Climate Change Management

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Implementing Climate Change Adaptation in Cities and Communities

Integrating Strategies and Educational
Approaches

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Preface

Parallel to mitigation measures, which are essential to slow down the release of CO₂ emissions and hence reduce the speed with which global warming is taking place, there is a pressing need for climate change adaptation measures. Indeed, it is widely acknowledged that if we are to ameliorate the suffering of millions of people who are currently experiencing the impacts of climate change in sectors as varied as agriculture, land use, or infrastructure, adaptation is an important component part of the process.

This book has been prepared based on the need to better understand and explore ways to implement adaptation measures in cities and regions. It contains a set of papers presented at the World Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation, held in Manchester, United Kingdom, on 2–4 September 2015. The event, attended by over 200 experts from 40 countries, explored some theoretical components of climate change adaptation and introduced various practical examples of projects and initiatives, which are documented here.

The focus of this publication is a demonstration of how to pursue and implement adaptation initiatives in cities, communities, and regions.

Part I of the book deals with matters related to adaptation in cities and communities and offers an overview of issues pertaining to adaptation not only on an urban but also on a rural level. It also discusses the different degrees to which communities are exposed to climate variability and to climate change, with examples and case studies from across the world.

Part II focuses on both the integration of adaptation strategies and educational approaches. In this section, the papers discuss matters related to adaptation and livelihoods, describe a set of initiatives at the local and regional level, and introduce the role played by capacity-building as one of the various tools which can support climate change adaptation efforts. To this purpose, various projects and case studies aimed at raising awareness of local inhabitants of villages and farmers are presented.

We thank the authors for their willingness to share their knowledge, know-how, and the information they gathered from their work and from their field projects.

We hope that the experiences gathered here can be useful to others working in the field of climate change adaptation at city, community, and regional levels and that they may support current and future efforts towards helping people and communities to adapt to rapidly changing conditions, which affect both their well-being and their livelihood.

Enjoy the reading.

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