

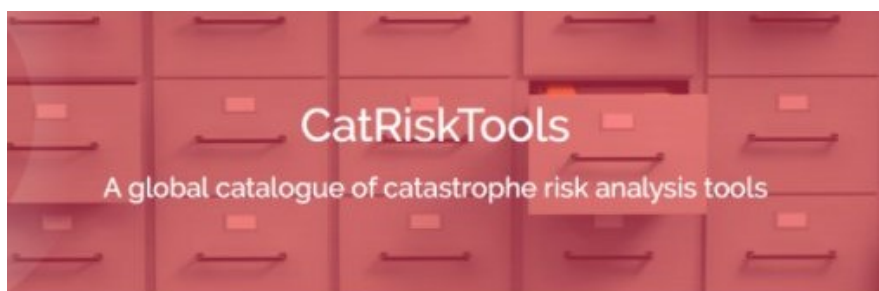
# Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network



## Special Topic

June 2018 Issue

### CatRiskTools



CatRiskTools provides a free and open access global directory of catastrophe risk assessment tools. It provides a comprehensive listing of available tools, with information on key attributes to help a potential user assess their applicability to the problem they are trying to solve. This includes the perils and countries they cover, tool capabilities, and links to providers' websites. Commercial and non-commercial tools are included. The directory can be searched by country, peril, and license type.

CatRiskTools is maintained by the Insurance Development Forum (IDF) Risk Modelling and Mapping Group (RMMG). The RMMG is an expert working group of the IDF, comprising members from the insurance, development, and scientific research sectors dedicated to improving global understanding and quantification of disaster risk to support and enable decisions on its mitigation, adaptation and transfer.

Members of the global risk modelling community are encouraged to upload information about their tools to this directory using the upload form. The benefits of hosting information include:

- Tool providers achieve greater visibility of listed software;
- Potential users are directed to providers' websites to access tools; and
- Risk community benefits from an improved overview of available risk tools – aiding resource allocation and access to more views of risk.

This catalogue includes information about risk analysis tools – products which enable assessment of risk to population and exposed values in terms of numbers affected, or in economic and insured loss terms.

Please visit <https://catrisktools.oasishub.co/> to access to comprehensive set of resources provided by CatRiskTools.

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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 network 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 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

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### ITHACA Drought Monitoring



The non-profit association ITHACA, based in Torino, Italy, is a center of applied research devoted to support humanitarian activities in response to natural disasters by means of remote sensing techniques. ITHACA developed a web application for drought monitoring, as an effort oriented towards the development of an automated system, which allows to keep track of relevant environmental variables, thus enabling the detection and characterization of vegetation stress conditions.

Different parameters are integrated into a simplified drought risk model which considers environmental data related to vegetation production and rainfall. In particular, the near real-time monitoring of satellite derived vegetation indexes allows the early detection of water stress conditions of vegetation, and the monitoring of derived phenological parameters. The latter, coupled with the evaluation of precipitation conditions, leads to a near real-time assessment of the vegetation productivity expected at the end of the considered growing season. The timely detection of critical conditions in vegetation health and productivity allows to spot agricultural areas with increased potential of crop failure or food crisis risk.

For more information on ITHACA and its Drought Monitoring web application, please visit <http://ithacaweb.org/projects/drought-monitoring/>.

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### Global Forest Watch Water



Global Forest Watch (GFW) is an online platform that provides data and tools for monitoring forests. GFW Water is a global mapping tool that examines how threats to natural infrastructure affect water security throughout the world. GFW Water helps users quickly and easily map watersheds, areas of land where all of the water drains to a common outlet such as a river, which are increasingly affected by upstream deforestation, fire and erosion. GFW Water can help identify cost-effective, natural infrastructure solutions for investing in watersheds such as landscape restoration, which helps solve complex water challenges such as drought, flooding and water pollution.

