

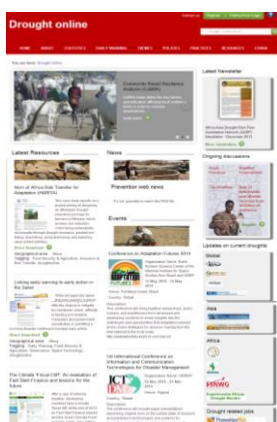
# Africa Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network



February 2014 Issue

## Special Topic

### Renewed Drought Online Website



AADP Secretariat is pleased to announce that the network's Drought Online website was recently renewed. Drought Online aims at offering an easy access to a growing collection of drought risk management (DRM) related resources. The website is an avenue for interaction and discussion beyond geographical boundaries, which helps link knowledge producers and users working in drought prone countries all over the world to exchange their experiences and expertise.

All the knowledge resources and networking opportunities shared through different AADP channels to date are made available on Drought Online in different categories:

- **Statistics** page links to websites and documents that provide scientific data and maps related to past or current droughts;
- **Early warning** page provides warning and lessons learnt from drought to help you plan early actions;
- **Theme** page contains the database of over 400 DRM related resources under various sub-categories;
- **Policies** page aims to post drought policy related resources, networks and events;
- **Practices** page intends to help AADP users learn from practical DRM experiences on the ground by sharing case studies, manuals, guidelines, etc.;
- **Community Based Resilience Analysis (CoBRA)** special page shares the results and findings of ongoing UNDP initiative for assessing and measuring community resilience to drought in the Horn of Africa region.

By continually updating and improving Drought Online website, AADP Secretariat hope to contribute to the process of up-scaling time tested and proven DRM practices beyond national and regional boundaries. Please visit <http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/drought-online/about/about-this-website/en/> for more information on Drought Online.

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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

### Desertification: The Invisible Frontline



This new publication by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) examines desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) as a cause of global conflict and instability and calls for urgent action to support communities in crisis. More than 1.5 billion people in the world depend on degrading land, and 74% of them are poor. 12 million hectares of productive land become barren every year due to desertification and drought alone, which is a lost opportunity to produce 20 million tons of grain. As the effects of climate change undermine livelihoods, inter-ethnic clashes are breaking out within and across states and fragile states are turning to militarization to control the situation. The impacts of DLDD are increasingly felt

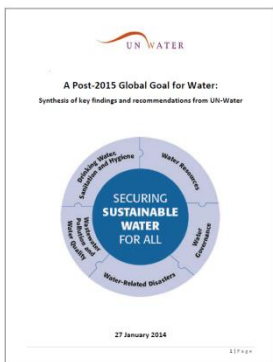
globally as victims turn into refugees, internally displaced people and forced migrants or they turn to radicalization, extremism or resource-driven wars for survival.

The publication stresses that if we are to restore peace, security and international stability in a context where changing weather events are threatening the livelihoods of more and more people, survival options are declining and state capacities are overburdened, then more should be done to combat desertification, reverse land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought. Otherwise, many small-scale farmers and poor, land-dependent communities face two choices: fight or flight.

The full publication is available for download at

[http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Desertification\\_The%20invisible\\_frontline.pdf](http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Desertification_The%20invisible_frontline.pdf).

### A Post-2015 Global Goal for Water: Synthesis of key findings and recommendations from UN-Water



UN-Water is the United Nations inter-agency coordination mechanism for all freshwater and sanitation related matters established in 2003 in order to provides the platform to address the cross-cutting nature of water and maximize system-wide coordinated action and coherence. This publication was developed by the UN-Water working group to outline the joint findings and recommendations of the members and partners on a post-2015 global goal for water, 'Securing sustainable water for all'.

Continuing population growth and urbanization, rapid industrialization, and the expansion and intensification of food production are all putting pressure on water resources and increasing the discharge of polluted water within and beyond national borders. The recent IPCC findings point to changes in the water cycle and in climatic variability<sup>9</sup>. Whilst the changes will not be uniform, the contrast in precipitation between wet and dry regions and wet and dry seasons is likely to increase. Climate scientists lead us to expect global-scale changes in precipitation patterns, although with considerable regional variation. Many mid-latitude arid and semi-arid regions are likely to receive less precipitation, with the likelihood of having droughts larger and longer than those observed since 1900. In this context, 'Securing sustainable water for all'

framework is intended as a constructive contribution to current discussions on the new development agenda and how water related issues are incorporated into it. It is designed to contain all three dimensions of sustainable development, namely promoting human well-being, economic prosperity and the preservation of environmental capital.

The full publication is available for download at [http://www.euwi.net/files/UN-Water\\_paper\\_on\\_a\\_Post-2015\\_Global\\_Goal\\_for\\_Water - 27 January 2014.pdf](http://www.euwi.net/files/UN-Water_paper_on_a_Post-2015_Global_Goal_for_Water_-_27_January_2014.pdf).

