

Africa Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network

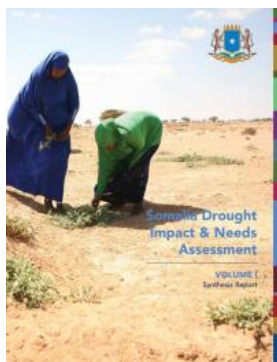
Newsletter



April 2018 Issue

Special Topic

Toward Drought Recovery and Resilience: The Somalia Drought Impact & Needs Assessment and Recovery & Resilience Framework



Recurrent drought, food insecurity and subsequent famine risk have become a devastating and increasingly unsustainable cycle in Somalia in recent decades. Since the end of the previous famine in 2011, approximately USD 4.5 billion has been spent on emergency responses to save lives.

It is within this context that the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States have carried out a Drought Impact and

Needs Assessment (DINA), with the support of the European Union, the United Nations and the World Bank. The assessment has analysed the impact of the ongoing drought (i.e. damages and losses estimated at USD 1.02 billion and USD 2.23 billion), and famine risk on the lives and livelihoods of the Somali people. Needs are estimated at 1.77 billion over 4-5 years, with Agriculture (irrigated and rain-fed crops), Urban Development, and Municipal Services for IDPs being the sectors with the highest needs.

The DINA was a unique opportunity for Somalia. Innovative remote sensing technologies, using a combination of satellite imagery, on-the-ground field surveys, and information received from partner networks, helped fill in information gaps in areas where insecurity made access impossible. This is the first time in three decades that medium- to long-term strategies are being formulated to tackle not only humanitarian challenges but also resilience and development challenges in Somalia.

The findings of the assessment have informed the development of a Recovery and Resilience Framework, situated within the Government's National Development Plan (NDP), that recommends long-term recovery and resilience solutions that address root causes of drought and famine, to be delivered in parallel and in complementarity with humanitarian relief. The DINA and RRF also help to ensure that available resources are being used effectively to address needs on both short- and long-term scale. The full DINA reports are available at

<https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-drought-impact-needs-assessment>.

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About AADP

[Africa-Asia Drought Risk Peer Assistance Network \(AADP\)](#) is a network established by [UNDP Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification \(GC-RED\)](#) under the *Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Project*.

The network is designed to mitigate the risks of drought and improve human livelihoods in Africa and Asia by creating an enabling environment for inter-regional knowledge sharing among drought-prone countries and facilitating the up-scaling of proven drought risk management (DRM) practices.

AADP provides the DRM practitioners and policymakers with a variety of peer learning and capacity development support based on their priorities, operational gaps and capacity needs, building on the pool of experiences and expertise of the African Drought Risk and Development Network initiative (ADDN).

Click [here](#) to view past issues of AADP newsletter.



Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

International Forum of Meteorological Societies



International Forum of Meteorological Societies (IFMS) was created in 2010 to foster and encourage communication and exchange of knowledge, ideas and resources among the world's more than sixty meteorological societies. By increasing cooperation between the Meteorological Societies of various nations, IFMS aims to help build capacity in developing countries and create a "Weather Ready Globe" whereby to better protecting society from hydro-meteorological and related hazards, including drought. The forum is organized exclusively for scientific, educational and

charitable purposes, including, but not limited to:

- Facilitate cooperation between meteorological societies worldwide;
- Help start new meteorological societies in countries where none exists and assist all meteorological societies in developing best practices;
- Develop international bridges to encourage collaboration among public, private and academic sectors as a well as users; and
- Assist in developing and promoting capacity building efforts that produce effective and sustainable service capabilities in developing countries.

For more information concerning IFMS, please visit <http://www.ifms.org/ifms/>.

Weather Risk Management Association



The Weather Risk Management Association (WRMA) is trade association representing the global market of weather risk management professionals. WRMA is dedicated to promoting the weather risk management industry to provides and end users. The association is comprised of over 70 weather risk management companies from around the world. WRMA members represent

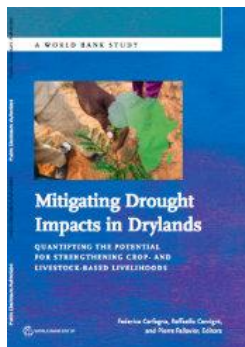
all sides of the weather market including insurance and reinsurance providers, brokers, end users, data providers and exchanges.

Since its inception in 1999, WRMA has made major contributions to the development of the weather risk market in the areas of standardization, market expansion and access enhancement. With these efforts, WRMA contributed to broaden the weather risk management market's commercial scope with outreach to related sectors, including finance, agriculture (e.g. agriculture/drought insurance), energy and trading. The association has also been working in cooperation with government efforts to introduce weather risk management into national regulatory frameworks and reduction government obstacles to weather data access.

Please visit <https://wrma.org/> for more information concerning WRMA.



