



November 2016 Issue

## Special Topic

### COP 22 in Marrakech: The COP of Action



The 22nd Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP22) is being held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 7-18 November 2016. COP22 takes over the reins from COP21 during which important progress was made. It will focus on action items in order to achieve the priorities of The Paris Agreement, especially related to adaptation, transparency, technology transfer, mitigation, capacity building and loss and damages.

The Agreement not only sets ambitious aims to curb greenhouse gas emissions to keep global warming well below 2°C, it also commits countries to strengthen adaptation. Respective countries are encouraged to commit in a strong way to sectors related to the green economy, as well as the blue economy, in order to take advantage of associated growth and job opportunities. This means preserving the sustainability of the countries' development models and improving the access to, conditions of use and development of green technologies.

Certain countries are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as Small Island Developing States, low-lying coastal areas, arid or semi-arid zones and developing countries with fragile mountainous ecosystems. These areas are subject to extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and desertification, etc. At the opening press conference on 6 November, COP22 President Salaheddine Mezouar stressed, "We're changing the paradigm towards a low-carbon global economy that needs key climate finance flows to the most vulnerable countries."

Please visit the Official Website at <http://cop22.ma/en> for further details on the COP22. International Institute for Sustainable Development's (IISD) Reporting Services also provides daily updates on the event at <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/cop22/>.

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## About AADP

[Africa-Asia Drought Risk Peer Assistance Network \(AADP\)](#) is a network established by the [UNDP Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification \(GC-RED\)](#) 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

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### Index for Risk Management (INFORM) 2017



Launched in November 2014 through an inter-agency partnership, the Index for Risk Management (INFORM) is a methodology for risk-assessment which can support decisions about crisis and disaster prevention, preparedness and response. The index combines approximately fifty indicators to measure hazard exposure, vulnerability, and capacity in each country, and details how these indicators have changed over time. The results of INFORM are a series of user-friendly risk profiles for 191 countries, which are open and available in many formats.

INFORM has recently released the results of its 2017 Global Risk Index at <http://www.inform-index.org/Results/Global>. The INFORM 2017 Excel sheet contains all the source data and the calculation steps for functional levels, categories and dimensions. Results can also be consulted online, as country profiles, or as GIS data. INFORM Trend 2013-2017 compares INFORM results and show how risk has changed globally over the last five years. Later in 2016, INFORM will release its Annual Report with further analysis. The results are released in advance so that they can be used to support annual planning processes.

Please visit <http://www.inform-index.org/> for more information regarding the INFORM initiative and its resources.

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### Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS)



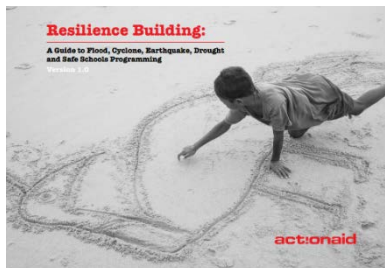
Every year, disasters caused by weather, water and climate extremes – such as tropical cyclone and severe storms, floods, heat waves and droughts – lead to significant losses of life and socioeconomic impacts. The objective of the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative is to significantly increase the capacity for seamless Multi-Hazard Early Warning System. These systems effectively generate and communicate impact-based early warnings, delivering risk information for hazardous hydro-meteorological and climate events. They protect lives, livelihoods, and property in more than 50 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The CREWS initiative takes a result-based approach. By 2020, all relevant SIDS and LDCs are expected to have at least moderate early warning system and risk information capacities. CREWS aims to mobilize US\$ 100 million by 2020 in order to fill the gaps in the existing bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs. A trust fund hosted by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) will support the development of implementing institutions and organizations and their activities.

More information on the CREWS initiative is available at <https://www.gfdrr.org/crews-climate-risk-early-warning-systems> and [http://www.unisdr.org/files/45967\\_crewspresentation.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/files/45967_crewspresentation.pdf) (A guide to the CREWS initiative).



## Resilience Building: A Guide to Flood, Cyclone, Earthquake, Drought and Safe Schools Programming

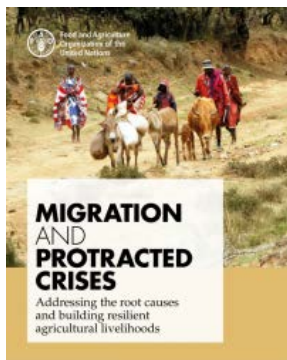


Disasters, climate change impacts and conflicts affect millions of people every year. As people's vulnerability and exposure to disasters increases, a greater number of people than before are getting affected by disasters like floods, droughts, cyclones and earthquakes. This guidance document is meant to support practitioners working in disaster prone contexts to develop and implement more effective integrated resilience programming.

The document promotes programming that cuts across different fields of work like rights awareness, food security, emergency preparedness, livelihoods, education, health etc., whilst at the same time encouraging us to work simultaneously at the individual, household, community and national level. It includes specific recommendations for developing resilience programming for communities prone to floods, cyclone, drought and earthquakes. It also includes recommendations to develop safe school programming to help reduce the impact of disasters on school infrastructure, ensure education continuity and build the resilience of students, teachers and their families.

The full document is available for download at <http://www.actionaid.org/publications/resilience-building-guide-flood-cyclone-earthquake-drought-and-safe-schools-programming>.

## Migration and Protracted Crises: Addressing the Root Causes and Building Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods



This booklet, developed by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United States (FAO), sheds light on the role that resilient agriculture livelihoods can play in addressing some of the root causes of migration in protracted crises and assisting displaced populations and host communities to cope with protracted displacement. Environmental and natural resource factors including drought, water scarcity, and climate change, are considered to be one the three main causes contribute to migration and displacement in protracted crises. Between 2008 and 2014, a total of 184 million people worldwide were displaced by natural disasters alone.