## Knowledge Gateway for Women's Economic Empowerment



The Knowledge Gateway is an open global community for knowledge mobilization, innovation and partnerships for women's economic empowerment. It is managed by the UN Women with the objective to offer a user-friendly, demand-driven one-stop service community where you can find and

share resources and tools for women's economic empowerment and connect with experts, peers, networks and potential partners. It aims to create a cross-collaboration network between young women and girls and advanced experts and professionals and enhance young women and girls' capacity to drive innovation for a better world.

The Knowledge Gateway's online library offers a wide range of resources – from national laws and policies, company profiles, research, case studies to initiatives and partnerships, training material and women's stories – to support the users' work on women's economic empowerment. Registered members can also connect with leaders, experts, peers to explore collaboration, partnerships and joint ventures on women's economic empowerment. The learning Centre provides learning resources, webinars, online courses and other curated materials on the basic concepts on women's economic empowerment, as well as on specific thematic areas to strengthen the users' capacity to take actions, including those concerning gender and climate variability and change, empowerment of female pastoralists in drought prone regions, etc.

Please visit <http://www.empowerwomen.org/> for further details on the Knowledge Gateway for Women's Economic Empowerment.

## Climate Risk Management-Technical Assistance Support Project



While the precise long-term impacts of climate change are difficult to define, one thing is clear: changing climate patterns, including increasing climate variability and extreme weather events such as drought, will have significant impacts on countries and communities, many of which are already facing serious development challenges. UNDP's Climate Risk Management- Technical Assistance Support Project is working to understand the effects of climate change and predict how this will impact on developing countries.

Specifically, the project is undertaking risk assessments in 17 countries to better understand both near-term climate variability and long-term climate change. These assessments will help define how changing climate patterns are likely to impact on development and other key socio-economic sectors, such as

agriculture and healthcare. Implemented simultaneously across a number of countries, the project will inform global practices for managing the risks and impacts associated with unpredictable changes in climatic events, as well as identify solutions and develop in-country capacity to better withstand impacts. Additionally, the regions chosen will be illustrative examples that can be used by development planners for disaster risk mitigation in the future. By looking at specific sectors in high risk countries, this project is capturing valuable information on the short, medium and long-term impacts of climate variability and change. With early warning and a strong knowledge base, it has already provided recommendations and solutions to mitigate the possible impacts that are under consideration by partner governments.

Further details on the Climate Risk Management-Technical Assistance Support Project are available at [http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/crisispreventionandrecovery/projects\\_initiatives/climate-risk-management--technical-assistance-project--supportin/](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/crisispreventionandrecovery/projects_initiatives/climate-risk-management--technical-assistance-project--supportin/).

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## Event and Training Opportunities

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### E-Learning Course: The Role of the National Focal Point to the UNCCD (Online; Starting 17 February, 2014)



UNCCD is the legally binding international agreement established in 1994 to forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. The National Focal Points (NFPs)

are the first and main point of contact for the Parties as regards the entire UNCCD process and the key interface between the Parties and virtually all institutions that are directly or indirectly related/ concerned with this process. They have a crucial role to play in supporting and facilitating the implementation at the national level, and in working with other countries of their regions and sub-regions to promote implementation at those levels.

This e-learning course is aimed at helping to capacitate NFPs through giving them the opportunity to better understand what their functions are; and to develop the necessary skills to carry out the same. This course is not comprehensive. It rather a general course after the taking of which, participants will have the basic yet fundamental knowledge an NFP should possess. It shall focus on providing the NFP with information they can use in becoming more effective at the national, regional and international levels, thereby making them conversant with the UNCCD process at all levels. This e-learning course is free (available online) and open to everyone interested in the UNCCD process.

More information on the e-learning course and the registration procedure are available at [http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Capacity-building/CBW/Features/Pages/E-learning-course-The-role-of-the-National-Focal-Point.aspx?utm\\_source=unccd.int/home&utm\\_medium=banner&utm\\_content=carousel&utm\\_campaign=CBM](http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Capacity-building/CBW/Features/Pages/E-learning-course-The-role-of-the-National-Focal-Point.aspx?utm_source=unccd.int/home&utm_medium=banner&utm_content=carousel&utm_campaign=CBM).



## Open Online Course: Economics of Land Degradation (Online; 2 March - 17 May, 2014)



The Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) Initiative is launching a Massive, Open, Online Course (MOOC) for free, beginning on March 2nd, and lasting until May 17th. Land and the benefits derived from it have been taken for granted and undervalued for thousands of years. The negative consequences of land degradation affect us all directly or indirectly: food insecurity, pests, reduced availability of clean water, increased vulnerability to climate variability, extreme weather events, including drought, and climate change, biodiversity loss, and much more. Adopting sustainable land management can secure environmental services, increase food security, and alleviate poverty.

This MOOC demonstrates how to assess the economic benefits of land as a first step towards preventing degradation. It introduces methods of economic analysis and valuation to help you manage land sustainably and efficiently. Students will learn problem-solving using economics approaches and methods. It is a 12-week e-learning program consisting of 12 units, and is entirely free of charge. There is traditional course material such as videos, readings, and case studies, as well as an online learning room to provide interactive tools in building a vibrant learning community, focused on co-creating solutions. Typical units consist of web-based training, text-based study materials, brief videos and webinars held and moderated by an online expert tutor. These components are combined with multiple choice self-assessments, peer-graded assignments, and further reading. Students should expect a workload of 3-5 hours per week.

