



Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network

Special Topic

July 2015 Issue

Post 2015 Learning Hub



The Post-2015 development agenda, notably a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is expected to be launched at the United Nations (UN) Summit on 25-27 September 2015. Various resources from the UN, civil societies, development partners, and governments on the Post-2015 development agenda are available online. The Post-2015 Learning Hub is a

UN system-wide one-stop shop for these available courses, particularly the ones created for UN Staff and their partners. It provides sources of information to serve as materials and sources for the courses and trainings on the Post-2015 development agenda. The materials found at the Learning Hub are not exhaustive of all available resources, but provides the basic resources needed for all the trainings.

Besides the training courses offered by the UN agencies and universities, free online courses from various universities and academic, research and other organizations are presented in the hub. Lectures and presentations by UN officials, experts, rapporteurs, and representatives from UN agencies are also provided by the Post-2015 Learning Hub through the UN System Staff College E-Presentations. Among the proposed 17 SDGs, drought related courses may be found especially under: Goal 6. Water & Sanitation for All; Goal 13. Combat Climate Change and Its Impacts; and Goal 15. Terrestrial Ecosystems, Forests, Desertification, Land and Biodiversity.

The Post-2015 Learning Hub also provides an executive space where various stakeholders can communicate and discuss issues. The *Executive Lounge* is where people can gather to hangout through live webinars, live lectures, or just to chat with the staff at the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Schedules of the webinars and hangouts will be posted on the site.

The *Community* section serves as a forum where people can ask questions about the Learning Hub and also provide suggestions for tailored courses for the Resident Coordinator and UN Country Teams' specific needs at the country level. This is also where the Frequently Asked Questions are found.

Please visit <http://post2015.unssc.org/> to learn more about the Post 2015 Learning Hub initiative and the resources offered within the hub.

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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).

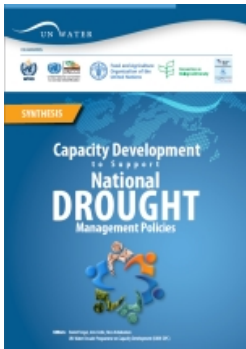
AADP's [Drought Online website](#) aims to offer an easy access to a growing collection of DRM related resources... [More >](#)

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



Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

Synthesis of National Drought Management Policies



This document is a collaborative output of the partners of the UN-Water Initiative on “Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policy (NDMP)”. It presents the initiative’s major objectives, the rationale behind national drought management policies, the key pillars and the 10-step process for developing national drought policies and drought preparedness plans. In principle, the 10-step process is generic and modified to fit into each country’s specific situation with regards to current institutional capacity. Depending on a country’s exposure to drought, the stage in drought preparedness planning and the kind of challenges and institutional structure, countries differ in their stage towards the development and implementation of drought policies. The steps can be used as a template by drought-prone countries interested in developing and implementing national drought policies.

The document also provides the lessons learnt from the series of regional training workshops on the formulation and adoption of effective, risk-based national drought management policies, which were organized through the NDMP initiative for Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, Eastern and Southern Africa, Near East and North Africa and West and Central Africa regions. It conveys the challenges and key steps for countries on how to develop and implement national drought policies. The document is directed to government policymakers and to other stakeholders mandated to support them in building drought-resilient communities.

The full document is available for download at
<http://www.ais.unwater.org/ais/pluginfile.php/516/course/section/168/NDMP-Synthesis.pdf>.

Climate-Eval



Climate-Eval is an online community of practice hosted by the Global Environment Facility Independent Evaluation Office (GEF IEO) in Washington, D.C. Its overarching goal is to establish standards and norms, support capacity development, and share good practices in evaluations of climate change and development and—most recently—natural resource management. The community members are a global network of monitoring and evaluation practitioners in government and development cooperation agencies, civil society organizations, and academia. Climate-Eval was formed after the 2008 International Conference on Evaluation of Climate Change and Development in Alexandria, Egypt.

Unlike other evaluation communities of practice, Climate-Eval has focused exclusively on the evaluation of climate change and development. Recognizing the overlap between climate change adaptation and natural resource management, the community in 2013 branched out to include evaluations of the latter. It is a venue for members to share information on the latest development on the evaluation of climate change and development interventions. The website features an electronic library, blog, and studies page as modes of sharing evaluation reports, opinion and tools relevant to our Community of Practice. Online discussions on climate change and evaluation are held in our LinkedIn Group.



Please visit <https://www.climate-eval.org/> for further details on Climate-Eval including its latest publication, *Good Practice Study on Principles for Indicator Development, Selection, and Use in Climate Change Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation*.

Best Climate Practices



The Best Climate Practices (BCP) Observatory is a project of the International Center for Climate Governance. BCP aims at giving a complete overview of our concrete actions for dealing with climate change and its impacts, including extreme weather events and drought, while stressing the wide range of possibilities that, if implemented by politics, economics, institutions, enterprises and researchers, could make a decisive difference.

