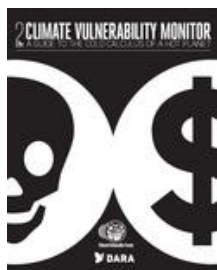




October 2012 Issue

## Special Topic

### Climate Vulnerability Monitor 2011: A Guide to the Cold Calculus of a Hot Planet



The Climate Vulnerability Monitor 2nd Edition measures the global impact of climate change and the carbon economy at a national level. It calculates and compares the vulnerability for 184 countries in four areas of impact (environmental disasters, habitat change, health impact and industry stress) using 34 climate and carbon related indicators, including drought. It estimates human and economic impacts of climate change for each country in 2010 and 2030. The monitor uses five levels of vulnerability, from acute to low, to compare and contrast nations.

The overall report highlights climate-related concerns, including carbon-intensive development and climate change impacts, as one of the world's most serious health threats, drivers of humanitarian disasters, and a principal impediment to development, especially for countries already struggling to attain key international objectives like the Millennium Development Goals. It challenges a conventional view: that global action on climate change is a cost to society. Instead, it enlightens our understanding of how tackling climate change through coordinated efforts between nations would actually produce much-needed benefits for all.

Under the drought indicator section, it is estimated that the global impact in 2030 will amount to 20 billion US dollars loss per year as opposed to 5 billion US dollars in 2010 (country level impact estimate in 2030 is viewable at <http://daraint.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/CVM2ndEd-Climate-Drought.pdf>). As the planet's temperatures reach, new highs drought will become more common and more severe. Climate change also means more rain, but most of it is falling in the far north or far south where fewer people live, and much of this rain falls during the wet season while dry seasons tend to become drier. When drought hits, agriculture comes under extreme pressure, crops may fail and livestock perish with important localized economic, health and social repercussions. Catching and conserving water will be critical to ensure a resilient agricultural sector and food and water security during periods of extreme drought.

The complete report is available for download at <http://download.daraint.org/CVM2-Low.pdf>.

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#### About AADP

[Africa-Asia Drought Risk Peer Assistance Network](#) (AADP) is a network established under the *Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Project*. The project is designed to mitigate the risks of drought and improve human livelihoods in Africa and Asia by creating an enabling environment for inter-regional knowledge sharing among drought-prone countries and facilitating the up-scaling of proven drought risk management (DRM) practices.

AADP provides the DRM practitioners and policymakers with a variety of peer learning and capacity development support to, based on their priorities, operational gaps and capacity needs, building on the pool of experiences and expertise of the ongoing [African Drought Risk and Development Network initiative](#) (ADDN).

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

### Climate Variability and Predictability



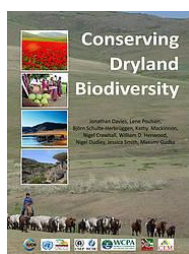
Climate Variability and Predictability (CLIVER) is the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) project, whose mission is to observe, simulate, and predict the Earth's climate system with a focus on ocean-atmosphere interactions in order to better understand climate variability, predictability and change. It works closely with its companion WCRP projects on issues such as the role of the land surface, snow and ice and the role of stratospheric processes in climate.

CLIVER's main scientific themes of focus are placed on three frontier fields:

- 1) Anthropogenic climate change – To undertake predictive science that aims to inform the adaptation decisions that we must collectively make, including variations in the likelihood of extremes, drought and the availability of water, on time scales of seasons to decades and longer;
- 2) Decadal variability, predictability and prediction – To identify and understand phenomena that offer some degree of decadal predictability and to skilfully predict these climate fluctuations and trends; and
- 3) Intra-seasonal and seasonal predictability and prediction – To identify and understand phenomena that offer some degree of intra-seasonal to inter-annual predictability, to skilfully predict these climate fluctuations and trends and to increase interactions between scientists, operational forecasters and decision makers.

For more information regarding CLIVER, including project activities and resources, please visit <http://www.clivar.org/>.