People with resilient livelihoods are better able to prevent, mitigate and adapt to the impacts of conflict, crises and natural

disasters on their lives, as well as to participate in markets, invest, innovate, create jobs, etc., even in highly challenging environments. The publication presents the following recommendations to strengthen the resilience of migrants, displaced persons and host communities:

- Adopt inclusive early warning systems and community-based risk assessments;
- Build local capacities and facilitate policy dialogue to integrate migration concerns into adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies; and
- Provide technical support and, whenever possible, strengthen national capacities.

The full document is available for download at <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6101e.pdf>.



## Event and Training Opportunities

### 2016 Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience (9-10 November 2016; Nairobi, Kenya)



The sustainable development goals (SDGs) aim to address the root causes of poverty, and underline the universal need for an inclusive and resilient development. Investing in gender equality and women's empowerment in policies and programmes are pre-requisites for effective delivery of the SDGs. Despite recent positive economic trends, many countries in the African continent, particularly the Horn of Africa (HoA), are characterized by multiple and interlinked resilience challenges, notably conflicts and climatic variations, resulting in social and economic drought, and forcing livelihoods to organize in a context of scarcity, scant resources and high degree of uncertainty.

In light of this, UN Women in collaboration with key partners will host a Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience with the theme of 'Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women'. The sharing and learning event will provide opportunity to further explore the role of women in building and strengthening resilience and promote dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience-related programmes and policies within and outside the HoA region to accelerate development and humanitarian response and the overall achievement of the SDGs.

For more information concerning the 2016 Regional Sharefair, please visit

<https://www.empowerwomen.org/en/community/events-opportunities/2016/07/sharefair-2016>.

### 1st International River Summit (24-26 November 2016; Allahabad, India)



Nature is controlled by God but men tries to alter it according to their needs. Rivers are fed by basins-contributed by surface and Ground water. Management at basin level is essential to save, conserve and sustain the river flows. Biodiversity Conservation is necessary to maintain the Healthy Basins and Environmental Flows. This conference, organized by the River Water User Association (India), will convene under the theme, 'Global Threat to Water Security and Biodiversity'.

Focusing on five themes, namely: 1) water demand and storage potential in river basins; 2) climate change impacts on hydrology, water resources and agriculture; 3) threats to world's rivers, lakes, wetlands and freshwater systems; 4) sustainable watershed planning for regeneration of river flows; and 5) river biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability and restoration, the conference will:

- Discuss strategies and provide solutions for water management and conservation, drought and flood mitigation crops production in changing climate;
- Suggest solutions to improve urban and rural water quality and river flow;
- Search for watershed, microclimate management and food security solutions for better economic growth; and
- Provide restoration framework and strategies for ecosystem revival and biodiversity conservation.

Please visit <http://iribaf.org/Internationalriversummit2016/> for more information regarding the 1st International River Summit.





## Positions and Grant Opportunities

### Information Management Specialist (Nutrition) – UNICEF (Closing date: 15 November 2016)



The 2015-16 El Niño phenomenon has resulted in the worst drought in 35 years, in much of Southern Africa. This has had a catastrophic effect on the food security of millions of people across the region. In spite of country level and regional inter-agency efforts to ensure that the nutrition component of vulnerability assessment and analysis (VAA) process and outputs is strengthened, there is still room for improvement for a better reflection of the nutrition situation of young children and mothers in national and regional VAA outputs and beyond.

Under the supervision of the Regional Nutrition Advisor, the incumbent will provide technical assistance and oversight to support country offices on Nutrition Information (systems) during the El Nino/La Nina related emergencies and enhance support to the development and documentation of country case on the nutrition information systems. He/she will provide technical assistance to formulate, design, plan, implement, monitor and evaluate integrated Nutrition information, as well as to strengthen Nutrition information management in priority countries in Southern Africa aligned with the Core Commitments for Children and in liaison with the nutrition cluster coordination mechanisms where they exist.

Please visit <http://jobs.unicef.org/cw/en-us/job/498944/ta-information-management-specialist-nutrition-p3-364-days-unicef-esarojohannesburg-readvertisement> for further details on the post as well as the application procedure.

### Consultancy on the Assessment of the UNCCD Science-Policy Interface – UNCCD (Closing date: 20 November 2016)

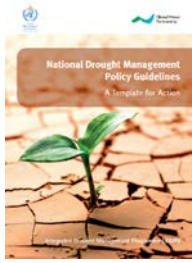


In 2013, the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD decided to establish a Science–Policy Interface (SPI) to facilitate a two-way science–policy dialogue and ensure the delivery of policy-relevant information, knowledge and advice on desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD). The SPI is assigned numerous tasks that deal with identifying scientific knowledge needs, acquiring and analyzing scientific findings and other science related information concerning DLDD, and “translating”

this information for policy use, particularly for decision-making under the UNCCD.

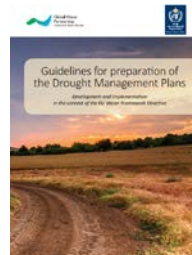
This assessment will look at the work conducted by the SPI during the biennium 2016–2017 and its overall achievements since its establishment. It will identify and document lessons learned and make recommendations for the future. The information provided through the assessment is intended to assist the UNCCD Parties in their considerations and decision-making on the future functioning of the SPI. The findings and conclusions that will be generated will be of interest and use for the UNCCD’s Committee on Science and Technology, its Bureau and the SPI members, various stakeholders involved in the UNCCD process, as well as the UNCCD secretariat.

For more information on the position, please visit <http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/The-Secretariat/Vacancies-and-consultancies/Documents/53%20TOR%20SPI%20assessment.pdf>.



### 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>