



Africa Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network

December 2013 Issue

Special Topic

Technologies and Practices for Small Agricultural Producers (TECA)



Technologies and Practices for Small Agricultural Producers (TECA) is a platform to exchange, find and disseminate practical information on

different agricultural issues from around the world to support small producers in the field.

TECA's knowledge base provides hundreds of technologies and practices in agricultural mechanization, capacity development, climate change and disaster risk reduction, crop production, fishery and aquaculture, forestry, livestock production, natural resources management and post-harvest and marketing. They include the database on drought tolerant crop/livestock species and successful drought adaptation agricultural practices. The technologies posted on TECA are all tested and/or adopted by small producers, easy to replicate and expected to increase production in a sustainable way. The information available in TECA platform is expected to benefit small rural producers, but the users may include professionals from advisory services, NGOs, research organizations, universities, the private sector and many others.

TECA also offers an online forum called Exchange Groups, where the members can interact with other people with similar interests by sharing experiences and knowledge about different farming systems for small producers, ask questions and connect with practitioners, producers and experts and learn how to implement new agricultural technologies and practices. They can be organized around a specific topic (for example, the Beekeeping Group or the Farmer Innovation Exchange Group) or around a region or a country (for example, the Uganda Group).

By registering at the TECA website at <http://teca.fao.org/>, you can interact with practitioners with different expertise, share your experiences and provide comments or post inquiries about specific agricultural technologies and practices that you find in the knowledge base. Registration is free of charge.

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About AADP

Africa-Asia Drought Risk Peer Assistance Network (AADP) is a network established under the *Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Project*. The project 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 to, based on their priorities, operational gaps and capacity needs, building on the pool of experiences and expertise of the ongoing African Drought Risk and Development Network initiative (ADDN).

The project is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by the UNDP Drylands Development Centre (DDC).

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

Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

Sahel Desertification Network / Réseau Sahel Désertification



**Réseau Sahel
Désertification**

Sahel Desertification Network (RESAD) is a north-south network project among the four national stakeholders' platforms, namely Desertification Working Group (GTD) in France, the Non-Governmental Organizations' Permanent Secretariat (SONG) in Burkina Faso, the National Coordination Committee for the Collective of NGOs combating Desertification (CNCOD) in Nigeria and Drylands Coordination Group in Mali. Centre d'Actions et de Réalisations Internationales (CARI) is currently serving as the coordinator of the network.

Across the Sahelian borders, Niger, Mali and Burkina-Faso face the common challenges of desertification, land degradation and drought and related issues such as population mobilization and public development policy reinforcement and coordination. The key objective of RESAD is to enhance mobilization and take action for fair and sustainable drylands development in the Sahel region by building, experimenting and implementing solutions together to help the most vulnerable populations. In particular, the network aims to improve the ways in which national, sub-regional and international public policies address the combat against desertification; to integrate civil society into national development policies; and to support the implementation of local initiatives.

For more information on RESAD, please visit http://www.cariassociation.org/IMG/pdf/Plaqueette_Resad_FR_final.pdf.

FRIEND-Water: Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data



Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data (FRIEND-Water) is an international collaborative network of experts that aims to generate new understanding about regional hydrology and multi-scale water cycle processes. With eight regional groups from Europe, Mediterranean, Latin American and Caribbean, Southern Africa, West and Central Africa, Asian Pacific, Hindu-Kush-Himalayas and Nile Basin and over 162 participating countries, FRIEND-Water reflects the best in international cooperation between different stakeholders like researchers in universities, national institutes and other water-related agencies.

FRIEND-Water is investigating long-term variations and changes in hydrological variables to better understand the climate, river basin and human controls on the spatial and temporal distribution of water. The FRIEND-Water initiative works to improve the scientific understanding of hydrological processes at a regional to global scale. The programme aims to foster and consolidate cross-disciplinary networks that facilitate cooperation within research and capacity building, development of analytical tools and data sharing, primarily across national boundaries. The above goals are reached by the four main components of the FRIEND-Water programme: 1) the establishment of regional databases, 2) establishment of a global network for research collaboration and exchange of data, 3) the initiation and coordination of regional research, and 4) dissemination and capacity building. In particular, FRIEND-Water contributes to research on: regional water resources, droughts, global change and the water cycle, and water education and capacity building.

