

# Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

## Special Topic

January 2015 Issue

### The Global Resilience Partnership



**GLOBAL  
RESILIENCE  
PARTNERSHIP**

The Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) aims to help millions of vulnerable people in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and South and Southeast Asia better adapt to shocks and chronic stresses and invest in a

more secure future. With an initial commitment of \$150 million, convened by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Rockefeller Foundation, in partnership with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, GRP will help the global community pivot from being reactive in the wake of disaster to driving evidence-based investments that enable cities, communities, and households to better manage and adapt to inevitable shocks, including drought.

More specifically, the GRP develops programs that help surface innovation and long-term collaboration amongst the region-wide ecosystem of diverse local actors. Multi-sectoral teams will collectively research and diagnose problems, and develop locally driven, high-impact solutions that can build resilience at scale. The programs follow a general pattern that is meant to be replicated:

- Diagnose problems: Key institutions and stakeholders lead ongoing investigations of problem identification, using data and predictive methods.
- Motivate collaboration: Mobilize support to address priority problems and work across sectors and silos.
- Develop solutions: Resilience Partnership will channel resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions.
- Learn and share: Develop networks and systems to amplify resilience solutions beyond the Resilience Partnership, sustaining change in policy and practice.

To this end, GRP recently launched the Global Resilience Challenge—a three-stage grant competition calling for multi-sectoral teams to collaborate on innovative solutions to the toughest resilience challenges in the three focus regions. For more information on GRP, including the Global Resilience Challenge update and the GRP mail list, Please visit <http://www.globalresiliencepartnership.org/>.

### Contents

Special Topic: Equator Initiative – The Global Resilience Partnership	1
Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities	2
Event and Training Opportunities	4
Employment/Grant Opportunities	5
AADP Publications Information	7
Useful Links on Drought Status Updates	7

### 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).

AADP's [Drought Online website](#) aims to offer an easy access to a growing collection of DRM related resources... [More >](#)

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



## Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

### The Resilience Analysis Unit



The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, launched the Resilience Analysis Unit (RAU) at a ministerial meeting that took place on November 24th 2014, in Nairobi, Kenya. Resilience is the ability of an individual, a household, a community, a country or a region to withstand, cope, adapt, and quickly recover from stresses and shocks such as conflict, drought, floods and other natural disasters without compromising long-term development. Vulnerability afflicts over 50% of people who live in the drylands in Africa. These communities depend in large

measure on natural resources for their survival. In the face of climate change, the fragility of these areas has become more pronounced with frequent droughts resulting in declining food security, disrupted livelihoods, increased vulnerability and reduced economic growth opportunities.

RAU is a technical hub tasked to contribute to the ongoing IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), particularly by ensuring that households, communities and governments in the region have better information, analysis and guidance to inform investments, development of strategies and development plans and policies. Its main purpose is to build the capacity of the IGAD Secretariat, Member States and development partners in the measurement and analysis of resilience of vulnerable households and communities. Through IGAD's oversight and coordination, the RAU will inform policies and the implementation of IDDRSI and other related programmes in Member States to better strengthen the resilience of systems, communities and people vulnerable to the effects of shocks including drought, floods, insecurity and climate change – doing so in ways that strengthen local capacities and accommodate local aspirations and priorities.

Please visit <http://resilience.igadhost.com/index.php/news/255-the-launch-of-the-resilience-analysis-unit-rau> for more information on RAU.

### The Water Partnership Program



The Water Partnership Program (WPP) is a multi-donor trust fund established in 2009 supported by the governments of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Denmark and Austria. The WPP enables the World Bank to bring innovation and leverage investment in water, to drive change in global policy dialogue and to strengthen the results of its projects. The WPP works at the nexus of water with food, energy, environment, and human development needs to help countries achieve climate-resilient and inclusive green growth. WPP activities are supporting and influencing about \$11.5 billion in Bank financing while support to water supply and sanitation lending benefits the lives of roughly 52 million people in 26 countries, 17 million of which are in Africa.

