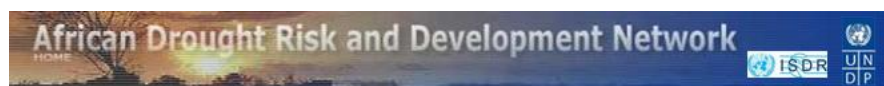




October 2011 Issue

## Special Topic

### Fourth Africa Drought Adaptation Forum



The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction's (UN-ISDR) Regional Office for Africa and the UNDP Drylands Development Centre (DDC) are jointly organizing the Fourth Africa Drought Adaptation Forum (ADAF4) in Nairobi, Kenya, on October 13-14, 2011, with the support of the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection and the Government of Japan, under the framework of the African Drought Risk and Development Network (ADDN).

AADP was established in 2005 jointly by the UN-ISDR and the UNDP-DDC in line with the Hyogo Framework of Action. It aims to mitigate the risks of drought and improve human livelihoods in Africa by creating an enabling environment for knowledge sharing and facilitating the up-scaling of proven practices among drought-prone countries. Three forums were convened from 2005 to 2008. Each forum stimulated cross-border flow of information, knowledge and technical how-how by drought practitioners and experts working in both Anglophone and Francophone Africa on how to adapt to the growing threat of drought, climate change and food insecurity in the continent.

Building on these previous fora and in view of recent discussions related in particular to the ongoing drought crisis in the Horn of the Africa (HoA), ADAF4 aims to:

- 1) Identify the key barriers and constraints to the promotion of sustainable drought risk management (DRM) generally and specifically in context of the ongoing drought crisis in the HoA;
- 2) Map out the practical solutions to overcome the barriers and constraints identified, through the sharing of experiences and lessons learnt within and outside the HoA; and
- 3) Strengthen partnerships and cooperation among DRM practitioners in the implementation of the identified solutions and continued peer assistance.

For more information on the ADAF4, please contact Rhea Katsanakis at [rhea.katsanakis@unep.org](mailto:rhea.katsanakis@unep.org) or Yuko Kurauchi at [yuko.kurauchi@undp.org](mailto:yuko.kurauchi@undp.org).

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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 \(ADDN\)](http://www.undp.org/drylands/aadp.html).

The project is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by the UNDP Drylands Development Centre.

For more information, please visit <http://www.undp.org/drylands/aadp.html>.

## Resources and Networking Opportunities

### Sino-African High Level Seminar on Drought Risk Reduction



Ministry of Civil Affairs  
People's Republic of China

The Action Plan 2010-2012 of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation for 2010-2012 held in Egypt in November 2009 emphasized the importance of knowledge sharing and technology transfer in the areas of disaster risk reduction, especially in drought risk reduction (DRR). The Sino-African Seminar on Drought Risk Reduction was held in Beijing, China, on September 25-27, 2011, with the support of the UN-ISDR Secretariat, to identify priority areas and ways for Sino-African cooperation and collaboration in DRR.

The Seminar was attended by 40 delegates including government officials, scientists and experts from regional and sub-regional climate institutions, NGO representatives and the UN agencies. It provided the participants with a forum to share views, information, scientific approaches and practical methods for building drought resilience, especially in drought monitoring, early warning, and management of agricultural drought. The Secretariat of the AADP was invited to the seminar and given an opportunity present its experiences and lessons learnt from the ADDN and AADP, including the results of the recent stocktaking exercise, which was participated by over 400 individuals working on different aspects of DRR issues in Africa and Asia, to ensure that the needs and interests of the DRR practitioners on the ground are adequately integrated into the Action Points.

For further information on the seminar, please visit <http://www.unisdr.org/archive/22316> and [http://www.unisdr.org/files/22087\\_microsoftwordrevisedagendaofsinoaf.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/files/22087_microsoftwordrevisedagendaofsinoaf.pdf).

### Heads of State Summit on the Horn of Africa Crisis: Ending Drought Emergencies – A Commitment to Sustainable Solutions



The Government of Kenya in conjunction with the United Nations, the World Bank and the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) convened a Summit of Heads of State and Government of the HOA in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 8-9, 2011, to deliberate on the recurrent cycle of drought and famine that has continued to ravage the region with a view to exploring possible solutions to the problem. The summit was attended by Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, the African Union, IGAD, United Nations and other development partners. Under the theme, “Ending Drought Emergencies: The commitment to sustainable solutions”, the summit discussed the immediate,

and mid to long term measures to respond to the needs of the people affected by drought and measures to mitigate negative effects of climate change aspects of the current crisis in the HOA.

