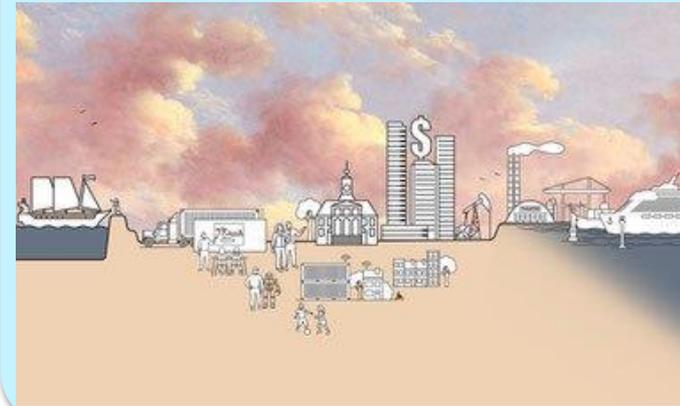
The target audience are researchers (particularly with some studies done in the field of land subsidence in the Mekong delta and/or other deltaic plains), geotechnical, geological practitioners and infrastructure developers.



[Download the template & submit your abstract here](#)

## (Re)Imagining Port Cities: Understanding Space, Society and Culture

TU Delft has launched a new EdX course on Port Cities! In the course you will analyze examples of port cities from a multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural perspective. You will develop the skills to identify and address the challenges port cities face now and into the future. The course starts May 26<sup>th</sup> and will end July 7<sup>th</sup> with a study load of 4-5 hours per week. Find more information and sign up for the course [here](#).



# Opportunities: Research Set-up & Literature Review

## Tailor-made training for OKP Climate Proof Vietnam

### Training objectives:

- Learn how to set-up your research, how to think of and formulate your research questions, how to design and plan useful research activities and structure them, etc.
- Learn how to find relevant literature for your research, through for example the use of keywords, consulting different databases etc.

### Training information:

**Trainer:** Dr. ir. Maurits Ertsen  
Associate Professor, TU Delft

**Logistics:** Online (via Zoom) in English

**Participants:** Max. 12

**Sign-up:** <https://forms.gle/i1swQg8tdA1s69NW9>

**Dates:** 28<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

*Please note: it is expected that you have a decent command of English for this course*

### Planning and schedule:

Date/time	8:00-9:00	9:00-10:00	10:00-11:00	11:00-12:00	12:00-13:00	13:00-14:00	14:00-15:00	15:00-16:00	16:00-17:00	17:00-18:00
Monday 28-6-21						Lecture and live session (online): Research set-up; methodology				
Tuesday 29-6-21	3-4 hours homework/ self-study - flexible								Feedback session	
Wednesday 30-6-2021						Lecture and live session (online): Literature review				
Thursday 1-7-2021	2-4 hours homework/self-study - flexible					Feedback session & closing				

# Opportunities: Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment

## Tailor-made training for OKP Climate Proof Vietnam

Please note:  
it is expected  
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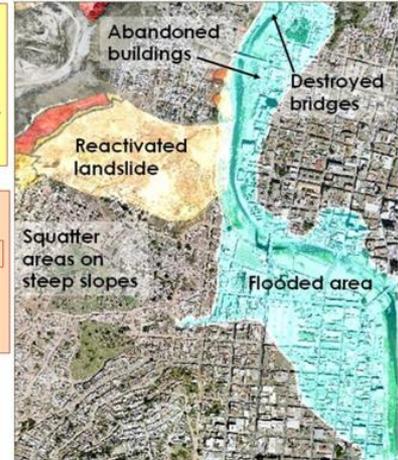
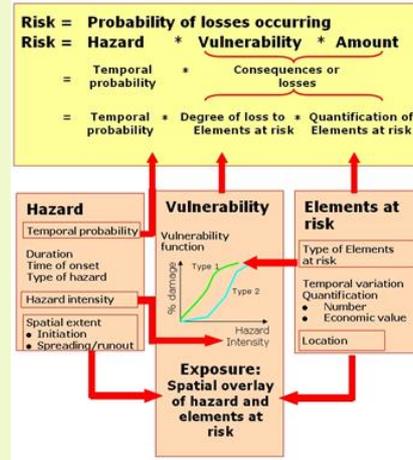
### Training information:

**Trainer:** Nanette Kingma, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC)  
**Logistics:** Online (via Zoom) in English; see schedule on next page  
**Participants:** Max. 20 participants  
**Sign-up:** <https://forms.gle/1TQ2vGARr5DeuMgQA>  
**Dates:** 3<sup>rd</sup> June – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (see schedule)

### Training objectives:

The course explains how to conduct a risk assessment using spatial information on hazards, elements at risk and vulnerability with the aid of GIS and remote sensing, and how this information can be used in risk management, with a focus on urban areas. At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand the concepts of hazard assessment, elements-at-risk mapping, vulnerability assessment and risk assessment
- Formulate the spatial data requirements for risk assessment
- Use GIS to generate an elements-at-risk database
- Apply various methods for vulnerability assessment
- Generate risk maps using qualitative and quantitative methods
- Understand how risk assessment is used in risk reduction and disaster preparedness



# Course Schedule: Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment

Week	Date	Time				
		09:00-11:00	11:00-12:30	14:00-15:30	15:30-16:00	16:00-17:30
1	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Please note: All blue activities (reading, start exercises) are self-study (unsupervised) so can be planned whenever suits your own schedule		Opening lecture	Break	Lecture
	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June		Start exercise	Exercise session		Exercise session
2	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> June		Reading	Lecture		Lecture
	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June		Reading	Exercise session		Exercise session
3	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June		Start exercise	Exercise session		Exercise session
	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June		Reading	Lecture		Exercise session
4	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June		Reading	Exercise session		Lecture
	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June		Start exercise	Exercise session		Exercise session
5	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	No sessions due to other planned course				
	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	No sessions due to other planned course				
6	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July		Reading	Exercise session	Break	Exercise session
	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July			Exercise session		Final discussion