GFW Water allows users to:

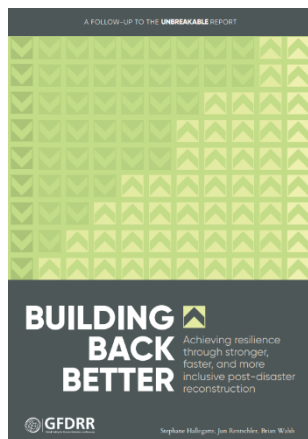
- Access spatial data sets, forest-related statistics and risk scores for all 230 major watersheds around the world.
- Gather data, explore trends and gain insights about regional opportunities to enhance water security and bolster economic development.
- Drop a pin anywhere on the map to reveal the risks to water security, then connect these risks to resources on improving water security using natural infrastructure approaches.
- Use data to support your projects and find the information you need to advance your research or campaigns to protect watersheds.

Please visit <http://water.globalforestwatch.org/> for further details on GFW Water.

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## Building Back Better: Achieving Resilience through Stronger, Faster, and More Inclusive Post-Disaster Reconstruction



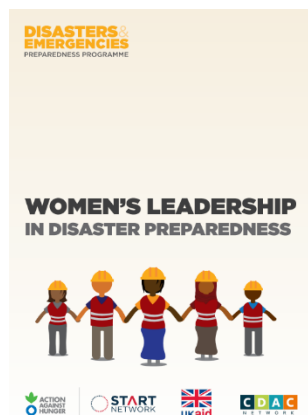
Most assessments of losses due to natural disasters focus on damages to assets—including buildings, infrastructure, equipment, and production. According to such estimates, in 2017, global economic losses due to weather-related natural disasters—from hurricanes and wildfires to droughts and floods—totaled more than USD330 billion. However, the focus on asset losses fails to inform us on how disasters affect people's well-being. Poor people in particular have limited ability to cope with disasters, and estimated that the impact on well-being is equivalent to consumption losses of about USD520 billion a year around the world.

This report shows how the benefits of building back better could be greatest among the communities and countries that are hit by disasters most intensely and frequently – up to US\$173 billion per year globally. Small island states – because of their size, exposure, and vulnerability – are among the countries where building back better has the greatest potential. For a selection of small island states from the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, this report

shows that stronger, faster, and more inclusive recovery would lead to an average reduction in disaster-related well-being losses of 59 percent.

The full report is available at <https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/Building%20Back%20Better.pdf>.

## Women's Leadership in Disaster Preparedness



Recent global agreements on disaster preparedness and response all emphasise women's participation and leadership as a requirement for effective humanitarian action. Disasters, including drought, affect women disproportionately. Research in recent years has suggested that a woman in a disaster-affected community is more likely to die in a large-scale disaster than a man, and that she will suffer greater economic, material, social and psychological losses in a post-disaster context.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, the impact of disasters on women is compounded by their limited opportunities to influence preparedness and response efforts.<sup>2</sup> Yet research also suggests that women are not a homogenous group and do not experience disasters in the same way. Rather, their experiences will differ across contexts and will be defined by different economic, social and cultural factors.

This report explores how women are involved as leaders and decision-makers within the Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme (DEPP) and its networks. It further provides an insight into why investing in women as leaders is important, identifies drivers and barriers and examines the effects of women's leadership for advancing the rights and equality of other women. The research is based on a desk review of relevant literature and interviews with key informants from four of the DEPP operational countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

The full report is available at <https://start-network.app.box.com/s/zddg1ucegqw4h6famsmpps0tjvz5ytcu>.



## Event and Training Opportunities

### Africa-Arab Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (9-13 October 2018; Tunis, Tunisia)



The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), in collaboration with the League of Arab States and the African Union Commission and hosted by the government of Tunisia, will organize the Africa-Arab Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction. With the overall theme of “towards disaster risk informed and inclusive sustainable development”, the event will comprise of the 7th Africa Regional Platform and 6th High-Level Meeting and the 4th Arab Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The objectives of the Africa-Arab Regional Platform on DRR are to take stock of progress made in the implementation of the Sendai Framework and to reaffirm political commitment to achieving its implementation and thereby contribute to the realization of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The outcome of the two events will also form the basis of the two regions Common Positions at the 2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. The platform will also enable stakeholders and partners to foster cooperation across the regions towards disaster risk informed and inclusive sustainable development; while enabling them to share knowledge, experiences and best practices in advancing disaster risk reduction.

