

# Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network



November 2013 Issue

## Special Topic

### ReliefWeb: Launch of Topic Pages



ReliefWeb has been the leading source for reliable and timely humanitarian information on global crises and disasters managed by the Timely Reliable Humanitarian Updates since 1996. This web-based information portal provide reliable disaster and crisis updates and analysis to humanitarian so they can make informed decisions and plan effective assistance. Resources offered by Reliefweb include reports such as analysis, appeals, assessments, situation reports, etc; maps such as situation snapshots and other infographics; and data such as assessment and financial data.

Recently, ReliefWeb set up a labs project that created Topics pages for disaster types. Starting with Floods, Droughts, Earthquakes and Storms, these first versions of the hazard type Topic pages will be most useful to humanitarian responders and researchers looking for analysis of responses to, lessons learned from and preparedness recommendations for humanitarian intervention in particular natural hazard types. The new hazard type Topics pages will include:

- Relevant and insightful content categorised by each hazard type from ReliefWeb's database of over 500,000 articles;
- Interactive maps with of natural disaster events that ReliefWeb covered in the past 12 months;
- Links to disaster monitoring tools from global monitoring organisations;
- Easy access to 'lessons learned' from humanitarian responses to particular hazard types, from across the globe; and
- Many more additional resources including disaster statistics, maps, infographics, videos, tweets and other multimedia content.

The pages are designed using ReliefWeb's simple information architecture philosophy. The latest reports displayed first with option to search through results to specifically find what you are looking for. These pages will help humanitarians stay informed in their particular area of expertise. They are also one of the first steps in our process of creating new ways to make disaster coverage more timely and relevant to your needs.

Please visit <http://reliefweb.int/topics/> for more information on ReliefWeb's Topic pages including drought Topic page.

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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

### Rangelands Governance Initiative / Land Portal



The Rangelands Governance Initiative is a multi-partner programme which facilitates collaborative learning and action in order to support local rangeland users to better secure access to, use and management of, and participation in decision making about, rangeland resources. Drought is one of the key challenges facing the world's rangeland regions, where the vulnerability of land and resource users is particularly high. The regions largely suffer from several cycles of drought, which often reduce the size of herds and destroy crops, accelerating migration from rural areas to urban centres. The Initiative is working with national and local governments, development agencies, NGOs

and CSOs, together with local communities to share experiences, processes, approaches and activities between East and Horn of Africa and beyond. In particular, the initiative aims to identify ways in which the security of customary land users over their common property resources (including land) can be strengthened.

The outputs of the initiative's learning efforts, including the quarterly bulletins, are circulated through the Land Portal (<http://landportal.info/topic/rangelands-tenure>), an easy access, easy-to-use platform to share land related information, to monitor trends, and identify information gaps to promote effective and sustainable land governance. The long-term objective for the Land Portal is to become the reference point on land related information on the internet. The Land Portal serves in the first instance to aggregate existing information sources from around the web as well as facilitate the posting of information that is currently not online. The coordinators of the Portal act as editors to display information in a way that makes it more digestible, through tagging and aggregating it according to country or topic, and summarizing and synthesizing.

Please visit <http://landportal.info/> for further details on the Land Portal and the Rangelands Governance Initiative.

### PreventionWeb Redesign Online Dialogue



PreventionWeb.net is a participatory web platform for the disaster risk reduction community. Its primary purpose is to facilitate an understanding of the subject of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and the work of professionals in this area, including drought, by providing current news and views on the topic, and tools for exchange and collaboration. The site has an established user base of over 70,000 visitors each month, viewing over 2.5 million pages per year. With over 25,000 content items published and more than 6000 DRR organization profiles, the site is considered to reflect the current state of the DRR domain.

Since September 2013, PreventionWeb has been in the process of its redesign to improve online service in four key areas: 1) understanding risk; 2) how to do DRR; 3) knowledge base; and 4) stakeholder services. The redesign of the site is a process that will evolve over a two-year period. Fundamental site components will be visually updated and some new social services will be added in 2013. The PreventionWeb management team welcomes any question, technical inputs or contribution of ideas to this redesigning process from the DRR community.

Those who are interested to participate in and contribute to the PreventionWeb 2.0 online dialogue are encouraged to visit <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/about/dialogue/>. For further details on PreventionWeb 2.0 process, please visit <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/about/>.

## World Development Report 2014: Risk and Opportunity – Managing Risk for Development



The path of economic development is paved with risks and opportunities. On the one hand, facing risk is a difficult challenge; on the other, the opportunity for growth and welfare improvement may never materialize without confronting and even taking risks. This is true for individuals, families, enterprises, and nations. The World Development Report (WDR) 2014 examines how improving risk management can lead to larger gains in development and poverty reduction. It will argue that improving risk management is crucial to reduce the negative impacts of shocks and hazards, including drought, but also to enable people to pursue new opportunities for growth and prosperity. Risk management is also a shared responsibility that requires the active participation of different economic and social systems, as well as the State.

