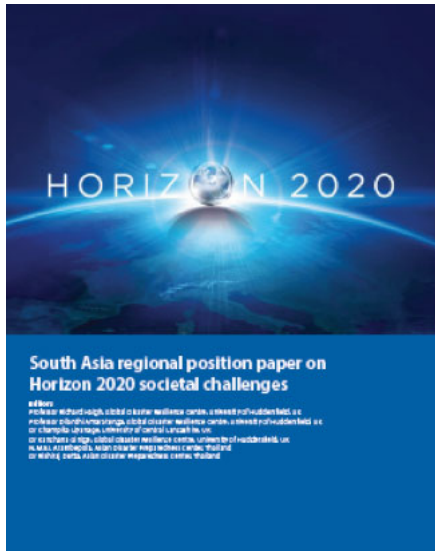


Position paper on societal challenges : South Asia

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A regional position paper has been launched that considers South Asia's status and interests concerning the seven thematic challenges under the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation scheme. The paper is an output of the CASCADE project (Collaborative Action towards Societal Challenges through Awareness, Development, and Education) that aims to provide the foundation for a future International Cooperation Network programme targeting South Asian Countries and that will promote bi-regional coordination of Science & Technology cooperation.

The paper has been edited by Professor Richard Haigh, Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga & Dr Kanchana Ginige from the University of Huddersfield's Global Disaster Resilience Centre; Dr Champika Liyanage from the University of Central Lancashire, and Mr S Arambepola and Dr Rishiraj Dutta from the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Thailand. The paper draws upon seven national position papers that were prepared by local teams from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The seven societal challenges identified under Horizon 2020 and addressed by this position paper are: Health, demographic change and wellbeing; Food security, sustainable agricultures, marine and maritime research and the bio-based economy; Clean and efficient energy; Smart, green and integrated transport; Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; A changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective societies; and, Secure societies - protecting freedom and security of the country and its citizens.

The position paper can be downloaded from http://www.cascade-inconet.eu/sites/default/files/Regional%20Position%20Paper_0.pdf (http://www.cascade-inconet.eu/sites/default/files/Regional%20Position%20Paper_0.pdf)

Further information on the CASCADE project can be found at <http://www.hud.ac.uk/research/researchcentres/gdrc/researchprojects/cascade/> (<http://www.hud.ac.uk/research/researchcentres/gdrc/researchprojects/cascade/>)

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