Please visit http://www.smhi.se/polopoly_fs/1.19187!FRIEND-Water.pdf for further details on FRIEND-Water.

Green Radio World



Green Radio World was created in 2010, with the aims to bring more improvement in the domain of ecology and sustainable development by involving local rural radio and the press as a whole in the effective spread of good practice in the cultural milieu. Greenradio-world.org offers one of the first portals dedicated to the sustainable management of land and water, adaptation to climate change, management of biodiversity and the environment for the radio producers and consumers. The site was created after a number of workshops for journalists and members of radio stations, particularly rural radio stations in Africa, on the spread of best practices in sustainable land management. Its initiator is from the German International Radio called Deutsche Welle.

The main objective of the Green radio World are to promote adaptation to climate variability and change and adoption of new practices in sustainable land management through the increased media coverage of conferences, interviews and reports on climate, desertification and agriculture. In addition, the Green radio World focus on enhancing the training of journalists on the spread of best practices on climate change adaptation and sustainable land and water resources management. Support has also been provided to promote an appropriate environment for work and increase the awareness and competitiveness of journalists in developing countries. All the resources produced and made available on Green Radio World are free of charge for download and radio presentations.

For further information on the Green radio World, please visit <http://www.greenradio-world.org/>.

Oases Associations Network



Established in November 2001, the Oases Associations Network (Raddo) aims for the protection and the promotion of durable development in Oases with special focus on four North African countries of Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. Raddo was founded, as a direct response to the inhabitants' of African oases wish to put a stop to the steady decline of their environment. Certain changes and socio-cultural developments have caused the deterioration of these rich ecosystems and furthermore threaten their existence and therefore their extremely valuable cultural and social heritage.

The main objectives of Raddo is to: 1) promote global sustainable development and establishment of a better social welfare among the oases; 2) protect and rehabilitate oases as an economic, ecological, cultural and social heritage of the humanity; and 3) empower the oasis civil society. The activities of the network include awareness raising and advocacy on oasis, capitalization on oasis protection and rehabilitation good practices, knowledge sharing and capacity building of oases actors through advisory services and facilitation of exchanges.

Raddo issues regular newsletter to the interested oases practitioners and decision-makers (in French) and its online database provides a rich collection of pertinent knowledge products on sustainable oases conservation and development. For further information of Raddo, please visit <http://www.raddo.org/rubrique10.html?lang=en>.

Event and Training Opportunities

7th Global FRIEND-Water Conference: Hydrology in a Changing World – Environmental and Human Dimensions (Hanoi, Vietnam; 24-28 February, 2014)



People around the world face a non-stationary environment due to global change (e.g. climate change, land use change, urbanization). Impacts of hydrological processes change. More extreme events (drought, floods) are reported in many places around the world. The FRIEND-Water2014 Conference aims at sharing knowledge about change in hydrological processes (e.g. regimes, hydro-extremes), their impacts (e.g. ecological flows, erosion-sedimentation), and how this knowledge can be streamlined to let water management and

policy to adapt to it. In this context, the 7th Global FRIEND-Water Conference (FRIEND-Water2014) is scheduled to take place in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 24-28 February 2014 under the theme: “Hydrology in a Changing World: Environmental and Human Dimensions”.

Conference topics include: 1) hydrological databases: how to cope with future questions; 2) trends in hydrological regimes and extremes; 3) changes in ecological flows and coastal eco-hydrology; 4) erosion and sediment transport processes and trends; 5) regional observational-hydrological modelling frameworks; and 6) water resources and prospective scenarios. In particular, the sessions on trends in hydrological regimes and extremes will cover various drought related issues such as *Future low flows and hydrological drought: how certain are these for Europe?*; *Do large-scale models capture reported drought events?*; *From drought to floods in 2012: operations and early warning services in the UK*; *Trends in droughts during crop growing periods of Bangladesh*.

More information on the Conference is available at http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/natural-sciences-events/?tx_browser_pi1%5BshowUid%5D=27189&cHash=f9b3c04499.