Any interested party can register – the only prerequisite is an interest in solving one of the most important challenges facing the world's population in the next few decades. Registration is now open at: <http://mooc.eld-initiative.org>.

For further details on the ELD MOOC, please visit <http://inweh.unu.edu/eld-open-online-course/>.

## 5th International Disaster and Risk Conference (Davos, Switzerland; 24-28 August, 2014)



Over 1000 participants from more than 100 countries gather at the International Disaster and Risk Conferences (IDRC) - the world leading conferences on integrative risk management. It is a unique community of business leaders, decision makers, practitioners, UN-, IO- & NGO-agents, and scientists that shares and discusses new findings and experiences about the broad spectrum of risks societies are facing today.

IDRC Davos 2014 is organised by the Global Risk Forum (GRF) Davos in close cooperation with and under the patronage of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. IDRC Davos 2014 attempts to find solutions to today's challenges by managing risks, reducing disasters and adapting to climate change. Focussing on a multi-sectors, multi-stakeholders and multi-disciplines approach IDRC helps to build stronger ties with adequate public-private partnership models among risk management communities and sectors, enabling a move towards a truly integrative way of thinking about disasters and risks. The outcomes aim to influence the post 2015 agenda such as the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Millennium Development Goals or the replacement of the UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol (post Kyoto). The conferences are structured in plenary & parallel sessions, workshops & training courses, and poster exhibitions, covering different risk areas, crosscutting themes and instruments.

Please visit <http://www.grforum.org/home/> for further details on the GRF Davos and IDRC Davos 2014.

## Employment and Grant Opportunities

### Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Cluster Rapid Assessment Coordinator – CARE USA (Closing date: 15 February, 2014)



CARE is currently seeking a Global Wash Cluster (GWC) Rapid Assessment Coordinator. The Coordinator will represent CARE on a three-person multi-agency Rapid Assessment Team (RAT) for a pilot project of the GWC. The purpose of the RAT is to fill the critical need for timely, systematic, rapid and thorough water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs assessments of the entire affected population at the beginning of emergencies. The Coordinator will support the design and implementation of systematic and comprehensive assessments to identify WASH needs that could be readily disseminated to WASH coordination platforms. A total of eight needs assessments over the course of 24 months are envisioned supporting both sudden onset and chronic, slow onset emergencies.

More specifically, the responsibilities of the Coordinator include, among others: to carry out assessment of WASH needs of affected populations; capture information on cross-cutting issues in assessments and assessment tools; establish and maintain base data for risk-prone countries; and develop improved assessment approaches to difficult context (urban emergencies, drought response, floods and other difficult access situations).

Please visit <https://ch.tbe.taleo.net/CH05/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=CAREUSA&cws=1&rid=2204> for further information on the position.

### Agriculture Program Evaluation Specialists for Africa Lead II Program – Management Systems International (Closing date: 22 February, 2014)



Management Systems International (MSI) a Washington, D.C.-based international development firm providing specialized short- and long-term technical assistance. MSI is seeking multiple Agriculture Program Evaluation Specialists, with expertise in agriculture policy evaluation and institutional assessment and fluency in French and English, for Africa Lead II Programme. Since late 2009, Africa Lead has served as the primary capacity development mechanism in sub-Saharan Africa. Africa Lead II is a new five-year program that aims to work with countries and regions to develop long-term activities to strengthen African leaders and institutions at the forefront of increased agricultural productivity and food security.

The Agriculture Programme Evaluation Specialists will play a key role in assessing the capacity of leading institutions in food security and agricultural policy reform. This may involve evaluating the effectiveness of regional agriculture sector strategies to improve food security and combat the effects of drought and desertification toward a new ecological equilibrium. Opportunities exist for team leader. Expat or local candidates are welcome to apply.

For more information on the position including the application procedure, please visit [http://ch-tbe-taleo-net.careerliaison.com/CH08/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=MSI&cws=2&rid=4073&CL\\_SOURCE=12878109&jtsrc=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Eeriefweb%2Eint%2Ffw%2Fres%2Fenf%2Fdoc%2F12%3FOpenForm&jtsrcid=11579&jtrfr=http%3A%2F%2Feriefweb%2Eint%2Fjob%2F631744%2Fagriculture%2Dprogram%2Devaluation%2Dspecialists%2Dafrica%2Dlead%2Dii%2Dprogram%2Dvarious%2Dcountries](http://ch-tbe-taleo-net.careerliaison.com/CH08/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=MSI&cws=2&rid=4073&CL_SOURCE=12878109&jtsrc=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Eeriefweb%2Eint%2Ffw%2Fres%2Fenf%2Fdoc%2F12%3FOpenForm&jtsrcid=11579&jtrfr=http%3A%2F%2Feriefweb%2Eint%2Fjob%2F631744%2Fagriculture%2Dprogram%2Devaluation%2Dspecialists%2Dafrica%2Dlead%2Dii%2Dprogram%2Dvarious%2Dcountries).



### 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](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>