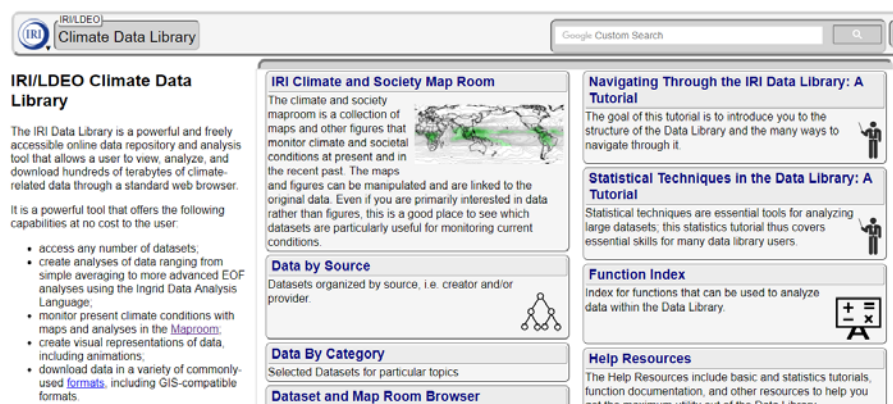


Africa Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Network

November 2017 Issue

Special Topic

IRI/LDEO Climate Data Library



The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society's (IRI) has been offering the web-based Climate Data Library. It is a powerful and freely accessible online data repository and analysis tool that allows a user to view, analyze, and download hundreds of terabytes of climate-related data through a standard web browser.

IRI/LDEO Climate Data Library contains over 300 datasets from a variety of earth science disciplines and climate-related topics. Users can access and download datasets in a variety of formats, including GIS-compatible formats, or monitor present climate conditions with maps and analyses, including drought. The library is searchable by data category, source, or by keyword. Tools are provided which permit analysis of datasets and creation of visual representations of data, including animations.

Climate and Society Maproom is one of the services provided by the Library. It is a collection of maps and other figures that monitor climate and societal conditions, such as drought/flood and related malaria, at present and in the recent past in different regions. The Maproom tools have recently been applied at sub-regional and national levels. For example, the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre's (ICPAC) Maproom aims to better inform decision makers across sectors of drought risk analysis, monitoring and prediction.

More information on IRI/LDEO Climate Data Library is available at <http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/index.html?Set-Language=en>.

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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 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

Climatelinks



A Global Knowledge Portal for Climate Change & Development Practitioners

Climatelinks is a global knowledge portal for USAID staff, implementing partners, and the broader community working at the intersection of climate change and international development. The portal curates and archives technical guidance and knowledge related to USAID's work to help countries mitigate and adapt to climate change and variability including drought. The

portal aims to improve climate change and development programming, amplifying the impact of USAID's investments into the future, with the hope that Climatelinks becomes a place for development practitioners to help identify and refine practices, and to inform USAID's technical direction in areas of information gaps.

Climatelinks is divided into five main sections. The "What We Do" section explains the projects and actions USAID is involved in related to climate change and development. The "Where We Work" tab allows users to see where USAID is actively working on each of these subjects. The "Learning" tab describes the events, trainings, and monitoring efforts USAID is involved in. The "Resources" section allows users to search a library of USAID publications, project profiles, fact sheets, webinars, and reports. This section also provides access to a number of USAID tools aimed at mitigation and adaptation including tools on financing and decision making. Finally, the "Blog" section features news summaries and highlights of the major international climate stories.

Please visit <https://www.climatelinks.org/> for more information on Climatelinks and its recourses.

IRI/LDEO Climate Data Library



The Best Climate Practices (BCP) is the project of the Initiative on Climate Change policy and Governance (ICCG), with the objective of giving a complete overview of concrete actions for dealing with climate change, while stressing the wide range of possibilities that,

if implemented by politics, economics, institutions, enterprises and researchers, could make a decisive difference. The aim of the project is 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.