At the end of the summit, the Nairobi Declaration was adopted which, among other commitments, undertook to enhance the provision of timely and actionable early warning information to all actors by strengthening the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre. In addition, there will be launches of regional projects to address the underlying causes of vulnerability in drought-prone areas, with emphasis on pastoralists and agro-pastoralists to

promote disaster risk reduction, ecosystem rehabilitation and sustainable livelihood practices. The joint declaration is available for download at [http://www.waltainfo.com/resource/Nairobi\\_Declaration\\_091411.pdf](http://www.waltainfo.com/resource/Nairobi_Declaration_091411.pdf).

For further information on the summit, please visit

[http://www.mfa.go.ke/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=381:horn-of-africa-summit-calls-for-sustainable-solutions-to-drought-crisis-in-the-region&catid=35:news](http://www.mfa.go.ke/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=381:horn-of-africa-summit-calls-for-sustainable-solutions-to-drought-crisis-in-the-region&catid=35:news).

## International Center for Drought Risk Reduction



International Center for Drought Risk Reduction (ICDRR) was established in Beijing, China, in April, 2007, by the China National Committee for Disaster Reduction under the auspices of the UN-ISDR to reduce the increased negative impacts of drought disasters at national, regional and international levels. ICDRR aims to promote inter-national and inter-regional

cooperation in drought risk reduction, using space technology and other means to monitor and assess drought risks across Asia, in partnership with the relevant international and regional organizations. The center also focus on building and strengthening databases and a knowledge pool, developing applied technology and enhancing capacity building and public awareness on drought risks and ways to reduce drought risks.

The center's drought risk reduction cooperation has also been extended to other regions. In response to the ongoing drought in the Horn of Africa region in 2011, for example, ICDRR developed an environmental satellite monitoring place and conducted the disaster rapid mapping exercise. This exercise resulted in over 10 thematic mapping products, including the drought yearly variation map, drought spatial distribution map, settlement distribution map and water area variation map in Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and other drought affected areas. These products were shared with the affected counties and relevant non-governmental partners in Africa as the humanitarian/development decision support tools.

For further information on the ICDRR, please visit

[http://www.jianzai.gov.cn:9000/portal\\_space/main.view?siteId=4028815d2819c6f701281a7afa2f010f](http://www.jianzai.gov.cn:9000/portal_space/main.view?siteId=4028815d2819c6f701281a7afa2f010f).

## Network Climate Journalists in the Greater Horn of Africa



The key problems that retard the use of climate information and prediction services by the general public have been identified through increased interaction with users in various socio-economic sectors. Too often, the language used is too difficult to understand

for most users; outlooks are presented in terms of dense probability jargon; user-specific products are unavailable; products are not accessible in time; and users are not aware of the availability and potential use of the climate products at all. The Drought Monitoring Centre and the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) are strengthening collaboration and enhancing interaction between the public and the media to improve the dissemination and application of climate information. Such efforts have led to establishment of the regional Network of Climate Journalists of the Greater Horn of Africa (NECJOGHA).

NECJOGHA was formed in February 2002 at Eldoret, Kenya, during the ninth GHA Climate Outlook Forum, after a series of discussions between journalists and climate scientists at climate outlook forums and users workshops. The 10 countries comprising NECJOGHA include Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The objective of the network is to enhance the interaction between climate scientists and journalists and, in so doing, to disseminate climate information in ways that are easily understood by all, including policymakers and the general public in the GHA. The network will also build capacity and create awareness in member countries in the region. It advises and provides guidance to specialized climate institutions on media matters and the public.

Climate media associations in each country provide the focal points, which coordinate national activities. NECJOGHA members from these national associations range from practising media professionals to weather/climate experts. A regional resource centre will be built now that a NECJOGHA secretariat has been formed.

Please visit <http://www.necjogha.org/> for more information on NECJOGHA.