Further details on the Africa-Arab Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction will be made available on the event page at <https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2018/afpr-acdrr>.

### Understanding Risk Finance Pacific (16-19 October 2018; Port Vila, Vanuatu)



Pacific Island Countries (PICs) combine high exposure to frequent and damaging natural hazards with low capacity to manage the resulting risks. Vulnerability is exacerbated by poor socioeconomic development planning, which has increased exposure and disaster

losses, and by climate change, which is predicted to amplify the magnitude of cyclones, droughts, and flooding. Understanding Risk Finance Pacific (URf Pacific) is envisioned as the premier regional forum for PICs that brings together policy-makers, financial risk managers and development partners to strengthen regional collaboration on climate and disaster risk finance and insurance (DRFI). URf Pacific provides a forum to share lessons on communicating risk to technical and policy audiences, and offers learning opportunities across five core themes that are integral to financial resilience.

The main objectives of URf Pacific are to:

- Foster new opportunities for knowledge exchange across countries and regional risk pooling facilities to accelerate learning and capture best practices on DRFI in PICs;
- Increase awareness of national and regional initiatives to identify areas of collaboration and cross-support; and
- Offer technical training on DRF-related topics, and experiential learning to solve current challenges for decision makers in PICs.

Please visit <https://understandrisk.org/event/pacific2018/> for more information concerning URf Pacific.



## Positions and Grant Opportunities

### Wheat Research Consortium Developer: Consultancy – The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (Closing date: 31 July 2018)



The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) is currently seeking an innovative, self-motivated, and flexible professional to work on the Heat and Drought Wheat Improvement Consortium (HeDWIC). HeDWIC initiative will orchestrate genetic, physiological, and agronomic technologies to raise the productivity of wheat cultivated under heat and drought stress in environments worldwide, in full consideration of future climatic and socioeconomic factors.

Specific duties of the consultant include:

- Launch HeDWIC officially, bringing the attention of a broad range of stakeholders to the initiative.
- Organize workshop(s) to clearly define HeDWIC's modus operandi and expected contributions to stabilizing wheat production worldwide during the coming decades.
- Identify potential research outputs from the broader HeDWIC community –including participants at a previous international workshop – for incorporation into a translational pre-breeding hub at CIMMYT via sharing germplasm and technologies.
- Lead a funding campaign to extend and coordinate multidisciplinary research, involving key stakeholders worldwide, capitalizing on linked initiatives inside and outside the CG system.

Please visit <https://reliefweb.int/job/2606574/wheat-research-consortium-developer-consultancy> for further details on the post.

### Lead Country Engagement Consultant for East and Southern Africa – African Risk Capacity (Closing date: 31 August 2018)

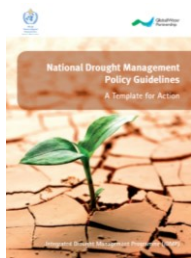


The African Risk Capacity (ARC) is a Specialized Agency of the African Union (AU) designed to improve current responses by AU Member States to drought-induced food security emergencies. As ARC prepares to scale up its activities and institutionalize the work of ARC Agency, it requires the services of a consultant to lead, coordinate and manage country engagement work for East and Southern Africa.

The consultant shall oversee the development and implementation of the strategy for the overall Country Engagement in East and Southern Africa. Specifically, he/she will make sure that the Country Engagement Managers who report to him/her have ensured successful in-country customisation of Africa RiskView, ARC's weather risk quantification software, and development of ARC contingency plans for countries in support of their applications for Certificates of Good Standing. The consultant will take the primary responsibility in helping countries understand ARC's risk transfer. The consultant will also support governments in integrating ARC and general risk management principles.

For more information regarding the responsibilities of the position and the application procedure, please visit <http://www.africanriskcapacity.org/job-vacancies-and-opportunities/>.





### 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/>