Mitigating Drought Impacts in Drylands: Quantifying the Potential for Strengthening Crop- and Livestock-based Livelihoods



Do dryland environments contain sufficient resources to generate the food, employment, and income needed to support sustainable livelihoods for a fast growing population? If not, can injections of external resources make up the deficit? Or is the carrying capacity of dryland environments so limited that outmigration should be encouraged as part of a comprehensive strategy to enhance resilience? And given the range of policy options, where should investments be focused, considering that there are many competing priorities? This study was designed to contribute to the ongoing dialogue about measures to reduce the vulnerability and enhance the resilience of populations living in drylands.

Based on analyses of current and projected ways to mitigate drought impacts in drylands, the study quantifies the potential for strengthening crop- and livestock-based livelihoods, identifies promising interventions, quantifies their likely costs and benefits, and describes the policy trade-offs that will need to be addressed when drylands development strategies are devised. Sustainably developing drylands and nurturing resilience among the people living on them will require addressing a complex web of economic, social, political, and environmental vulnerabilities. Good adaptive responses have the potential to generate new and better opportunities for many people, cushion the losses for others, and smooth the transition for all. Implementation of these responses will require effective and visionary leadership at all levels, from households to local organizations, national governments, and a coalition of development partners.

The full report is available at <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/204901523008098359/pdf/125014-PUB-April-1-2018-PUBLIC.pdf>.

The Impact of Adopting Risk-Reducing, Drought-Tolerant Rice in India



Extremely high temperatures during vegetative growth of rice reduces tiller number and plant height. Some experts argue that, in some parts of Asia, current temperatures are already approaching critical levels during the susceptible stages of plant growth. To reduce yield loss caused by drought, drought-tolerant crops have been developed. This study evaluates the effectiveness of Sahbhagi Dhan as a drought-tolerant rice variety in India. The study used a randomized controlled trial to evaluate Sahbhagi Dhan by providing Sahbhagi Dhan seeds to randomly selected farmers in treatment villages in either 2012 or 2013. The treatment farmers were subsequently interviewed by enumerators along with the same number of randomly selected control households in nearby villages. The 2012 randomized controlled trial involved 420 farmers; the study area was significantly expanded in 2013 to cover different drought conditions, and 1,270 farmers were added to the sample.

The findings in this project suggest targeting strategies for Sahbhagi Dhan. Experiments in farmers' fields are different from agronomic experiments on research stations. The main benefit of Sahbhagi Dhan appears to be its short growth duration. This helps farmers where they can produce crops after kharif. Thus, the variety should be promoted in areas where the potential for producing crops after kharif is high. This will help farmers become less vulnerable to drought and other shocks during kharif by diversifying income sources.

The full report is available at http://www.3ieimpact.org/media/filer_public/2018/03/28/ie72-india-drought-tolerant.pdf.



Event and Training Opportunities

The 5th International Conference Energy & Meteorology (22-24 May 2018; Shanghai, China)



The 5th International Conference Energy & Meteorology (ICEM 2018) will focus on creating effective approaches for improved weather, climate and water services for energy. An exciting line-up of Chinese and international industry speakers will lead the conference's keynote presentations, complemented by an exceptional program of parallel sessions and poster presentations. Targeted workshops, panel discussions and networking events will enable interaction with the conference's global audience of energy specialists, water experts, economists, scientists, and policymakers working at the thriving nexus of energy and meteorology. Key outcomes anticipated from ICEM 2018 include, among others:

- Optimizing the exchange of information between the energy and the weather & climate sectors;
- Finding solutions for common issues encountered by utilities experts, weather specialists and climate scientists by working together
- Enhancing collaboration opportunities between energy and meteorology experts/organisations, including attracting wider contributions to WEMC to broaden its base

Please visit <http://www.wemcouncil.org/wp/icem2018/> for further details regarding ICEM 2018.

2nd International Conference on Disability and Disaster Risk Management (15-17 May; Dhaka, Bangladesh)



Bangladesh organized the Dhaka Conference on Disability & Disaster Risk Management in December 2015 to share experience and knowledge on disability inclusive disaster risk management (DRM), with a purpose to identify concrete actions for inclusive implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR). It was attended by over 400 participants from 18 different countries, with nearly 25% of the participants being persons with disabilities. The outcome document of the Dhaka Conference was the Dhaka Declaration on Disability and DRM. This Declaration supports SFDRR implementation by calling for inclusion and the full and meaningful participation

of persons with disabilities in all DRM programs.

The 2nd International Conference on Disability and DRM will give policy makers, activists, experts, persons with disabilities and different stakeholders an opportunity to share progress and experiences on disability inclusive implementation of SFDRR, associated regional plans, the 2015 Dhaka Declaration and to reflect on future priority actions for implementation of these frameworks and plans. It will also focus on addressing disability issues in the humanitarian crisis, which was strongly highlighted in the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 and in relevant documents.

For further details regarding the conference, please visit <http://dkconf18.modmr.gov.bd/>.



Positions and Grant Opportunities

Master of Science in Disaster Management: Resilience, Response and Relief (Part-time distance learning) – University of Manchester and Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Closing date: 30 April 2018)



The University of Manchester



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

The Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) at the University of Manchester, UK, and the School of Nursing at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, are collaborating to deliver a new Online Master's Programme in Disaster Management: Resilience, Response and Relief. Underpinned by a multidisciplinary approach, the programme enables graduates to conduct theoretical and practical analysis as well as evaluation to support disaster management and humanitarian action in global health contexts.