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## Public Health Risk Assessment and Interventions: The Horn of Africa - Drought and Famine Crisis



The purpose of this public health risk assessment is to provide health professionals in United Nations agencies, nongovernmental organizations, international and local organizations, donor agencies and local authorities, who are currently working with populations affected by the emergency in the Horn of Africa (HOA), with up-to-date technical guidance on the major public health threats faced by the populations affected by the drought and famine conditions in the sub-region. This assessment of disease risk on the affected HOA populations and recommended public health interventions has focused on the impact of malnutrition against the national disease profiles, mindful that specific national risks may be exported to camps in neighbouring countries and this crisis will be long term.

The topic areas addressed have been selected on the basis of the burden of morbidity and mortality, as well as the potential for their increased risk in the affected area. Public health threats represent a significant challenge to those providing health-care services in this evolving situation. It is hoped that this risk assessment will facilitate the coordination of activities between all agencies working among the populations currently affected by the crisis.

The full document is available for download at [http://www.who.int/diseasecontrol/emergencies/publications/who\\_hse\\_gar\\_dce\\_2011\\_3.pdf](http://www.who.int/diseasecontrol/emergencies/publications/who_hse_gar_dce_2011_3.pdf).

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## Maplecroft / Natural Hazards Risk Atlas



Maplecroft is a leading source of global risks intelligence established in 2001. It analyzes, indexes and maps over 100 global risks to help organizations identify areas of high risk and navigate the complex challenges encompassed by climate change, pandemics, resource security, terrorism and human rights. The *Global Risks Portfolio*, winner of StrategicRISK magazine's European Risk Management Product of 2010, is Maplecroft's online product portal which is home to over 500 risk indices and indicators, 100+ interactive maps, country scorecards, briefings and in-depth reports. These resources



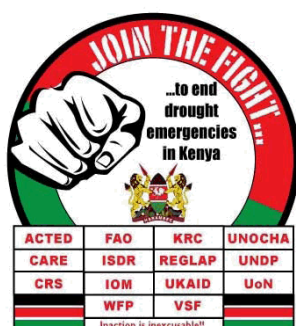
provide instantly accessible insights into the core areas of global, political, legal and regulatory, human rights and climate change risks, whilst our flexibility enables us to deliver bespoke risk analysis for any region, country, sector, company or issue.

Natural Hazards Risk Atlas is designed to help business, investors and international organizations assess and compare the risks and resilience to the occurrence of natural hazard events in 196 countries. The Atlas includes indices and interactive subnational maps of 12 natural hazard risks, including drought, as well as scorecards for all countries. Subnational mapping of each index allows the identification of natural hazards risks down to local levels. Each subnational map is interactive and has been developed to enable users to view natural hazards risks down to levels as low as 22km<sup>2</sup> worldwide. In addition, the Atlas also measures countries' overall economic exposure and socio-economic resilience to natural hazards, analyzing the absolute economic values exposed to natural hazards and also how this exposure compares to a countries total economic output.

For more information on Maplecroft and its Natural Hazards Risk Atlas and other global risks portfolio, please visit <http://maplecroft.com/>.

## Event and Training Opportunities

### International Day on Disaster Risk Reduction: Ending Drought Emergencies in Kenya (Nairobi and Daddab, Kenya; October 13, 2011)



Since February 2011, humanitarian/development partners and donors have been promoting the campaign to *End Drought Emergencies in Kenya* with four key targets: 1) Ensure the Government of Kenya's leadership and ownership of the campaign; 2) Empower communities with information on drought mitigation and resilience strategies that they can implement in their communities; 3) Influence media coverage of drought towards reporting on durable solutions for drought; and 4) Consolidate projects/best practices that have effectively built community resilience to drought across the country. Lessons and best practiced provided by the partners through this campaign will be released during the Ending Drought Emergencies Campaign events in different parts of the country on the International Day on Disaster Risk Reduction on October 13, 2011, which

include:

- 1) The Ending Drought Emergency day for Nairobi: UNDP and UNISDR will lead in organizing the event for Nairobi
- 2) Ending Drought Emergency event for host communities in Dadaab which will include surrounding host communities such as Garissa.

The inter-agency advocacy team encourages partners across Kenya to host events on that day. The team will support events with outreach/visibility and promotional materials (flyers, posters, the Ending Drought documentary etc.). Examples of events to be organized include: hosting events in town centre; organizing a visit to the District Commissioner's offices; distributing Ending Drought Emergency outreach material to communities; organizing an event

at churches or mosques; having a talk-show or radio interview on community radio; or being creative and informing the advocacy team of what you design so the team can support appropriately with materials.