It intends to help propagate best climate practices, showcasing a compendium of existing climate change measures and practices, plus new initiatives: all of these are specifically catalogued according to the theme they focus on. The observatory is an interactive platform that collects a selection of best climate practices that deserve attention for their originality, positive impact in dealing with climate change impacts, implementation potential and replicability at the local, regional, national and global level. Through an interactive world map, the observatory makes it possible to locate the best practices and evaluate which geographical region deserves more attention. Contents are browsed by different filters allowing users to choose the research that better fits their needs.

The initiative seeks to involve a wide range of participants. Researchers, organisations, enterprises, policy makers and citizens are strongly encouraged to get actively involved in the development of the platform by submitting new practices at any time, and rating the best ones on the occasion of the yearly BCP Contests. Also, through the Kick Start Your Project section, users can find a range of financial solutions for all those participants who have brilliant ideas on fighting climate change but do not have the necessary resources to get started. Finally, Best Climate Practices represents a useful tool for creating a network to discuss and share new viewpoints and proposals for dealing with climate change impacts.

For more information on BCP and BCP Observatory, please visit <http://www.bestclimatepractices.org/>.

Event and Training Opportunities

3rd Resilience Academy: Enhancing Resilience to Minimize Loss and Damage - Providing Knowledge for the UNFCCC (6-12 September, 2015; Dhaka, Bangladesh)



In the most vulnerable regions of our planet, the impact of extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and cyclones threaten lives and livelihoods. The most affected regions include large deltas, small islands and exposed coastal regions as well as arid and semiarid lands, and areas affected by glacier and permafrost melt. People on the frontlines of climate change face severe risks from extreme weather and slow onset processes, including coastal inundation, catastrophic floods, and extended drought conditions. The Resilience Academy 2015 in Bangladesh will provide a platform for connecting communities of expertise (early phase practitioners, academics and policy analysts), examining livelihood resilience in the face of extreme weather events and slow-onset environmental changes. It

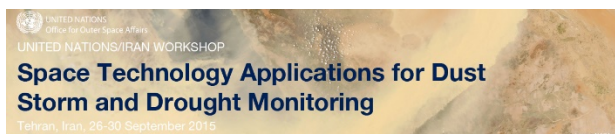


will produce, combine and share knowledge about enhancing livelihood resilience to minimize loss and damage.

The Academy aims at a balance of participants from different parts of the world and with different thematic backgrounds. The Academy will bring together a group of young professionals, including academic scholars, and practitioners. Different perspectives are important to foster a common understanding. The main goals of the Academy are to: 1) produce scientific papers for publication in international peer-reviewed journals; 2) develop strategies to disseminate outputs of the Academy in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change decision making process and other strategic policy processes; and 3) produce policy-relevant research including policy briefs.

Further details on the 3rd Resilience Academy is available at <http://www.lossanddamage.net/download/7314.pdf>.

United Nations/Iran Workshop on Space Technology Applications for Dust Storm and Drought Monitoring (26-30 September, 2015; Tehran, Iran)



Climate Change and its numerous consequences such as frequent drought conditions have also led to a steady increase in frequency and intensity of dust and sand storms in many parts of the World. The severity of such storms is anticipated to continue to increase

over the coming years. The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Government of Iran are jointly organizing the workshop to raise awareness and promote the use of space technologies related to dust storm and drought monitoring for the benefits of the host country, for the Middle East region and in general for developing countries globally. The Workshop will explore how current space technologies help to identify and monitor the effects of a changing climate - including the onset of drought and dust or sand storms in particular - on vulnerable regions on an international and regional scale. It will therefore also address the context of the Rio+20 Summit Declaration and to the evolving United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda and related Sustainable Development Goals.

Combining keynote addresses, plenary presentations and a series of technical presentations, this workshop will discuss how space technologies, applications, information and services can contribute into sustainable economic and social development by supporting efficient monitoring of drought conditions and related hazardous phenomena, primarily in developing countries. The Workshop's discussions will also consider ways of expanding the use of space technologies and information/data for better monitoring and decision making in the domains of focus, as well as identify priority areas where potential pilot projects could be launched, examining also possible partnerships that could be established.

For more information concerning the workshop, please visit http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/psa/schedule/2015_workshop_iran_space_technology_applications.html.

Aid & Development East Africa Summit 2015 (3-5 November, 2015; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)



Following well-received Aid & International Development Forum (AIDF) summits on Food and Water Security and Disaster Resilience and Relief in Asia and North America, AIDF is organising the Aid & Development East Africa Summit 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This 3-day summit includes interlinked Focus Days on Food Security & Drought Management, Health & Resilience



and Aid & Response Operations. The specific objectives of the event is to showcase expertise, approaches and innovations by different stakeholders in the region, discuss guidelines and regional policy options that support technological innovations and provide an opportunity for knowledge exchange and networking amongst public, private and civil society stakeholders.

