

## **Jakarta is City Most Vulnerable Climate Change in Southeast Asia**

SINGAPORE, April 27, 2009 — A new map has been released which shows the regions of Southeast Asia most vulnerable to climate change. According to the research carried out by the International Development Research Centre's Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia (IDRC – EEPSEA), Jakarta is the city most vulnerable to climate change among all the other cities in Southeast Asia.

The National Council on Climate Change (Dewan Nasional Perubahan Iklim) is co-organizing with IDRC-EEPSEA a Seminar to launch the Climate Change Vulnerability Map in Jakarta on Thursday, May 7, 2009, from 8.30Am – 11.00AM at the Shangri-La Hotel and to invite feedback from policy-makers, climate change experts and the media.

The study covered 530 sub-national areas in seven SE Asian countries. Of the ten most vulnerable areas identified by the study, four of them are located in Jakarta. Dr. Arief A. Yusuf, an environmental economist at Padjadjaran University, Bandung, spearheaded the study along with Dr Herminia Francisco a senior manager with IDRC's regional office in Singapore. Dr. Arief commented, "not only does Jakarta lie at the intersection of all various climate-related hazards such as tropical cyclones, floods, landslides, droughts, and sea-level rise, it is also very densely populated, these risks far outweigh the city's relatively high adaptive capacity."

According to Dr Francisco, "... the map and analysis will help bridge the information gap between scientists working on climate change and the media We hope the map launches a renewed conversation on this important issue." The information is also expected to be highly valuable to policy-makers as well as donors in making decisions about resource allocation for climate change initiatives in the region, and in Indonesia in particular.

IDRC's Regional Director for Southeast and East Asia, Richard Fuchs, noted "Policymakers want more information to deal with climate change issues at the local level, and this mapping initiative assists local information gathering and policy-making. We intend to build on this first version of the Vulnerability Map with more data, even closer to the ground, from local researchers."

The map and study may be downloaded from the EEPSEA website at [www.eeapsea.org](http://www.eeapsea.org).

For more information:

Vivien Chiam  
Partnership & Communications Manager  
International Development Research Centre  
Regional Office for Southeast and East Asia  
22 Cross Street #02-55, South Bridge Court  
Singapore 048421  
Tel: (65) 9760-6821; [ychiam@idrc.org.sg](mailto:ychiam@idrc.org.sg)  
[www.idrc.org.sg](http://www.idrc.org.sg)

Isabelle Bourgeault-Tassé  
Senior Media Advisor  
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)  
Ottawa, Canada  
Tel: (+1-613) 696-2343; [ibourgeault-tasse@idrc.ca](mailto:ibourgeault-tasse@idrc.ca)  
[www.crdi.ca](http://www.crdi.ca) / [www.idrc.ca](http://www.idrc.ca)

---

### **About IDRC**

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is one of the world's leading institutions in the generation and application of new knowledge to meet the challenges of international development. For nearly 40 years, IDRC has worked in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies. See <http://www.idrc.ca/>

### **About EEPSEA**

The Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia was established in May 1993 to support training and research in environmental and resource economics. Its goal is to strengthen local capacity for the economic analysis of environmental problems so that researchers can provide sound advice to policymakers. EEPSEA is supported by a consortium of donors —the International Development Research Centre, the Canadian International Development Agency, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. It is based in Singapore. See [www.eepsea.org](http://www.eepsea.org)