In the effort to harness the collective brilliance and promote a wide range of valuable proposals, the project organizes BCP contest every year and invites the users to submit innovative best practices to tackle climate change or to face a related challenge. The focus of BCP 2017 contest is "Building local resilience to climate disaster risk". In the face of various climate-induced extreme events such as floods and drought, 2017 Best Climate Practices Contest aims to award and promote actionable ideas and concrete projects designed to support urban and/or rural communities in preparing and responding to climate disasters, improving local resilience through enhanced preparedness and/or recovery capacity.

Further details on BCP is available at <http://www.bestclimatepractices.org/>. Please also visit <http://www.bestclimatepractices.org/contest/> concerning the BCP contest and details on the practices in competition.



WMO Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2017: Provisional Release



The recently released provisional version of the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2017 states that 2017 is very likely to be one of the three warmest years on record. The five-year average 2013-2017 global average temperature is currently close to 1°C above the average for 1880-1900 and is likely to be the highest five-year average on record. The overall risk of heat-related illness or death has climbed steadily since 1980, with around 30% of the world's population now living in climatic conditions with extreme hot temperatures persisting several days a year. Between 2000 and 2016, the number of vulnerable people exposed to heatwave events has increased by approximately 125 million.

The report indicates that there were many significant high-impact weather and climate events in 2017, including a very active North Atlantic hurricane season, major monsoon floods in the Indian subcontinent, and continuing severe drought in parts of East Africa.

Following well-below-average rainfall in 2016, the 2017 "long rains" season (March to May) was also dry in many parts of Somalia, the northern half of Kenya, and South-eastern Ethiopia. Among other countries, massive internal displacement in context of drought and food insecurity continues particularly across Somalia. From November 2016 to mid-June 2017, nearly 761,000 drought-related internal displacements were recorded.

Please visit <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/wmo-statement-state-global-climate-2017-provisional-release> to view the full report.

Water Scarcity: A Growing Risk to Global Sociopolitical Stability



Water scarcity, caused by various causes including, among others, high demand, pollution, urbanization to intermittent and climatic drought, is a growing risk for businesses around the globe requiring local solutions that focus on water stewardship and management. Among the risks that businesses face are increased costs, supply chain and business interruptions, relocation and closure, political risk, tougher regulations and legal challenges. Many businesses have recognized the potential exposures and are now starting to disclose the financial impact of water risks to investors.

This publication was published by Zurich Insurance Group Ltd., outlining the risks associated with water scarcity and advising on how to mitigate those or adapt to them. 71% of the global population (or 4.3 billion people) live under conditions of moderate to severe water scarcity for at least one month of the year. It assesses the problem of water scarcity as a risk multiplier, describes its impact on food production and its influence on conflict particularly following periods of drought, and describes the implications and strategies for water management.

The full report is available for download at https://www.zurich.com/_/media/dbe/corporate/knowledge/docs/global-risks-2017-water-scarcity-risk-scenario.pdf?la=en&hash=93E645859747697F6A452486480A60EFCE28F56F.



Event and Training Opportunities

DRR4NAP: Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into National Adaptation Planning (27-28 November 2017; Bonn, Germany)



Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is essential to building a sustainable and resilient world. Over the past decade, investments to reduce risk of disasters, including drought, cyclone, flood, heat wave and storm surge, have led to a decrease in disaster-related fatalities. Climate change and disaster risks are inter-twined in many ways, and the question of co-ordination, integration and synergies between DRR and climate change

adaptation (CCA) has been at the forefront of many international discussions in the recent years. The national adaptation plan (NAP) process was established under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF) as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs.

DRR4NAP is an expert meeting which will be organized by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to review the current global status of the development of NAPs and National Risk Reduction Strategies. The meeting also aims at developing a strategy to support, over the 2018-2019 biennium, countries seeking coherence between national and local DRR strategies and plans and climate change NAPs.

For more information concerning DRR4NAP, please visit <https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/55715>.