### Dryland Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Management

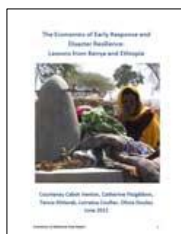


Dryland biodiversity is of tremendous global importance, being central to the well-being and development of millions of people in developing countries. In June 2012, at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, global leaders from governments and civil society reaffirmed the intrinsic value of biological diversity and recognised the severity of global biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems. Although drylands were implicitly recognised, there continues to be inadequate attention to this major biome that covers such a vast part of our world's terrestrial surface. Yet, as this book conveys, conservation and sustainable management of drylands biodiversity offers a viable pathway to deliver international conservation and development targets. This book is a global resource aimed to aide dryland management as it is the first comprehensive analysis of dryland biodiversity that is of global importance and significance.

Drought is reported to be one of important drivers of dryland biodiversity loss. However, the reverse is also true; loss of biodiversity contributes to land degradation, drought and poverty and can increase vulnerability to climate change. The book highlights the importance of protecting and restoring biodiversity, given its contribution to climate resilient livelihoods, sustainable development and climate change mitigation as well as reducing desertification and land degradation. A particular concern is poor understanding of the relationship between land management, water cycling and drought and there is an urgent need for better informed and more integrated planning of land and water resources.

Please visit [https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/drylands\\_bk\\_2.pdf](https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/drylands_bk_2.pdf) to download the full publication.

## The Economics of Early Response and Disaster Resilience: Lessons from Kenya and Ethiopia



It is widely held that, broadly speaking, investment in building the resilience of communities to cope with risk in disaster prone regions is more cost-effective than the ever-mounting humanitarian response. Yet little solid evidence exists to support this claim. Following the UN General Assembly in September 2011, the United Kingdom has agreed to develop a proposal on how resilience can be taken forward within the international system. Evidence on the cost-effectiveness of disaster resilience will be crucial in progressing this agenda.

The purpose of the report is to support this agenda by:

- Providing the first step towards a solid evidence base on the cost effectiveness of building resilience to disasters as compared with the cost of relief and early response.
- Identifying the types of interventions that can provide the highest “Value for Money”; and
- Incentivising donors, partner governments, multilaterals and implementing agencies to invest in and work more on resilience to disasters.

Using Kenya and Ethiopia as case studies, the study compares the relative costs of late humanitarian response, early response, and building resilience to disasters. It specifically focuses on the impact of drought on pastoralists, chosen for practical reasons to narrow the focus of the study on a specific livelihood. The full report is available for download at <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Documents/publications1/Econ-Ear-Rec-Res-Full-Report%20.pdf>.

## Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch: A Planning Guide for Great Plains Ranchers



This guide is developed by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to help rangeland managers to better prepare for and manage drought. For ranchers in the United States, drought can be defined as too little soil moisture to meet the needs of dominant forage species during their rapid growth windows. The longer you wait to make decisions, the fewer options you will have available to you and producers who focus on increasing flexibility and maximizing the health of resources are more likely to find solutions during drought that minimize painful decisions with limited resources. Accordingly, having a plan will help producers get through a short- or long-term drought while minimizing damages.

The ranch drought management plan is divided into eight components. Working through the following components is expected to help ranchers make decisions that are appropriate for their operation:

- Communication and Planning Partners;
- Ranch Vision and Objectives;
- Understanding of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats during Drought;
- Inventory of Ranch Resources;
- Critical Dates for Making Decisions;
- Monitoring Schedule;
- Management Strategies : Before, During, and After Drought; and
- Ongoing Review of Drought Plan.

The full report is available for download at

<http://drought.unl.edu/Portals/2/Ranchplan%20Images/Ranchplan%20Documents/ranch%20plan%20handbook%20to%20print%209.14.pdf>.

