

Africa Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network

GC-RED
Resilient Ecosystems
and Desertification



December 2017 Issue

Special Topic

Global Framework for Climate Services



The Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) is a globally coordinated collective of the organizations that are already engaged in producing and using climate information and services. The aim in bringing these together through the Framework is to enable producers, researchers and user organizations to join forces to lift the quality and volume of climate services worldwide, and particularly for developing countries. Global cooperation to share expertise and data can significantly reduce the impact and cost of climatic events like drought, storms and floods.

There are two core ideas underpinning GFCS. Firstly, climate risks should be systematically managed by all countries, industries and communities. Secondly, new levels of cooperation and collaboration are needed to achieve this capability globally. GFCS enables and accelerates the coordinated and technically and scientifically sound implementation of measures to improve climate-related outcomes at national, regional and global levels, particularly in five areas of importance: observations and monitoring; research, modelling and prediction; systems for information exchange; user interests; and capacity building. It aligns climate adaptation and mitigation activities in climate-sensitive priority areas: agriculture, energy, disaster risk reduction, health, and water.

The Framework is best seen as a new, globally coordinated collective, comprised largely of existing organizations that produce and use climate services. The collaboration will enable producers, researchers and user organizations to lift the quality and volume of climate services worldwide, particularly for developing countries. Communities and industries that are vulnerable to climate variations, particularly poor communities in developing countries affected by droughts, floods, tropical storms and other extreme conditions, will benefit most from GFCS.

For further details concerning GFCS and its activities, please visit <http://www.wmo.int/gfcs/>.

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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 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 African Drought Risk and Development Network initiative (ADDN).

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



Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

The Start Network's Drought Financing Facility



The Start Network's Drought Financing Facility (DFF) is a meso-level, NGO-led network of interconnected national facilities, which aim to enable faster and more coordinated responses in major emerging drought situations as they emerge. Each facility will be based on a risk management approach that involves scientific modelling of drought risks, focused scenario-based contingency planning and ground monitoring, and pre-positioned financing. Both the scientific remote sensing and country teams will monitor signs of emerging agricultural drought crises against pre-agreed indicators and triggers which, when reached, would prompt the automatic and predictable release of funds for early action.

The objective is to protect communities at risk of major droughts by deploying funds to organisations on the ground in a faster, more efficient way. The DFF mechanism is not meant to replace traditional funding mechanisms for responding to a major drought: it is meant to enable early effective action while other funding mechanisms begin to mobilise. By intervening earlier, we hope to prevent losses and to reduce the amount of funding needed. The aim is to shift humanitarian response away from its current model, which is reactionary and based on voluntary contributions. Instead, we will have an anticipatory model that enables early, pre-planned and pre-financed responses that will save lives, livelihoods and costs.

For further details on DFF, please visit <https://startnetwork.org/start-labs/drought-risk-financing#DFF>.

Africa Hydromet Programme



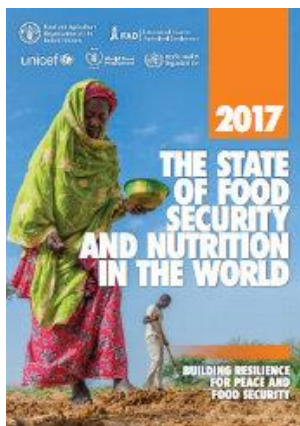
Hydro-meteorological disasters such as floods, droughts, cyclones and storms are the most common disasters in Africa, yet hydro-meteorological services that can monitor and anticipate disaster risks and issue early warnings are not equipped to meet the needs. It is estimated that by 2030, up to 118 million extremely poor people will be exposed to drought, floods, and extreme heat in Africa. The Africa Hydromet Program is a partnership of development organizations working to improve weather, water, and climate services throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Investing in people and local economies through the modernization of these services—also known as hydromet services—is crucial to ensuring that regions, countries, and communities build climate and disaster resilience.