2018 Borlaug Global Rust Initiative Workshop (14-17 April 2018; Marrakesh, Morocco)



The work of wheat researchers is more important than ever in managing the biotic and abiotic stresses that threaten wheat production, and in improving livelihoods and food security for smallholder wheat farmers. In an ever-populous world, wheat farmers around the world are threatened by drought, the effects of climate change, outbreaks of new races of yellow and stem rust, septoria and, most recently, wheat blast.

The Borlaug Global Rust Initiative's (BGRIT) 2018 Technical Workshop will focus on wheat scientists' efforts to secure the world's wheat crop and manage disease vulnerability. It is an opportunity for the wheat community to exchange research results, network about opportunities to collaborate, and learn more about challenges facing wheat scientists and farmers. In addition to three days of cutting-edge presentations and plenary sessions, workshop participants will spend half a day touring the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas's (ICARDA) Tassout Research Station, where critical work by the ICARDA wheat team is being conducted regarding breeding and selecting for drought-tolerant wheat.

More information on the 2018 BGRIT Technical Workshop is available at <http://www.cvent.com/events/2018-bgrit-workshop/event-summary-a5da2cc6ebfe4ed7950df846444fac31.aspx>.



Positions and Grant Opportunities

GIS and Data Specialist – African Risk Capacity (Closing date: 13 November 2017)



African Risk Capacity (ARC) is a Specialised Agency of the African Union that provides financial tools and infrastructure to help countries manage natural disaster risk and adapt to climate change. ARC is a specialist hybrid mutual insurance company and Africa's first ever disaster insurance pool, aggregating risk by issuing insurance policies to participating governments and transferring it to the international market. It uses the satellite weather surveillance software Africa RiskView, to estimate the impact of drought on

vulnerable populations – and the response costs required to assist them – before a season begins, and as it progresses, so that index-based insurance payouts, based on Africa RiskView, are triggered at or before harvest time if the rains are poor.

One of the core elements of the ARC Agency's technical programme is to expand the insurance to flood, tropical cyclone and outbreak and epidemic risk. Within this context the GIS & Data Specialist will assist in the validation of the ARC River Flood Model, which will be used to underpin the new river flood insurance product. In addition, he/she will provide GIS and risk analysis support to other projects where required, including to ARC's flagship drought insurance product.

Please visit <http://www.africanriskcapacity.org/job-vacancies-and-opportunities/> for further details on the post.

Consultancy Service for the Review of IGAD DRM Strategy Document to Develop an Integrated DRM and CCA Framework – IGAD (Closing date: 17 November 2017)

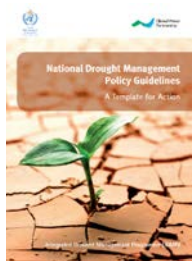


The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is mandated to promote regional cooperation, development and drought control of Member States in East Africa, covering a population of around 250 million inhabitants. The *Building Resilience through Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation* Project is financed by the World Bank, with the aim to strengthen the resilience of IGAD's sub-region and its Member States, and communities to the impacts of natural disasters, including recurrent extreme weather crisis and potential long-term impacts of climate change.

As part of the project, this consultancy assignment is expected to:

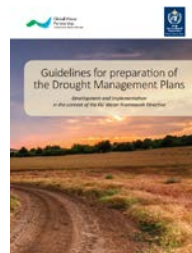
- Review and update the IGAD disaster risk management (DRM) strategy in line with the prevailing international and regional DRM/DRR frameworks;
- Integrate DRM and CCA/mitigation approaches to guide both IGAD and the member states in their sustainable development efforts; and
- Elaborate a conducive institutional and structural set-up within IGAD for more effective implementation of the updated DRM/DRR strategy.

For more information concerning the position, please visit <https://www.igad.int/tenders/1681-consultancy-service-for-the-review-of-igad-drm-strategy-document-to-develop-an-integrated-disaster-risk-management-and-climate-change-adaptation-framework-individual-consultancy-assignment>.



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/>