The WDR 2014 is not devoted to a detailed analysis of specific risks. Its framework, however, can be implemented to address particular, relevant sets of risks in given regions and countries. Focusing on the process of risk management allows the WDR 2014 to consider the synergies, trade-offs, and priorities involved in addressing different risks in different contexts, with the single motivation of boosting development.

For more information on WDR2014, including the full report, please visit

<http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTNWDR2013/0,,contentMDK:23459971~pagePK:8261309~piPK:8258028~theSitePK:8258025,00.html>.

## Opportunity to Inform DFID Research Priorities for Early Warning Systems and Risk Assessments for Humanitarian Purposes



The UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) is carrying out a survey to inform its future research priorities for early warning systems and risk assessments for humanitarian purposes for weather-related hazards for low income countries in Africa, the Caribbean and South Asia. We would be most grateful if you could take 15 minutes to

take part in this survey. Taking part in the survey will not prevent you from applying to DFID for research funding. This survey is aimed at stakeholders (e.g. researchers, end users, decisions makers, practitioners) who are involved with early warning systems and risk assessments in these regions. Please click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your browser) to commence the survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFID\\_SHEAR\\_English](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFID_SHEAR_English) (in English); and

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFID\\_SHEAR\\_French](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DFID_SHEAR_French) (en français)

The survey will remain open until Friday 15th November 2013. For any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Darren Lumbruso at [d.lumbruso@hrwallingford.com](mailto:d.lumbruso@hrwallingford.com) and/or Jemima Rance at [j.rance@hrwallingford.com](mailto:j.rance@hrwallingford.com).

## Event and Training Opportunities

### Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Climate Symposium 2013: Regional Cooperation on Drought Prediction Science to Support Disaster Preparedness and Management (Jakarta, Indonesia; 11-13 November, 2013)



This international symposium will explore the importance of advance climate information for supporting drought preparedness and disaster management. This event will be the first of its kind to specifically examine drought in the Asia-Pacific region. Over three days, the event will examine topics such as the latest innovative techniques in drought and seasonal climate prediction, the development of early warning systems, drought response and risk management planning, regional cooperation on drought response, and information transfer and communication networks.

The capacities of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies to predict drought and future climate events vary greatly across the region. As part of the project activities, a structured training exercise will be conducted to educate participants from developing economies on computing and using various drought indices along with spatial modelling techniques to quantify and assess drought vulnerability in their economy. This training exercise will enhance the ability of these participants to create evidence-based strategies to develop drought resilience. The APEC Climate Center will draw upon its expertise in conducting regional capacity building workshops to lead this training exercise.

Further details on the symposium are available at

[http://www.apcc21.org/eng/common/file\\_dn.jsp?fileName=APEC%20Climate%20Symposium%202013\\_First%20Announcement.pdf&fileSubPath=/attach/act/sym/cur&fileServerName=1371009689174.pdf](http://www.apcc21.org/eng/common/file_dn.jsp?fileName=APEC%20Climate%20Symposium%202013_First%20Announcement.pdf&fileSubPath=/attach/act/sym/cur&fileServerName=1371009689174.pdf).

### Training Workshop on Application of Remote Sensing Data for Drought Monitoring – Introduction to EUMETSAT LANDSAF (Kranj, Slovenia; 11-15 November, 2013)



Building Resilience to Disasters in Western Balkans and Turkey Project has been approved by the European Commission Directorate General for Enlargement for joint implementation by UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The overall objective of the project is to reduce vulnerability of the target countries to

disasters caused by natural hazards in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action and increase their resilience to climate change. A training workshop on application of remote sensing data for drought monitoring will be organized jointly by WMO and the Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe in Brdo Congress Centre 11 and 15 November with emphasis on EUMETSAT's Land Surface Analysis Satellite Applications Facility products.

The aim of the workshop is to improve the knowledge and capacities in the field of drought monitoring. According to the answers received to the previous surveys, the application of the remote sensing is among the most interesting drought monitoring related topics. Lecturers from Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics Portugal and Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium will assist in training sessions. The direct beneficiaries are the national authorities in charge for the



disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management and the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey. However, the workshop is not limited to the project beneficiary countries and there is no registration fee.