Graduates will be equipped to work and become leaders in the fields of disaster management, humanitarianism, and related areas. This programme will further enhance students' personal and professional development and provide important collaborative links globally. Students will also have the opportunity to gain hands-on field experience to support their future career development. This course offers flexible online study that enables part-time students to obtain a master's degree without residency and boundary restrictions.

Applications for September 2018 entry can be made via the Hong Kong Polytechnic University website at https://sn.polyu.edu.hk/en/programmes/postgraduate_studies/master_of_science_in_disaster_management/index.html.

Agricultural Specialists – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Closing date: 02 May 2018)



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

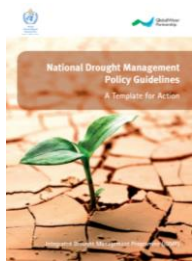
The Regional Office for Africa (RAF) is responsible for leading FAO's response to regional priorities for food security, agriculture and rural development through the identification, planning, and implementation of FAO's priority activities in the region. The purpose of the Global Call is to attract global talent for "Consultant" and "Personal Services" assignments as they become

available. The Global Call will create a roster of applicants that will be used to identify candidates for these assignments. The assignments are in the FAO Regional (Ghana) and Sub-Regional (Ethiopia, Gabon, Senegal and Zimbabwe) Offices or Country Offices within the RAF region.

Tasks and responsibilities are to support the design and implementation of policies, regulatory frameworks and institutional arrangements supportive of inclusive, equitable, effective, and efficient agricultural systems; promote the regular use of knowledge, information and early warning for evidence-based decision making and monitoring; and support the analysis and development of pastoral systems in selected countries, with a particular view of drought preparedness and response, access to resources and integration of pastoral systems with market oriented development, among others.

For more information on the posts and the application procedure, please visit

https://jobs.fao.org/careersection/fao_external/jobdetail.ftl?job=180236&tz=GMT%2B03%3A00.



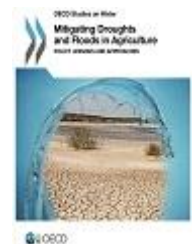
National Drought Management Policy Guidelines: A Template for Action (2014)

The National Drought Management Policy Guidelines provide a template for action that countries can use in the development of a national drought management policy and drought preparedness/mitigation plans. The process is structured in 10 steps that can be adapted by countries to reflect their institutional, infrastructure, legal, socio-economic and environmental context. It includes case studies from Brazil, Mexico, Morocco and the USA and will be continuously updated based on the experiences gained in the guidelines' application. The guidelines respond to a need for action oriented drought policies, which Governments articulated at the [High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies](#). The document is available in [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).



Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans (2015)

The recommendations for the development of a drought management system described in these Guidelines provide a set of basic steps that many drought-affected countries can use to develop national drought policy aimed at risk reduction. The Guidelines are intended for those countries that are trying to move from crisis management to drought risk reduction policy. The step-by-step planning process is based on the National Drought Management Policy Guidelines (2014) and was harmonized especially for the European Union and/or accession countries in compliance with the key principles of integrated water management and within the context of the Water Framework Directive.



Mitigating Droughts and Floods in Agriculture: Policy Lessons and Approaches (2016)

The agriculture sector is particularly exposed to risks of floods and droughts, which may become more frequent and severe due to climate change in the context of increased demand for food and urban space. This report proposes a comprehensive analysis of, and a set of key recommendations on policy approaches to the sustainable management of droughts and floods in agriculture. It builds on recent trends, experiences and research from OECD countries in this area, in particular Australia, Canada, France, Spain and the United Kingdom. It also provides a general policy framework that could be useful for countries to analyze their own drought and flood policies, as well as to identify ways forward.

Useful Links on Drought Status Updates

Africa

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development: <http://acmad.net/new/>
 African Flood and Drought Monitor: <http://stream.princeton.edu/AWCM/WEBPAGE/interface.php?locale=en>
 Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Africa: <https://www.fews.net/>
 IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC): <http://www.icpac.net/>
 Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) Africa: <http://www.irinnews.org/africa>
 Prevention Web Africa: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/africa/>
 Relief Web Africa: <http://reliefweb.int/countries>
 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Climate Service Centre: <http://www.sadc.int/sadc-secretariat/services-centres/climate-services-centre/>

Asia

Asian Disaster Reduction Center: <http://www.adrc.asia/latest/index.php>
 FEWS NET Central Asia: <https://www.fews.net/>
 IRIN Asia: <http://www.irinnews.org/IRIN-Asia.aspx>
 Pacific Disaster Center/World Natural Hazards Website: <http://www.pdc.org/>
 Prevention Web Asia: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/asia/>
 Relief Web Asia: <http://reliefweb.int/countries>
 South Asia Drought Monitoring System: <http://dms.iwmi.org/>