

Africa Asia

Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network



Special Topic

March 2016 Issue

Final Proposal of Global Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals



The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) was established by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 46th session to develop an indicator framework for the monitoring of the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development at the global level, and to support its implementation. In February 2016, IAEG-SDGs completed its technical work and produced a final report, proposing a set of 231 global indicators for measuring the 169 targets of the SDGs. All of the previously "grey" indicators, or those marked with an asterisk indicating that they are still under discussion, within the December 2015 version of the report, have been amended by the Group.

There are a number of SDG targets concerning drought particularly under Goal 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 11 (sustainable Cities and communities), 13 (Climate change) and 15 (Life on Land). The IAEG-SDGs report proposes to monitor and track the progress towards these goals and their respective targets through a wide range of indicators from diverse angles. They include, among others:

- Number of deaths, missing and persons affected by disaster (1.5.1, 11.5.1 and 13.1.2)
- Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP (1.5.2 & 11.5.2)
- Availability and implementation of national/local disaster risk reduction strategies (1.5.3, 11.b.1, 11.b.2, 13.1.1)
- Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture (2.4.1)
- Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (15.3.1)

The report will be considered at the UNSC's 47th session taking place on 8-11 March 2016 in New York, the USA. The outcome of the session will be reviewed further at the third meeting of the IADG-SDGs in Mexico in order to establish a baseline for the tracking of indicators and develop global reporting mechanisms.

The full IAEG-SDGs report is available for download at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/47th-session/documents/2016-2-IAEG-SDGs-E-Revised.pdf>.

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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).

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



Knowledge Resources and Networking Opportunities

World Risk Report 2015 / World Risk Index 2015

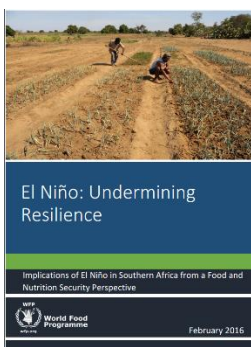


The WorldRiskReport is published annually by Alliance Development Works in collaboration with the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security. The WorldRiskReport tries to give the answers to a number of critical questions, which include, among others: In which connection are the disaster risk of a country and its social situation?; How big is the influence of its governance, the quality of public health system, the environmental situation and the educational level on its endangering through natural disasters? The core of the WorldRiskReport is the WorldRiskIndex, which calculates the risk for 171 countries of becoming victims of a disaster due to extreme natural events, such as drought.

The WorldRiskReport 2015 deals in particular with the relationship between disasters and food and nutrition security. Disasters due to extreme natural events such as earthquakes, droughts or hurricanes are not the only causes of hunger, but they are an important element in the fight against hunger. This is because a poorly nourished population is more vulnerable in the event of a force of nature than a well-nourished one. Therefore, a world without hunger will be and must be a world with fewer disasters. Meanwhile, the WorldRiskIndex 2015 identified the disaster risk hotspots in Central America, in the Southern Sahel, in Southeast Asia, and in Oceania – conspicuously often, countries with a high or very high risk are situated close to the equator. Looking at the table, it is noticeable that no less than six island nations are among the 15 countries with the highest risk worldwide – and the remaining nine are also situated next to the sea. This especially exposes them to sea-level rise, cyclones, and floods.

The full WorldRiskReport 2015 report, which includes detailed information on the WorldRiskIndex 2015, is available for download at http://www.worldriskreport.org/fileadmin/WRB/PDFs_und_Tabellen/WRR_2015_engl_online.pdf.

El Niño: Undermining Resilience



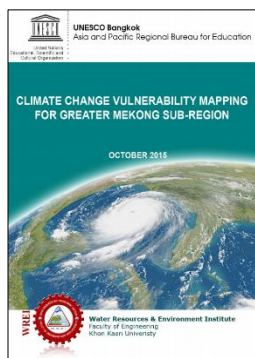
Intense El Niño-related conditions, coupled with multi-year drought have exacerbated an already-deteriorating food and nutrition security situation in many parts of Southern Africa, seriously undermining regional food system resilience. This document serves to outline El Niño's major implications on food and nutrition security in the southern Africa region and highlights immediate and long-term preparedness requirements. Further, it provides country profiles to give contextual national information for Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Southern Africa's unprecedented El Niño-related drought and weather-related stress has triggered a second shock-year of hunger and hardship for poor and vulnerable people with serious consequences that will persist until at least to the next harvest in 2017. Already an estimated 15.9 million people in southern Africa are highly food insecure, not including a growing number in South Africa, and more than 40 million rural and 9 million poor urban people are at risk due to the impacts of El Niño's related drought and erratic rainfall.

The full report is available at http://www.preventionweb.net/files/48042_wfpelninounderminingresilienceimpli.pdf.



Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping for Greater Mekong Sub-Region



It is well recognized that the impacts of climate change pose a serious threat to socio-economic, environment, and people's livelihoods, particularly those in developing countries where severe natural disasters like tropical cyclones, floods, droughts, landslides, and rising sea levels are common. *Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping for Greater Mekong Sub-Region* is a study of the UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, which identifies the areas that are the most vulnerable to climate change and climate-induced water problems in five Mekong countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. It used a framework developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which conceptualizes vulnerability to climate change by looking at the exposure to and sensitivity of a system to a climate hazard and the ability of the system to cope with, adapt to or recover from the effects of hazardous conditions.

The study finds that Mekong countries are adversely affected by major natural hazards, such as tropical cyclones, floods and droughts. The study also mapped adaptive capacity and areas that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which can be a useful tool for determining degrees of adaptation and mitigation responses at the provincial level. The findings of this study will be valuable for the five Mekong countries in ensuring sustainable adaptation to climate change.

The full report is available for download at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002435/243557E.pdf>.

Global Forum on Agricultural Research



The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) is the world's agricultural research for development community working together to transform and strengthen agri-food research and innovation systems. Agricultural research for development can help bring about a better future: a world without poverty, hunger or malnutrition, and where natural resources are used sustainably. Agricultural innovation system could empower farmers and rural communities and improve their capacities for reducing and managing climatic, biophysical and socio-economic risks, including drought. But to get research and innovation out of the laboratory and into the hands of farmers in the developing world, national agricultural systems need to be much more efficient and effective.

GFAR was established in 1996 to mobilize the global scientific community, and all those with a stake in agriculture and rural development, to work together to transform agri-food research and innovation systems through dialogue, and by building partnerships for action on critical issues. Today, GFAR provides a global platform, both online and face-to-face, for research and innovation, encompassing all sectors, and bringing together public, private and producer partnerships that consider entire food value chains and their many stakeholders.

Please visit <http://www.gfar.net/> for more information on GFAR and the services it provides, including the next Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development, i.e., GCARD3 (2015/16), which is scheduled to be held in South Africa on 5-8 April 2016. GCARD3 will be an opportunity for all stakeholders to come together to confirm our commitment to the new sustainable development agenda and to tackle some of the more topical issues emerging in agri-food research and innovation.



Gender and Water Alliance



East. GWA is a demand driven and autonomous organisation aiming at mainstreaming gender in integrated water management.

Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) is an open international network dedicated to mainstream gender in water resources management. It was established in 2000 and currently has more than 2100 members - including 638 organisations - from over 125 countries worldwide. More than eighty percent of the membership comes from a diversity of countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle

GWA's mission is to promote women's and men's equitable access to and control over safe and adequate water, for domestic supply, sanitation, food security and environmental sustainability. GWA brings out both water and gender aspects to ensure attention for those that are affected most by climate change: poor women and men in situations of more serious and more frequent floods and droughts. Being a network means that the whenever possible the members are included in the activities of GWA. They can be involved as trainers/trainees in capacity building programmes, can be asked to do action research on new topics, can be involved in writing fact-sheets, case-studies or publications, can be asked to represent GWA in (international) conferences and of course are asked to share their knowledge and findings with other members of the network.

For more information concerning GWA and its activities, please visit <http://genderandwater.org/en>.

Event and Training Opportunities

Danish Hydraulic Institute South Africa 2016 Annual Conference (18-19 April, 2016; Johannesburg, South Africa)



The Danish Hydraulic Institute (DHI) South Africa will be hosting a conference on 18-19 April 2016 with the focus on "Coping with Drought: Adaptions to Water Stress in the Face of Climate Change." Rapid regional economic development in the Southern African Development Community, coupled with high population growth rates, exacerbated by the impacts of climate change are placing our water resources under increased pressure and exposing more people and industry to potential water related hazards. Recent weather with low rainfall and high temperatures has resulted in major impacts to agriculture and water resources in several areas in southern Africa. If these patterns continue there is likely to be major economic, social and environmental impacts. Adapting to and managing these risks to effectively prevent considerable hardship and reduce economic losses, will contribute to the overall sustainable development of the region.

The emphasis of the conference will be on how different initiatives in the private and public sector could be used to improve management and reduce impacts relating to an extended period of low water availability. Several guest speakers from the water industry will contribute and present at the conference.

Further details on the conference is available at <http://worldwide.dhigroup.com/za/south-africa-annual-conference-2016>.



2016 World Day to Combat Desertification (17 June, 2016; Worldwide)



The World Day to Combat Desertification (WDCD) has been observed since 1995 to promote public awareness relating to international cooperation to combat desertification and the effects of drought. This year's WDCD, or the 2016 WDCD, with the slogan, "Protect Earth. Restore Land. Engage People", advocates for the importance of inclusive cooperation to restore and rehabilitate degraded land and contribute towards achieving the overall Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event will take place while the communities in many parts of the world are facing the droughts and floods linked to the occasion of ongoing El Niño. UNCCD is calling for solidarity from the international community with the people who are battling the ravages of drought and flood, urging to find long-term solutions, not just quick fixes, to disasters that are destroying communities.