The program is committed to modernizing weather monitoring infrastructure, early warning systems, and emergency response services for climate and disaster at local, national, sub-regional and regional levels, all inter-connected to global weather and water systems and services. The inaugural African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) Africa Hydromet Forum took place in September 2017 with the aim to build consensus and momentum for modernizing weather, water, and climate information services for climate-resilient growth, adaptation planning, and sustainable development.

Please visit <https://www.gfdrr.org/en/africa-hydromet-program> for more information concerning the Africa Hydromet Programme and its country projects in different parts of Sub-Saharan Africa.



The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World: Building Resilience for Peace and Food Security

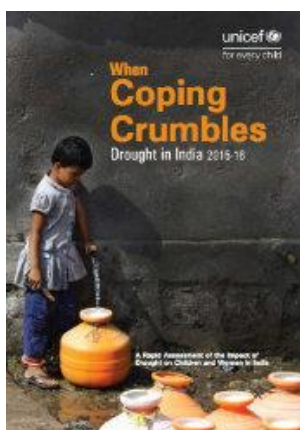


This report provides an overview of current challenges and trends in food security and nutrition globally, especially with regards to monitoring, progress towards the relevant 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development targets, and the role of conflict in driving food insecurity. This year's edition of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World marks the beginning of a regular monitoring of progress towards achieving the food security and nutrition targets set by the 2030 Agenda. This report sends a clear warning signal that the ambition of a world without hunger and malnutrition by 2030 will be challenging – achieving it will require renewed efforts through new ways of working.

In 2016 the number of chronically undernourished people in the world is estimated to have increased to 815 million, up from 777 million in 2015 although still down from about 900 million in 2000. After a prolonged decline, this recent increase could signal a reversal of trends. The food security situation has worsened in particular in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, South-Eastern Asia and Western Asia, and deteriorations have been observed most notably in situations of conflict and conflict combined with droughts or floods. In fact, all 19 countries currently classified by FAO as a protracted crisis are also currently affected by conflict and violence, which is typically compounded by adverse climatic events, such as prolonged droughts, that severely affect food production and livelihoods.

The full report is available for download at <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000022419/download/>.

When Coping Crumbles: Drought in India 2015-16 – A Rapid Assessment of the Impact of Drought on Children and Women in India



This report presents a rapid drought impact assessment conducted in eight states in India, with the aim of providing insights into drought management practices and their effectiveness. A contextual analysis was conducted of drought and drought-like situations over the past three to five drought years, explaining its impact on women and children within the overall build-up of stress due to various factors like climate variability, unsustainable development decisions, and environmental degradation.

Following the assessment, the report observed that prolonged development deficits created by lack of infrastructure, inappropriate service delivery mechanisms, unsustainable development practices and inadequate social safety nets coupled with declining community-based coping mechanisms have increased insecurity and hardship among children, women and their families. Extended or repeated exposure to drought ends up exacerbating these inherent vulnerabilities. As the study confirmed, 'drought' is created by the same socio-political processes that perpetuate vulnerabilities and their consequences.

The full report is available for download at http://www.unicef.in/Uploads/Publications/Resources/pub_doc141.pdf.



Event and Training Opportunities

From Disaster Management to Disaster Risk Reduction: Sendai Framework Implementation (26-27 February 2018; Berlin, Germany)



The impact of an earthquake, flood, drought, hurricane, tsunami, or other natural disaster can be devastating to an area, its economy, and its people. The United Nations led the international community's efforts to install the so-called Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, an agreement amongst the member states to reduce risks of natural and man-made disasters significantly by 2030. Parties involved are dealing with a multitude of questions and issues such as a better disaster risk understanding, the first risk and vulnerability assessments, disaster

governance and preparedness strengthening as well as installing effective evaluation and monitoring systems.