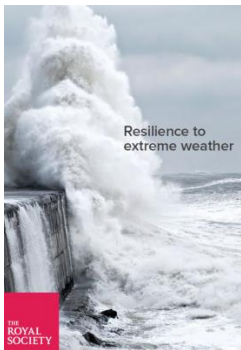
The diversity and complexity of water portfolio often needs high-level global expertise to provide solutions to highly complex water-related challenges. Many projects require additional support at different stages of their design and implementation in order to ensure quality and strengthen their impact on the ground. The Water Expert Team (WET) is a



technical support service supported by WPP that identifies and mobilizes on-demand high-level expertise across various water subsectors. These include the emerging water-related demands in areas like climate change adaptation, water-hazard related disaster/drought risk management, freshwater ecosystem restoration, urban and rural wastewater collection, treatment and disposal, sludge management, water resources governance, and water utility management.

Further details on WPP, WET and WPP related knowledge resources are all available at <http://water.worldbank.org/wpp>.

## Resilience to Extreme Weather



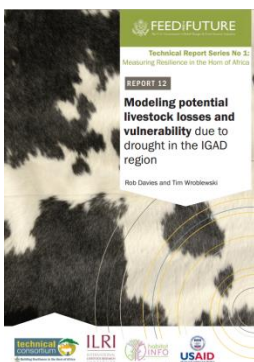
This report is about enhancing people's resilience to extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and heatwaves. It addresses questions such as:

- How and for what reasons might the occurrence and impact of extreme weather events change in the future?
- What are the most effective ways of protecting people and building resilience?
- How can different sectors – locally, nationally and internationally – help build resilience?
- What should policymakers consider when making decisions about resilience-building?
- What does a 'resilience' approach to planning and management look like?

The report considers what influences the trends in extreme weather events and the damage they cause. With practical examples, such as the drought episode in Southern Niger in the Sahel, it aims to help policymakers take steps to effectively reduce the impact of, and build resilience to, extreme weather. It also suggests how the scientific community can develop better evidence to support this process. The emphasis of the report is on preventative measures rather than emergency planning.

The full report is available for download at <https://royalsociety.org/~media/policy/projects/resilience-climate-change/resilience-full-report.pdf>.

## Technical Consortium for Building Resilience in the Horn of Africa's Technical Report Series



The Technical Consortium for Building Resilience (TC) in the Horn of Africa is a project of the CGIAR, which was established in 2011 with the aim to enhance resilience to drought in the Horn of Africa by coordinating and providing technical support to IGAD member states on evidence-based planning and programming for resilience investments. The focus of the TC's work at present is to collaborate with different partners, specifically including the governments in the region as their plans develop, to provide tools for measuring the impact of investments on enhanced resilience and to develop decision support tools for better targeting and prioritization of investments or projects.

As an important step within this effort, the TC recently published the Technical Report Series. Among over a dozen of the reports, Report 9 focuses on "Assessing resilience to drought: defining drought and reviewing trends in the Horn of Africa", which provides the comprehensive overview of drought incidences in the past decades as well as the climatic projections in the region. Report 12 is on "Modeling potential livestock losses



and vulnerability due to drought in the IGAD region.” It identifies areas in need of help across multiple sectors throughout the whole region using medium to long-term data on drought exposure risk. It also highlights pastoral and agro-pastoral localities where farmers and dependents may be at risk of significant livestock mortalities in the short-term.

The above mentioned and other Technical Report Series documents are available for download on the TC’s Resilience Library at <http://www.technicalconsortium.org/resilience-library/>.

## Event and Training Opportunities

### ICECC 2015: XIII International Conference on Environment and Climate Change (Zurich, Switzerland; 13-14 January, 2015)

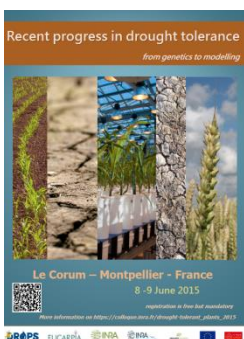


The ICECC 2015: XIII International Conference on Environment and Climate Change aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Environment and Climate Change. It also provides the premier interdisciplinary forum for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns, practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted in the field of Environment and Climate Change.