The global observance event on 17 June 2016 will be held in Beijing, China, hosted by the State Forestry Administration of China. The 2016 WDCD will demonstrate how Land Degradation Neutrality can be a critical element for achieving other SDGs, especially for promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth. At the global observance, the host country will announce the "One Belt and One Road Joint Action to Combating Desertification Initiative" together with interested countries and stakeholders. Anyone who is celebrating the Day is encouraged to inform the UNCCD secretariat by email WDCD2016@unccd.int so that they can be shared and promoted through various media channels.

Further details on the 2016 WDCD, including the concept note and logo, are available at <http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Event-and-campaigns/WDCD/wdcd2016/Pages/default.aspx?HighlightID=434>.

Positions and Grant Opportunities

Programme Officer, Asia – UNCCD (Closing date: 5 March 2016)



United Nations Convention
to Combat Desertification

The objective of the UNCCD is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification around the world through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with Agenda 21, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas. The Programme Officer will contribute to the implementation of the work programme of the Regional Coordination Unit–Asia of the UNCCD secretariat, with particular reference to the outcomes.

Among other duties and responsibilities, the programme officers will provide assistance to affected country Parties of Asia in questions pertaining to National Action Programmes (NAPs), sub-regional action programmes and the regional action programme for Asia. He/she will also assist in assessing the feasibility of regional/sub-regional projects, and in the development, revision and implementation of NAPs in the Asia Region, as well as in planning, organization and provision of substantive and logistical services to workshops, seminars and expert groups meetings.

For more information concerning the position, please visit <http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/The-Secretariat/Vacancies-and-consultancies/Documents/VA%20Programme%20Officer%20-%20Asia,%20P-3.pdf>.



Agriculture and Natural Resource Adviser – Concern Worldwide (Closing date: 13 March 2016)



Concern Worldwide is an international humanitarian organization dedicated to tackling poverty and suffering in the world's poorest countries. Based in Dublin, Ireland, the Agriculture and Natural Resource Adviser will support effective programming to promote resilience and elimination of extreme poverty in disaster-prone, fragile contexts through the provision of technical and strategic support to country programmes on climate-smart agriculture and natural resource management and through the generation and sharing of evidence and learning within Concern and beyond. Among other duties, the advisor will be responsible for providing technical and strategic support on climate-smart agriculture and natural resource management to country teams to ensure programmes are designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated to ensure optimum impact on the extreme poor.

Besides other qualification requirements, he/she is required to have a strong understanding of how agriculture, livestock and natural resource management fits within the wider framework of promoting resilience and positive climate change adaptation, particularly in drought-prone contexts. Focal countries currently include Chad, Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Niger, CAR, Afghanistan & Pakistan (but are subject to change).

Please visit <https://jobs.concern.net/VacancyDetail.aspx?VacancyUID=000000002550> for further details on the position.

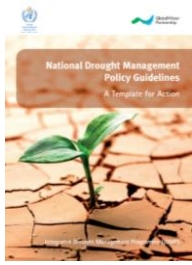
2016 SEED Awards – SEED (Closing date: 21 March 2016)



SEED supports the growth of small, medium and micro enterprises that deliver social, environmental and economic returns in developing countries or countries with emerging economies, so contributing to local sustainable development. The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual awards scheme designed to find the most promising, innovative and locally-led start-up social and environmental enterprises in countries with developing and emerging economies. The independent SEED International Jury of experts selects enterprises which have the potential to make real improvements in poverty eradication and environmental sustainability while contributing to a greener economy.

SEED has opened the Call for Applications for: 1) 2016 Switch Africa Green-SEED Awards (for social and environmental start-up enterprises in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa or Uganda); 2) SEED Africa Awards (for social and environmental start-up enterprises located in Malawi, Mozambique or Namibia); and 3) SEED Gender Equality Award (for a social and environmental enterprise run or owned by a woman or women in Kenya). No two enterprises are the same, either internally or as regards their operating environment. The SEED Catalyser offers each SEED Award Winner a customised support package consisting of tools, capacity building, profiling, network building, and financing, all tailored to their individual needs.

Please visit <https://www.seed.uno/awards/about.html> for more information concerning the SEED and the 2016 SEED Awards.



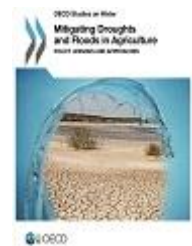
National Drought Management Policy Guidelines: A Template for Action (2014)

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/>
 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>