For more information on the workshop, Please visit

[http://www.dmcsee.org/en/news/70/workshop\\_on\\_drought\\_and\\_remote\\_sensing\\_11\\_15\\_nov\\_2013\\_slovenia.html](http://www.dmcsee.org/en/news/70/workshop_on_drought_and_remote_sensing_11_15_nov_2013_slovenia.html)

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## Employment and Grant Opportunities

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### Regional Food Security Specialist-Livelihoods for Famine Early Warning Systems Network - Chemonics International Inc. (Closing date: 15 November, 2013)



Chemonics International Inc., a leading international consulting firm based in Washington, D.C., seeks experienced professionals for USAID's Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET III), the world's premier provider of high quality food security analysis and early warning. Created in response to the 1984 famines in East and West Africa, this \$200 million, five-year activity (2012-2016)

aims to collaborate with international, regional, and national partners to provide timely and rigorous early warning and analysis of potential, emerging, and/or evolving food security issues in order to inform appropriate humanitarian response. The project currently covers 31 countries with plans to expand over the next three years.

FEWS NET food security analyses, early warning of threats to food security, and food assistance decision-support depend on the understanding of livelihoods and household economies. The Regional Food Security Specialist-Livelihoods (RFSS/L) will work with the Regional Technical Manager, the regional team, the country teams in the region, and partners to design, execute, and coordinate regional activities in livelihoods and Household Economy Approach. The RFSS/L will contribute to providing high-quality and effective early warning of threats to food security and support efforts to mitigate food insecurity and prevent food crises through the provision of actionable food security analysis. The RFSS/L will support the preparation of regional decision-support products, provide technical assistance and guidance to country teams, and strengthening capacity to conduct relevant livelihoods analysis both inside and outside FEWS NET. This is a regional position that will be based in one of the FEWS NET country offices in East Africa.

Please visit <http://www.chemonics.com/OurJobs/JoinOurTeam/Pages/Regional-Food-Security-Specialist-Markets-Trade-FEWS-NET-2012.aspx> for more information on the position and the application procedure.

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### Disaster Recovery Specialist – Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (Closing date: 15 November, 2013)



The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), established in 1986, is a regional non-profit foundation with headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand supporting the advancement of safer communities and sustainable development, through implementing programs for public benefit

that reduce the impact of disasters upon countries and communities in Asia and the Pacific. The Recovery Specialist will be a staff member of ADPC's Disaster Risk Management Systems (DRMS) department and will work under the direct supervision of the Head, DRMS, and in close collaboration with the other ADPC Departments. The Recovery Specialist must have relevant skills, experience, and expertise to ensure high-quality outputs, in-line with the project implementation structures and reporting requirements. He/she will have a key role in the implementation of the ADPC Strategy2020; specifically, for improved Damage Loss Needs Assessment, Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Institutional strengthening for disaster recovery planning as well as post disaster reconstruction planning

In addition to technical role in specific project activities, the Recovery Specialist will undertake activities to enhance ADPC's internal technical capacities and strengthen its position and international recognition as a leading knowledge hub for post-disaster reconstruction and recovery, both for large and small scale disasters.

Further details on the position including the application procedures are available at <http://www.adpc.net/iex/v2/HR/Documents/Jobs/2013/TOR-Recovery%20Specialist.pdf>.

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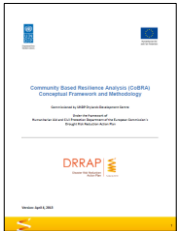
## **Consultant for Mid-Term Review of Building Drought Resilience Project, Kenya and Uganda – International Union for Conservation of Nature (Closing date: 22 November, 2013)**



The International Union for Conservation of Nature's Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office has been implementing a 3-year (2012-2014) Austrian Aid funded project entitled Building Drought Resilience through Land and Water Management in Kenya (Lower Tana sub-catchment) and Uganda (the Upper Aswa-Agago sub-catchment). Communities living in arid and semi-arid areas of East Africa face multiple challenges including recurrent droughts that hinder development and livelihood strategies. The overall objective of the project is to improve resilience of dryland communities within a river catchment to the impacts of increasingly severe and frequent drought, through strengthened ecosystem management and adaptive capacity.

The aim of the mid-term review is to assess the progress, performance, achievements and lessons learnt to date and to use these to ensure that the project is adjusted as and where necessary in order for it to have had maximum impact by the end of its lifespan. Interested individuals/organisations are requested to submit their application clearly demonstrating their suitable skills and experience for the review process, including the review timing and schedule. The consultant should also propose a brief methodology to be used to carry out the review in their application, the methodology adopted should update the preliminary issues and questions outlined within the ToRs, specifying the specific review issues, questions, methods of data collection and analysis that will be undertaken. It should encompass a combination of both qualitative and quantitative methods. It should also allow for wide consultation with all interested partners and stakeholders.

Please visit [http://hrms.iucn.org/iresy/index.cfm?event=vac.offline.download&offline\\_vacancy\\_id=123](http://hrms.iucn.org/iresy/index.cfm?event=vac.offline.download&offline_vacancy_id=123) for further details on the position.



### 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>