Conference on Adaptation Futures 2014 (Fortaleza Ceará, Brazil; 12-16 May, 2014)



Climate change is one of the most important environmental, social and economic issues facing the world today. Despite growing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, some impacts such as higher temperatures, more intense floods, droughts, wildfires, and rising sea levels are now inevitable. We must plan for and adapt to these changes, to minimize the negative impacts and enhance the benefits to natural systems, societies, and human activities and well-being. Co-hosted and convened by the Earth System Science Center of the National Institute for Space Studies from Brazil and UNEP, the Conference on Adaptation Futures 2014 will be held in Fortaleza Brazil. The conference will bring together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners

from developed and developing countries to share insights into the challenges and opportunities that adaptation present, and to share strategies for decision making from the international to the local scale.

This conference follows on the success of the pioneering Climate Adaptation Futures Conference held in Australia in 2010 and the Adaptation Futures 2012 International Conference on Climate Adaptation in Arizona in 2012. The Conference on Adaptation Future 2014 will focus on climate impacts and adaptation options. It will bring together scientists and decision makers, and practitioners from developed and developing countries to share research

approaches, methods and results. It will explore the way forward in a world where impacts are increasingly observable and adaptation actions are increasingly required. For further details on the conference, please visit <http://adaptationfutures2014.ccst.inpe.br/>.

Employment and Grant Opportunities

Drought Response End-Term Evaluation Consultant – Plan International (Closing date: 6 December, 2013)



The Horn of Africa (HoA) is highly vulnerable to natural hazards, particularly drought, and climate variability. The impact of severe cyclic droughts have been prevalent in the HoA over the past decades have been exacerbated by vulnerability of the affected communities from conflict and insecurity, governance failures, high food prices and limited humanitarian access. Following the humanitarian crisis, Plan mobilised its teams to respond to the drought with a focus on Ethiopia, Kenya and South Sudan, where Plan had an already-established humanitarian presence and response capacity. By June 30, 2012 Plan had raised US\$28.8 million from donors to help those affected by the drought, and in particular children, to recover and rebuild their communities.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the End-Term Evaluation of the Horn of Africa Drought Response, with Plan International Inc., Region of Eastern & Southern Africa in Nairobi, Kenya. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the relevance and fulfilment of Plan's objectives, the efficiency and effectiveness of its response, and Plan's contribution to impact and sustainability in the HoA drought intervention. The evaluation should provide specific and practical findings and recommendations to inform learning and the development of future strategy. Further details on the position are available at <http://plan-international.org/files/Africa/RESA/tors/horn-of-africa-drought-response-tor>.

Final Evaluation of the Government of Japan's Support to the AADP (Closing date: 9 December, 2013)



The Government of Japan has been supporting the AADP initiative) through the Japan-UNDP Partnership Fund since 2010. The initiative seeks to The project seeks to: 1) create an enabling environment for inter-regional knowledge sharing and technical cooperation among drought-prone countries in Africa and Asia; and 2) increase the use of best practices in drought risk management for development in the two regions. The main objectives of the final project evaluation are to assess achievements of the Project, i.e. the extent of attainments of the intended objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities as defined in the results and resources framework, and generate findings on opportunities, constraints/challenges and lessons learnt during the implementation of the Project.

Specific issues to be studied by the Consultant include: relevance of interventions under this Project; efficiency of implementation to-date (including implementation approaches employed as a basis to guide possible future

improvements in programme delivery); opportunities, constraints/challenges and lessons learnt during the implementation of the Project; effectiveness of the Project; impact of the Project, including assumptions used in the development of the Project; potential sustainability; and recommended actions to be taken in the future building on the Project achievements. Please visit http://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=13608 for more information on the position including the application procedure.

Knowledge Management, Organizational Learning and Evaluation Specialists for the Resilience Learning Project, East Africa – Tetra Tech (Closing date: 31 December, 2013)



Tetra Tech ARD, headquartered in Burlington, Vermont is currently accepting expressions of interest from qualified candidates for multiple technical positions on the anticipated Resilience Learning Project in East Africa. This 5-year project will support regional and government agencies by expanding the base from which knowledge and lessons are gathered. Its objective is mutual learning and knowledge management among strategic partners leading to a supportive policy environment and increased impacts of programming on drought resilience and growth. These will be full time positions. Local and regional candidates are encouraged to apply.

The specialist technical areas for these positions include: knowledge management; organizational learning; monitoring and evaluation; institutional capacity building; gender, youth and vulnerable populations; and training and facilitation. To be considered applicants must submit a cover letter, CV in reverse chronological format and a reference list. Please visit <https://careers.tetrattechintdev.com/ARDCareers/App/InternationalPostingDetail.aspx?PostingId=739> for more information on the position.