For further information, please contact Choice Okoro, Head of Communications and Advocacy, at United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Kenya, at [okoroc@un.org](mailto:okoroc@un.org) or +254-20-762 5317.

## International Symposium on Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (Xi'an, China; October 21-23, 2011)



and Xi'an University of Technology. Nearly everywhere, water crises threaten the security, stability and environment sustainability of nations.

The International Symposium on Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources in arid and semi-arid regions is sponsored and organized by International Water Resources Association, International Association of hydrological Science

The objective of the symposium is to bring together experts from different disciplines to present results on describing water resources in arid and semi-arid regions and discriminating among impacts caused by climate change and human activities, to exchange experiences about special methods for water resources assessment and management in these regions and response of eco-hydrology for water resources sustainability by balancing water for humans and nature, so that we ensure the sustainable development of human society. Through the exchange the knowledge and technology, the symposium aims to identify the limitations and problems of current methods, and to propose innovative strategies, novel techniques and methodologies for water resources development and management. The main topics of the symposium include:

- 1) Impacts of climate change on water resources in arid and semi-arid regions;
- 2) Water resources assessment under climate change in arid and semi-arid regions;
- 3) Planning of water resources projects under climate change in arid and semi-arid regions; and
- 4) Impacts of climate change on aquatic environment and ecology in arid and semi-arid regions.

Please visit <http://iwra2011.xaut.edu.cn/> for more information regarding the symposium.

## Response of Wetlands to Rewetting Following Extensive Drought (Sydney, Australia; November 22-23, 2011)



Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage



NCCARF  
National  
Climate Change Adaptation  
Research Facility  
Adaptation Research Network  
WATER RESOURCES AND FRESHWATER SCIENCE



Environmental Water Management  
Specialist Network

*Response of Wetlands to Rewetting Following Extensive Drought* is a free event to be organized in Sydney, Australia, on November 22-23, 2011, by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility, the Office of Environment and Heritage, and the Environmental Water Management Specialist Network, with support from the National Water Commission. This conference and workshop aims to address both new research findings and their current and potential

applications. It will present field observations and research findings from scientists and managers following recent major wetting episodes throughout the Murray-Darling Basin in 2010-11 to identify opportunities for better management of discretionary environmental water. It will look particularly at the impact of drought, recovery and response observations and water and land management lessons learnt. It aims to synthesize early observations and identify implications and opportunities for better management of discretionary environmental water.

The focus is on three information themes:

- The impacts of drought;
- Recovery & response observations; and
- Water & land management during and following drought – lessons learnt.

The program will include keynote presentations around each of these themes and a number of 'speed sessions' highlighting major findings and management implications from a broad range of speakers. For further information on the event, please visit [http://www.nccarf.edu.au/water/sites/www.nccarf.edu.au/water/files/Flyer\\_for\\_distribution.pdf](http://www.nccarf.edu.au/water/sites/www.nccarf.edu.au/water/files/Flyer_for_distribution.pdf).

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## International Conference on Drought Management Strategies in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (Muscat, Sultanate of Oman; December 11-14, 2011)



During the period 1900 to 2006, a total of 836 droughts were reported globally in the Emergency Disasters Database, killing more than 1 million people, affecting more than 752 million and inflicting more than US\$ 61 million of damage. The following map displays the drought prone areas in the world. These facts simply mean that more must be done to mitigate natural disasters – particularly future water-related disasters, given the catalyzing effect of climate change.

In this context, the International Conference on Drought Management Strategies in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions will be organized in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on December 11-14, 2011, by the Ministry of Regional Municipalities of Water Resources, Sultanate of Oman, and the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management – Tehran. The objectives of this Conference are:

- a) To introduce the new scientific and technological concepts and tools to be used in drought management plans in the context of agriculture, urban supply, and water management, highlighting the successful experiences based on preparedness and risk-based management as a critical approach to mitigate the impacts associated with drought in societies with different vulnerabilities;
- b) To share and exchange the latest knowledge and experience in the field of Drought management mitigation strategies;
- c) To introduce scientific and technological innovations including the International Drought Initiatives.
- d) Support the scientific researches in drought management.

The official language of the Conference would be English and Arabic. Technical visits will be arranged for the participants of this conference. The visiting places will be announced later. For more information on the conference, please visit <http://www.icdms.com/>.