## Event and Training Opportunities

### Step Up for DRR: International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012 (Worldwide; October 13, 2012)



Often in many societies, much of the work and achievements of women is of low visibility and taken for granted. While women and girls contribute to building the resilience of communities, as well as, the protection and rebuilding of their communities before and after disasters, such are often unrecognized. The

International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) 2012, with the theme of "Women and Girls - the [in]Visible Force of Resilience", intends to reverse this situation by acknowledging and appreciating the millions of women and girls who make their communities more resilient to disasters and climate risks and thus to reap the benefits of and protect their development investments. In particular, the IDDR 2012 will:

- Celebrate the contribution that women and girls are making before, during and after disasters;
- Highlight that the ability of women and girls to contribute is hindered by exclusion from participation and decision-making in disaster risk reduction and management processes as well as programs and by poor understanding of gender inequality;
- Move beyond the perception of women and girls as victims; and
- Present evidence of actions and initiatives by women and girls.

There are a number of events scheduled to take place all over the world including in Africa and Asia to commemorate the IDDR. Please visit <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/trainings-events/events/tags/index.php/iddr12/Step%20Up%20for%20DRR:%20International%20Day%20for%20Disaster%20Reduction%202012/> for the full list of the confirmed events. Please also visit <http://www.unisdr.org/2012/iddr/> for further details on the IDDR 2012.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Yogyakarta, Indonesia; October 22-25, 2012)



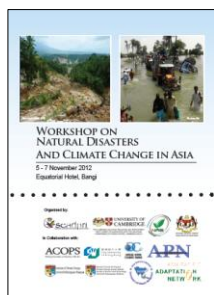
The Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) is a biennial conference organized by rotation in different Asian countries since 2005. The event represents a unique opportunity for Ministers in charge of disaster management from the region to reaffirm their commitment to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The conference also serves as a forum to exchange experiences on successful practices and innovative approaches in implementing HFA's five priorities for action at the national and local levels.

The 5th AMCDRR conference will be convened in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in 22-25 October 2012, with the theme of “Strengthening Local Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction” including 3 sub-themes: 1) Integrating Local Level Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation into National Development Planning; 2) Local Risk Assessment and Financing; and 3) Strengthening Local Risk Governance and Partnership. Specific objectives include:

- a. To encourage stronger political commitment and investment for local action in disaster risk reduction;
- b. To build on the findings and recommendations of the Global Platform’s Third Session which brought up the theme “Invest Today for A Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action”;
- c. To establish a practical and collaborative mechanism for building resilience at the local level among countries in the Asia Pacific region; and
- d. To promote local knowledge and practices in DRR as a way of enhancing local capacity in DRR.

For more information regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> AMCDRR, please visit <http://5thamcdrr-indonesia.net/>.

## Workshop on Natural Disasters and Climate Change in Asia (Bangi, Malaysia; November 5-7, 2012)



Natural disasters, including drought, are having a large and growing impact on societies and economies in Asia. Recently the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has issued a summary report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation. The report focuses on the relationship between climate change and extreme weather and climate events, and also the impacts of these events on vulnerable societies. It integrates perspectives from several historically distinct research groups studying climate science, climate impacts, adaptation to climate change, and disaster risk management. A high level workshop for researchers, practitioners and policy makers in Asia is to be held in order to review these findings, and to consider action plans for their implementation.

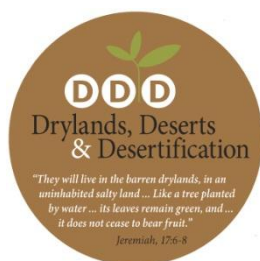
The Workshop on Natural Disasters and Climate Change in Asia aims to review and publicise progress in Asia regarding research on natural disasters and climate change, and policy implications. The specific objectives are as follows:

1. Provide a platform to bring together researchers, practitioners and policy makers from the natural disasters and climate change communities;
2. Review the role of science and technology in collaboration with policy makers for managing the risks of natural disasters and climate change especially for vulnerable communities; and
3. Explore the establishment of an affiliation of networks and institutions working on issues related to natural disasters and climate change in Asia, especially better exchange of information and collaboration between operational and research centres.

For further details on the workshop programme, please visit [http://dl.dropbox.com/u/9548844/November\\_Workshop\\_FINAL%20v3%20\(200912\).pdf](http://dl.dropbox.com/u/9548844/November_Workshop_FINAL%20v3%20(200912).pdf).