Land for Life Award 2014 – United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Closing date: 15 March, 2014)



Every minute, land equivalent to the size of a football field becomes unproductive, lost to degradation through desertification and drought. At the same time, world population is growing rapidly, estimated to reach nine billion by 2050. The goals of the Land for Life Award, among others, are to: recognize excellence and innovation in sustainable land management; provide winners with visibility and support to expand their work; inspire leadership for the restoration of soils' natural health and the transformation of degraded land; and encourage international cooperation in support of sustainable land management, particularly in the drylands.

The application forms for 2014 are now available with the application deadline on 15 March 2014. Three awards will be granted from a total prize fund of up to USD 100,000. Anyone who has made a significant and innovative contribution to sustainable land management, including individuals and institutions which encompass non-governmental organizations and civil society, private sector, academic and research organizations, policy makers, journalists and media. In selecting the winner, the Jury will consider the following criteria: innovation, inspiration, impact and replicability.

Please visit <http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Event-and-campaigns/LandForLife/Pages/default.aspx> for further details on the Land for Life Award including the procedures of the application to the 2014 Land for Life Award.



Community Based Resilience Analysis (CoBRA) Conceptual Framework and Methodology (2013)

In order to ensure that drought prone communities move onto a path of resilience building and sustainable development, rather than being pushed back to poverty trap, an integrated multi-faceted approach at scale is clearly required. This draft document is a result of the ongoing effort to develop a rigorous conceptual framework and standardized methodology, i.e. CoBRA, with which to define the key factors and indicators affecting local resilience levels and measure the impact of various sector-based interventions on resilience enhancement quantitatively. The CoBRA model will strengthen the existing monitoring framework, helping track progress along a resilience pathway in a given context systematically and guiding holistic planning processes. At present, the latest CoBRA conceptual framework and methodology is under field testing in the Horn of Africa region with the financial support from the Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department of the European Commission (ECHO). The document is available for download at:

<http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/drought-online/documents/detail/en/c/2693/>.



Drought Risk Management: Practitioner's Perspectives from Africa and Asia (2012)

This report reviewed the current institutional and programmatic landscape in the realm of drought risk management (DRM) in the two regions and mapped out some of the main DRM capacity gaps and gap-filling opportunities. The exercise is based upon the consultations with key individuals in both continents, an online survey of some 400 practitioners working in drought-related fields and focused discussions at the First Africa-Asia Drought Adaptation Forum held in Bangkok, Thailand, in June 2011. It highlighted important similarities in DRM issues across Africa and Asia and identified priority areas to which the inter-regional south-south cooperation could add value. The full publication and the issue brief are both available for download at:

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable_land_management/drought-risk-management-from-africa-and-asia.html.

Useful Links on Drought Status Updates

Africa

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development: <http://acmad.net/new/>

Experimental African Drought Monitor: <http://drought.icpac.net/>

Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Africa: <http://www.fews.net/Pages/default.aspx>

Food Security & Nutrition Working Group Update: <http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/fsnwg/drought>

IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC): <http://www.icpac.net/Forecasts/forecasts.html>

Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) Africa: <http://www.irinnews.org/IRIN-Africa.aspx>

Prevention Web Africa: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/africa/>

Relief Web Africa: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc115?OpenForm&rc=1>

Southern African Development Community (SADC) Climate Service Centre: <http://www.sadc.int/english/regional-integration/is/csc/>

Asia

Asian Disaster Reduction Center: <http://www.adrc.asia/latest/index.php>

East Asian Drought Monitoring System: <http://atmos.pknu.ac.kr/~intra2>

FEWS NET Central Asia: <http://www.fews.net/Pages/default.aspx>

IRIN Asia: <http://www.irinnews.org/IRIN-Asia.aspx>

Pacific Disaster Center/World Natural Hazards Website: <http://www.pdc.org/iweb/pdchome.html>

Prevention Web Asia: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/asia/>

Relief Web Asia: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc115?OpenForm&rc=3>

SAARC South Asian Disaster Knowledge Network Weekly Disaster News: <http://www.saarc-sadkn.org/about.aspx>