## Employment and Grant Opportunities

### Consultant (Drought Contingency Planning) – UN-ISDR (Closing Date: October 10, 2011)



The UN-ISDR Regional Office for Africa is implementing a project entitled “Increased coordination, awareness and technical support to enhance risk management in the Greater Horn of Africa.” The project is designed to target drought prone areas in the three project countries, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, building on existing initiatives to support state and non-state actors to integrate disaster risk reduction (DRR) in development and relief efforts. UN-ISDR is looking for a consultant to support the ongoing efforts of the Interagency Working Group (IAWG) Sub-Group on DRR & Climate Change, Central and East Africa, to review existing training tools and guidelines on DRR and lessons learned and systematize them in an on-line system, as well as reviewing terminology and propose a common methodology to be used by all partners.

Duties and responsibilities of the consultant include to:

1. Extract key learning points and recommendations from a selection of external evaluations and reports on DRR & climate change (e.g. focus on specific geographic areas, sectors, and needs assessments);
2. Review terminology, concepts and approaches with the aim of providing links and orientation for effective strategy formulation and programming through an appropriate online platform;
3. Review existing DRR training tools and guidelines from different stakeholders including the new Emergency Capacity Building Project Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioners Guide, World Food Programme Knowledge Centre, the Regional Livelihood Advocacy Project (REGLAP) etc., Prevention Web and Relief Web;
4. Draft and make recommendations on common methodology of analyzing information from the DRR and climate change mapping from lessons of phase 1 only; and
5. Develop a classification format for tools, guidance and advocacy documents and good practices, considering the Regional Disaster Information Center Latin America methodology and adapting in as applicable to the region.

Please visit <http://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are/vacancies/22332> for further details on the position and the application procedure.

### Evaluation Consultant for ACF Drought Risk Management Programme Ethiopia – Action Against Hunger (Closing Date: October 12, 2011)



Action Against Hunger-UK (ACF-UK) is recruiting an experienced consultant for independently evaluating the impact, coverage, coherence, relevance/appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of an ACF Community based Drought Risk Management Programme in 3 Woredas (Dhas, Miyo and Moyale) in the Borena zone of Oromiya region, Ethiopia from August 2010 to December 2011. The evaluation is expected to focus attention on how the agency has managed to implement this action under the remote-

management framework.



The start date of the evaluation is intended for the 27th October and will last for 28 days. All expenses will be covered and accommodation and travel will be provided by ACF for the duration of the stay in country.

TOR of the position is available for download at [http://www.acfin-hr.net/includes/download.php?f=postes581.pdf&fc=ACF\\_AAH\\_PositionDetail.pdf](http://www.acfin-hr.net/includes/download.php?f=postes581.pdf&fc=ACF_AAH_PositionDetail.pdf). Interested applicants are required to complete and submit the application form online at <http://www.acfin-hr.net/jobs/positions.php?hq=18&id=581&lang=EN> together with an expression of interest (including your daily rate) and an up-to-date CV by the 12th October, 2011.



We are pleased to announce the release of the UNDP-DDC's new publication: **Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management: A Primer (English)** and **Intégration de la Gestion du Risqué de Sécheresse: Manuel introductif (French)**. The overall purpose of this Primer is to provide a basic roadmap for mainstreaming DRM into development planning and programming at different levels. It suggests and outlines a stepwise approach to define the drought risks within a given context. It also presents a methodology for translating the risk assessments and metrics into specific policy measures, planning instruments and measurable interventions.

The full publication is available for download at:

<http://www.undp.org/drylands/docs/Mainstreaming%20DRM-English.pdf> (English)

<http://www.undp.org/drylands/docs/Mainstreaming%20DRM-French.pdf> (French)

### Useful Links on Drought Status Updates

#### Africa

African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development: <http://www.acmad.ne/index.htm>

Experimental African Drought Monitor: [http://hydrology.princeton.edu/~justin/research/project\\_global\\_monitor/](http://hydrology.princeton.edu/~justin/research/project_global_monitor/)

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/dmc/>

UNOCHA (Southern & East Africa): <http://ochaonline.un.org/rosea/LatestUpdates/tabid/6652/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

UNOCHA (West & Central Africa): <http://ochaonline.un.org/Bulletinshumanitaires/tabid/3099/language/fr-FR/Default.aspx>

#### 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>