## Fourth International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (Negev, Israel; November 12-15, 2012)



The International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (DDD) has emerged as an important global gathering of scientists, field workers, industry, government, CSOs, international development aid agencies and other stakeholders from over 60 countries concerned about land degradation in the drylands, and their sustainable use and development land degradation and development.

The program combines plenary lectures and panels, parallel sessions, workshops, field trips and social events. The four day conference provides an opportunity for a diverse group of experts, policy makers and land managers to consider a range of theoretical and practical issues associated with combating desertification and living sustainably in the drylands.

The 4th DDD conference will focus on the outcome of Rio+20, or UN Conference on Sustainable Development, and consider the science required for implementing the UNCSO recommendations relevant to drylands and desertification. Local case studies will be highlighted alongside success stories from around the world with an emphasis on indicators of progress. Additional sessions will be held considering a broad range of topics associated with sustainable living in the drylands and means to address desertification, as well as achieving the target of zero net rate of land degradation.

Please visit <http://in.bgu.ac.il/en/desertification/Pages/default.aspx> for more information on the 4<sup>th</sup> DDD, including the themes, schedules and registration procedure.

## Employment and Grant Opportunities

### Disaster Risk Reduction/Disaster Risk Management Consultant – UN-ISDR (Closing Date: October 4, 2012)



The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Secretariat is currently strengthening its institutional capacity in order to realize the full implementation of its Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programme which is in line with HFA and the African Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Strategy. Consequently, UN-ISDR seeks to recruit a DRR/DRM Consultant to help provide technical services to support implementation of the Policy and Plan of Action in the IGAD sub-region and member states.

The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department is funding a project on drought risk reduction for the Horn of Africa. Technical support will be provided to IGAD through UN-ISDR Regional Office for Africa. The technical support will strengthen IGAD's capacities for DRR and provide technical support in the implementation of IGAD's regional DRR in the IGAD member states, and address cross-boundary drought risks.

Duties and Responsibilities of the DRR/DRM Consultant include, among others: 1) to ensure coordination and possible consolidation of IGAD DRR and IGAD Drought Resilience Platforms; 2) to develop content for DRR policy-related issues and for discussions at the regional level; 3) to generate an IGAD HFA progress report; 4) to support integration of DRR into education in the IGAD region; 5) to support application of existing national disaster loss databases for regional analyses of disaster impacts; 6) to develop a draft version of data-sharing protocols for implementation between IGAD member states; and 7) to assist the disaster management unit to manage sub-regional DRR interventions at country level and to prepare reports on implementation of the IGAD DRM policy in line with the Africa Programme of Action.

Further information on the position including the application procedure is available at <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/jobs/v.php?id=28659>.

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## Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioner – Deloitte South Africa (Closing Date: November 4, 2012)



Deloitte is the largest private professional services network in the world. Its Risk Advisory offers clients an end-to-end solution for all their risk management needs. Following international disaster risk reduction and societal security best practises such as ISO 22320 and the HFA, the Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioner based in Johannesburg, South Africa, will be responsible for the following duties:

- Establish disaster risk management structures (locally and internationally)
- Develop a disaster management prevention plan as well as preparedness and contingency plans
- Compile disaster risk management policies
- Compile disaster management operating procedures
- Co-ordinate and manage developmental projects
- Set up information and early warning systems
- Set up risk and vulnerability assessments
- Set up contingency as well as specific action plans
- Conduct pre- and post-disaster assessments
- Set up manuals including the emergency procedures and standard operating protocols.

Please visit <http://jobs.deloitte.com/johannesburg/information-technology/jobid2734581-risk-advisory-security-privacy-and-resiliency-disaster-risk-reduction-practitioner-senior-consultant-to-manager-jobs> for further details on the position.

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### **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).



### **Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management: A Primer / Intégration de la Gestion du Risqué de Sécheresse: Manuel introductif (2011)**

The overall purpose of this Primer is to provide a basic roadmap for mainstreaming drought risk reduction concepts and practices into development planning and programming at different levels. It 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/english/regional-integration/is/csc/>

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>