At this unique conference, experts from various national and international organisations well-advanced in the Sendai Framework implementation share their insight and practical knowledge on the current state of implementation. Profit from know-how and lessons-learned of other states and be optimally prepared for crisis situations in your country.

Please visit <https://en.euroacad.eu/events/managing-natural-disasters-s-1825/> for more information on the conference.

20th International Conference on Natural Disasters, Assessing Hazards and Risk (14-15 May 2018; London, United Kingdom)



20th International Conference on Natural Disasters, Assessing Hazards and Risk (ICNDAHR 2018) aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of natural disasters, assessing hazards and risk, including drought. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators

to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of natural disasters, assessing hazards and risk.

All honorable authors are kindly encouraged to contribute to and help shape the conference through submissions of their research abstracts, papers and e-posters. Also, high quality research contributions describing original and unpublished results of conceptual, constructive, empirical, experimental, or theoretical work in all areas of natural disasters, assessing hazards and risk are cordially invited for presentation at the conference. The conference solicits contributions of abstracts, papers and e-posters that address themes and topics of the conference, including figures, tables and references of novel research materials.

More information regarding ICNDAHR 2018 is available at <https://www.waset.org/conference/2018/05/london/ICNDAHR>.



Positions and Grant Opportunities

Drought Response Manager – Oxfam GB (Closing date: 22 December 2017)



Oxfam has been working in Ethiopia since 1974, devoted to empowering people against poverty. In 2015-16, the organisation consolidated its efforts to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and has reached close to one million people across Ethiopia with life-saving humanitarian assistance. Oxfam is currently responding to drought in Somali region of Ethiopia following its response strategy, having ambition of benefitting 1,000,000 people with a total budget of 20 Million USD.

The Drought Response Manager will provide overall leadership of the operational management of the drought response programme, in accordance with Oxfam standards and in coordination with country team. He/she will be responsible for ensuring the elaboration and implementation of a drought response strategy (emergency and sustainable solutions) and decides on adaptation based on needs assessment. He/She will provide a coherent integrated response; financial and human resources security; an appropriate campaign/advocacy dimension. He/she will be overall security responsible and provide support to the wellbeing of staff

Please visit <https://jobs.oxfam.org.uk/vacancy/drought-response-manager-int4018/7019/description/> for more information concerning the post.

Gender Advisor – African Risk Capacity (Closing date: 22 December 2017)

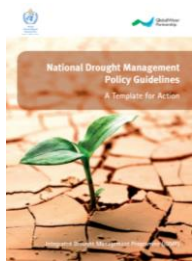


The African Risk Capacity (ARC) was established as a Specialized Agency of the African Union in 2012 to help Member States improve their capacities to better plan, prepare and respond to extreme weather events and disasters and to assist food insecure populations. ARC Ltd is a specialist hybrid mutual insurance company that issues policies to governments, and which aggregates and transfers risk to the international market. In May 2014, with initial capital provided by the governments of Germany and the United Kingdom, ARC Ltd issued drought insurance policies to a first group of African governments – Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal – marking the launch of the inaugural ARC pool. Additional countries are in the queue to join future pools with the target to insurance 30 countries by 2020 through drought, flood and tropical cyclone products.

The Gender Advisor is responsible for providing strategic, policy, operational, and technical guidance and oversight to the organisation's activities. S/he oversees, leads, and coordinates the development and the implementation of the ARC Gender Equality Strategy, including a gender equality results-based management throughout the organisation, and promotes mainstreaming of gender equality at all stages of ARC program cycle.

Details on the post including the application is procedure is available at:

https://career5.successfactors.eu/career?career_ns=job_listing&company=C0000168410P&navBarLevel=JOB_SEARCH&rcm_site_locale=en_GB&career_job_req_id=71664



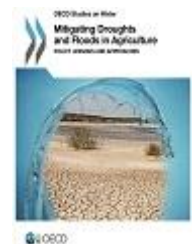
National Drought Management Policy Guidelines: A Template for Action (2014)

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/>