Among various new advances and research results to be presented at the conference is “‘Drought Proofing’ Australian Cities: Implications for Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainability.” Urban water management in Australia faces increasing pressure to deal with the challenges of droughts, growing population and the climate change uncertainty. It will present case studies from Perth and Sydney which show how despite robust adaptation plans and experience, recent efforts to ‘drought proof’ cities have focused on supply-side measures (i.e. desalination), rather than rethinking how water is used and managing demand.

Please visit <https://www.waset.org/conference/2015/01/zurich/ICECC> for more information regarding ICECC 2015.

### Drought-tolerant Plants Conference 2015 - Recent Progress in Drought Tolerance: From Genetics to Modelling (Montpellier, France; 8-9 June, 2015)



The conference is at the crossroad of plant and crop physiology, genetics and breeding. It aims at presenting an accurate view on recent advances in the mechanisms associated with plant response to water deficit, on these mechanisms phenotyping, on their genetic variability and on the modelling of relevant allelic effects on plant behaviour under changing climates.

A large space will be dedicated to discussion, with two forums on opportunities and limits of breeding for drought tolerance, and the link between upstream disciplines and breeding. This will foster dialogue between academic and private sector, young scientist and senior breeders, initiatives from the Northern regions where the impact of climate change is becoming visible and the developing countries that already face drought-prone conditions.





This conference is jointly organized by the DROPS (FP7 EU project) and the sections Cereals, maize and sorghum of Eucarpia. It will present results obtained in the project DROPS and in related projects. Attendance is free, but registration is mandatory, associated with a questionnaire on attendee's expertise, current activity and main interests. Applications from Mediterranean, African, Asian and South American participants are highly encouraged.

For further details concerning the conference, please visit [https://colloque.inra.fr/drought-tolerant\\_plants\\_2015](https://colloque.inra.fr/drought-tolerant_plants_2015).

## Employment and Grant Opportunities

### International Consultant/Research/Monitoring Coordinator – Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environment in Cambodia (Closing date: 10 January, 2015)



The climate change-induced hazard of erratic rainfall, which leads to droughts and floods, is decreasing agricultural productivity in Cambodia thereby constraining efforts to reduce poverty levels. These erratic rainfall events are predicted to increase under future climate change scenarios. An Adaptation Fund (AF) project has been developed by UNEP and the Ministry of Environment (MoE) in Cambodia to address the vulnerability of rural communities to climate change using ecoagriculture.

The AF project will be contracting a suitably qualified international consultant to fulfil the role of project International Research/Monitoring Coordinator (IRMC). This expert will develop and implement long-term socio-economic and ecological research/monitoring protocols to measure the impacts of the projects reforestation and ecoagriculture interventions. This research/monitoring will take place both within the 5 target community protected areas and well as in downstream communities. These will include monitoring the progress of forest restoration (i.e. the creation of multi-use forests), home garden establishment and the implementation of ecoagriculture interventions. The research/monitoring should measure the socio-economic and ecological impacts of each of these interventions. Using on the results of this research and monitoring, the IRMC will be responsible for compiling monitoring reports and publications for submission to international journals. The IRMC will also be responsible for overseeing the work of the National Research/Monitoring Coordinator, and will assist in the development of training materials for local communities to undertake monitoring activities.

Further details on the position are available at <http://www.camclimate.org.kh/en/documents-and-media/library/category/81-vacancies.html?download=579:tors-international-research-coordinator>.

### Southern Policy and Campaigns Manager (Food & Climate Justice) – Oxfam (Closing date: 13 January, 2015)



The global food system is broken. It's not just drought. Or famine. Or a bad harvest. A whole host of factors such as climate change, land grabs, food price spikes and intensive farming are stopping nearly 900 million - that's 1 in 8 people – worldwide



from having enough to eat. Southern Policy and Campaigns Manager (Food & Climate Justice) will be responsible for ensuring that Oxfam's Food and Climate Change campaign has a strong strategy to achieve national change in developing countries.

Working with experienced campaigns and policy staff in the Oxfam operating countries and regions around the world, he/she will identify significant opportunities for campaigning and advocacy, and building strategies to deliver on them. he/she will support our regions around the world to deliver campaigning, and will be responsible for boosting the funding available to country teams, as well as building partnerships and effective tools that can help them deliver their strategies. he/she will lead on major campaign projects involving team members from around the world, as well as playing a leadership role in the campaign's management teams. The work he/she do will enable our campaign to be at its most strategic in stopping climate change and other key issues making people hungry.