It will bring together international experts to discuss how technological innovations assist aid and development outcomes in East Africa, with a focus on:

- improving food security and climate-smart agriculture;
- enhancing health and community resilience, especially with help of mobile technologies; and
- best practice for effective, safe and efficient delivery of humanitarian and development aid.

The programme will comprise of keynote speakers, country and case studies, panel discussions, workshops, and interactive roundtable sessions. For more information on the Aid & Development East Africa Summit 2015, please visit <http://www.aidforum.org/events/event/aidf-east-africa-summit>.

Employment and Grant Opportunities

Disaster Risk Reduction Consultant – CARE Australia (Closing date: 4 July 2015)



CARE International in Lao PDR is urgently seeking a consultant (or consultancy team) with demonstrated experience in community-based disaster risk reduction/management; disaster risk and vulnerability assessment; disaster risk mapping and GIS applications; national and sub-national planning for disaster risk reduction; and integrated drought risk assessment, planning and management. The Consultancy will contribute to strengthening institutional mechanisms and capacities, and provide tools and methods to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) of Lao PDR and selected farming communities to enhance their resilience against hazards and disasters. It will also contribute to catalysing the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Agriculture.

The current assignment is intended to support CARE to fulfill commitments to FAO on a series of tasks related to (i) Flood and drought risk and vulnerability assessments and mapping (local level); (ii) Technical support for CBDRM planning and implementation and (iii) Capacity enhancement for integrated drought risk management. The services to be provided by the consultant will be delivered with support from the CARE team, and in close collaboration with both FAO's technical staff and MAF. Most activities will be implemented in target areas of Savannakhet province (Lao PDR), as well as some activities in two other provinces. The assignment is expected to start in July 2015 (latest) and be completed by December 2015 (with the option to extend specific tasks until March 2016, if required).

For more information on the position, please visit <https://www.care.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/TOR-for-Drought-Risk-Management-and-Agriculture-consultancy1.pdf>.



Regional Programme Coordinator – International Union for Conservation of Nature (Closing date: 7 July 2015)



International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges. It works on biodiversity, energy, human livelihoods and greening the world economy by supporting scientific research, managing field projects all over the world, and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice. Under the overall supervision of the Regional Director for West Asia, the Regional Programme Coordinator (RPC) is responsible for the strategic development, steering and monitoring of the IUCN programmes for the Regional Office for West Asia, which consists of programmes activities (projects) that are implemented in close partnership with IUCN members, Commissions and partners and are linked with global thematic programmes based at IUCN Headquarters in Switzerland and elsewhere.

The RPC will be specifically responsible for the development of project/programme activities within the four IUCN ROWA Thematic Programme Areas: 1) Protected Areas, World Heritage and Biodiversity Programme; 2) Water and Climate Change Programme; 3) Marine and Coastal Management Programme; and 4) Drylands, Livelihood and Gender Programme. This position carries considerable responsibility for programme development within a growing regional programme and requires good organisational capacity, a willingness to travel and work in a multilingual environment and to be part of a team striving for a common objective.

Interested applicants are required to submit their applications online through the HR Management System. For more information on the position, please visit <https://hrms.iucn.org/iresy/index.cfm?event=vac.show&vacId=1100>.

2015 Best Climate Practices Contest – International Center for Climate Governance (Closing date: 10 July 2015)



The Best Climate Practice contest is an annual initiative of the International Center for Climate Governance. BCP contest aims to build a collective knowledge platform on bottom-up solutions to climate change and sustainable development issues. With the annual theme of “water availability for food production”, the BCP Contest 2015 intends to showcase innovative solutions to improve efficient water management and “water smart” food production, and to help the winner/s in scaling up existing projects or implementing ground-breaking ideas. The world population is predicted to grow to 9.1 billion in 2050 and by 2030 food demand is predicted to increase by 50 percent (70 percent by 2050). Demographic growth and the impacts of climate change are expected to add further stress to water availability, leading competition for water to increase and water supply to become less reliable in several areas of the world.

Individuals or teams can submit existing projects or brand new ideas that implement, promote, or develop “water-smart” solutions, sustainable and climate-resilient water management systems, or strategies for better use and conservation of water resources under climate change in agriculture and food production. Submissions will be assessed by an international Panel of experts and voted on by public online polls. The winner will receive a prize of €10000 to use on developing their project or idea.

To find out more and submit your practice, please visit our website at <http://www.bestclimatepractices.org/contest/>.

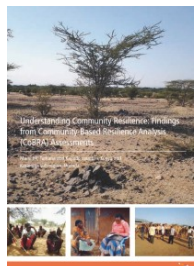


Community Based Resilience Analysis (CoBRA) Conceptual Framework and Methodology (2014)

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/.



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/.

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>