Please visit <https://jobs.oxfam.org.uk/vacancy/1914/description/> for more information on the position including the application procedure.

## **Manager of Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa Seed Scale-up Project – International Maize and Wheat Improvement (Closing date: 20 January, 2015)**



International Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT) is the world's premier center for research, development, and training in maize and wheat and in farming systems for those two essential food crops. From its headquarters in Mexico and offices throughout the developing world, the

center works with partners worldwide to reduce poverty and hunger by sustainably increasing the productivity of maize and wheat cropping systems.

CIMMYT is currently seeking a dynamic and results-oriented Project Manager for implementation of Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa Seed Scale-up (DTMASS) Project in six countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, namely Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Zambia. The selected candidate will be a member of the CIMMYT Global Maize Program (CIMMYT-GMP) team, based at Nairobi, Kenya, and will work closely with CIMMYT's maize seed systems team, as well as seed companies and public s. Specific duties of this position include, among others, providing strong support to the project leader in developing annual work plans and monitoring their execution against the project baseline and preparing technical and financial reports in consultation with project leader and team members, and report timely to the donor.

For further information about the position, please visit

[http://webconnect3.sendouts.com/CN\\_Frame.aspx?id=cimmyt&siteid=WebConnect&group=cimmyt&key=cn&PostNum=1352&PostId=2781bbc3-12d0-4a5d-b3ef-2713f642bd62&JobId=2f0492dc-47c6-4006-a88a-6700e175fef7](http://webconnect3.sendouts.com/CN_Frame.aspx?id=cimmyt&siteid=WebConnect&group=cimmyt&key=cn&PostNum=1352&PostId=2781bbc3-12d0-4a5d-b3ef-2713f642bd62&JobId=2f0492dc-47c6-4006-a88a-6700e175fef7).

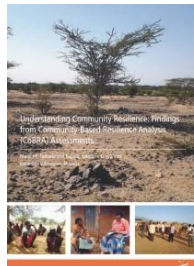


### Community Based Resilience Analysis (CoBRA) Conceptual Framework and Methodology (2014)

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 with increased vulnerability, an integrated multi-faceted approach at scale is clearly required. Community-Based Resilience Analysis (CoBRA) is a tool which intends to measure and identify the key building blocks of community resilience, or "resilience characteristics", and assess the attribution of various development/humanitarian interventions in attaining these resilience characteristics. In disaster affected areas, where protracted crises with spikes in need are the norm, resilience measurement tools are required through which to document evidence of groups of interventions that have high impact and spur positive changes at household and community levels. This publication presents the

conceptual framework that underpins the CoBRA model and describes in brief the methodology that supports the model:

[http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable\\_land\\_management/CoBRA/cobra-conceptual-framework/](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable_land_management/CoBRA/cobra-conceptual-framework/).



### Understanding Community Resilience: Findings from CoBRA Assessments in Kenya and Uganda (2014)

In the last few years, as natural disasters, particularly drought, and other crises have pushed communities to the limits of their adaptation and coping capacity, 'disaster resilience' has emerged as a key goal for governments and other development and humanitarian stakeholders in the Horn of Africa. This report summarizes the findings of the first round of CoBRA field testing in four drought-prone locations in Kenya (Marsabit, Turkana and Kajiado counties) and Uganda (the Karamoja sub-region). Individual assessment reports for each location are attached as Annexes to this report. The CoBRA approach is largely qualitative, based on understanding resilience from a community perspective. It does not identify any preconceived components of resilience but rather allows communities to define it, assess their progress in achieving it, identify households that are more (or fully) resilient and specify the interventions they believe best build resilience:

[http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable\\_land\\_management/CoBRA/CoBRA\\_assessment/](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable_land_management/CoBRA/CoBRA_assessment/).

## 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>



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

Produced by UNDP Global Policy Centre Nairobi

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri  
P.O. Box 30552, Nairobi, 00100, Kenya  
<http://www.undp.org/drylands/>

For inquiries, suggestions or contributions for future issues, please contact Francis Opiyo at [francis.opiyo@undp.org](mailto:francis.opiyo@undp.org).