

WMO's work on drought preparedness

GDCS, IDMP and projects

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JRC EDORA workshop, 16-17 June 2022



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization

Organisation météorologique mondiale

WMO is the United Nations system's authoritative voice on weather, climate and water

WMO is working on drought preparedness in its technical bodies (technical commissions), especially the **expert team on drought** under SERCOM,...

... co-sponsors implementation of proactive drought management through the **Integrated Drought Management Programme**, ...

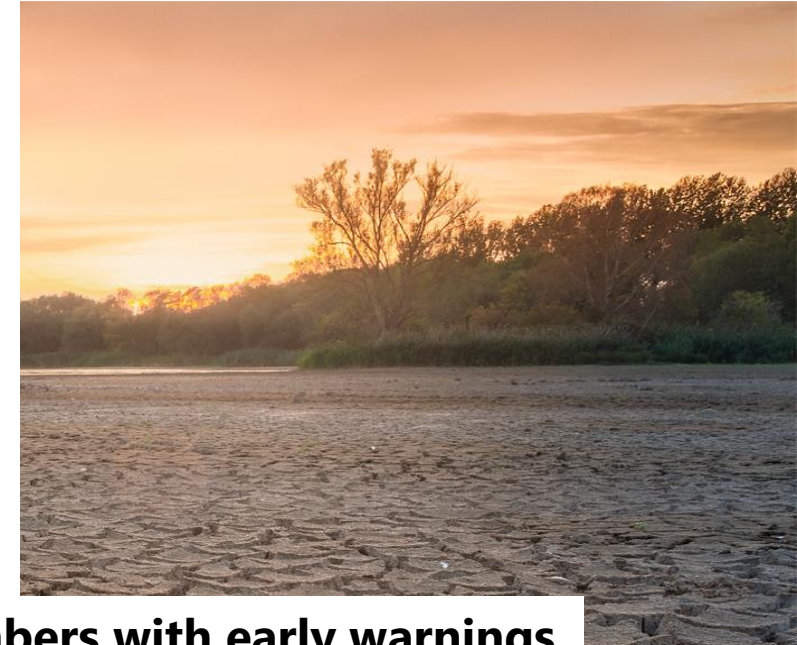
... and furthers the development of tailored climate services for drought resilience in a variety of **projects**.



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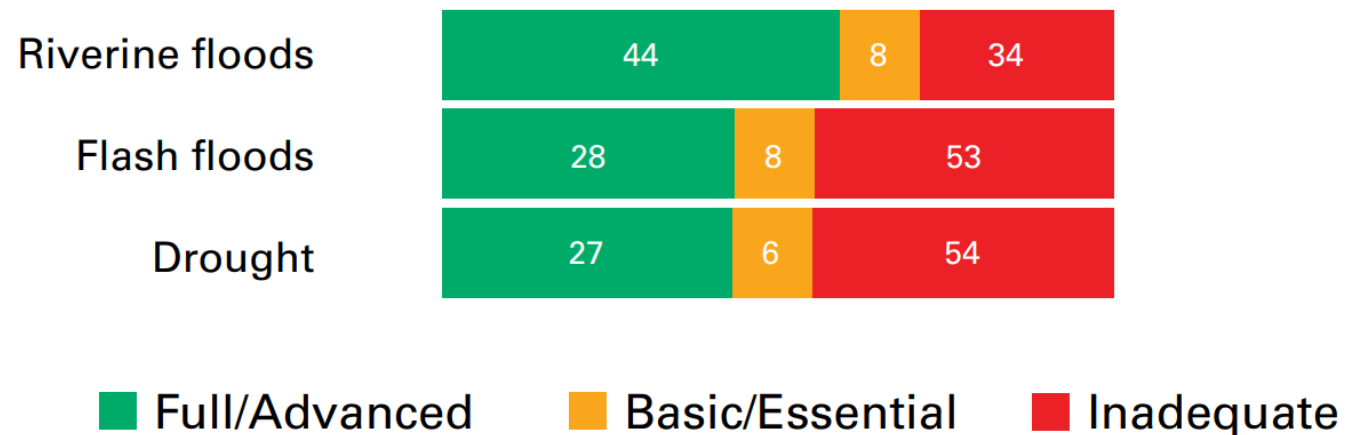
Drought monitoring and early warning

- Drought is the one **most impactful natural hazard** for food security, and among the most complex and costliest
- **Climate projections** indicate the increase of drought severity and frequency in many regions
- **Weather, water and climate services** support decisions and policies for climate adaptation



Number of Members with early warnings

→ **Early Warning Systems have proven to reduce impacts and save lives**



Challenge: Distinct temporal and spatial footprint of droughts to other natural hazards (floods, storms, etc.)

Number of Members with early warnings available to the population at risk, based on the estimated percentage of the population at risk that receive EW (Source: [WMO State of Climate Services 2021 – Water](#))

Global Drought Classification System

What? Standardization of national drought monitoring and warnings on the global level

How? Each country determines which drought index to use.

Then the index is standardized into 5 classes:

D0 (Abnormally Dry)

D1 (Moderate Drought)

D2 (Severe Drought)

D3 (Extreme Drought)

D4 (Exceptional Drought)

- Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) or SPEI easiest to use

- **GDCS will be a contribution to Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS), Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS), and UNCCD indicator (Strategic Objective 3)**

Table 2. Probability of recurrence

SPI	Category	Number of times in 100 years	Severity of event
0 to -0.99	Mild dryness	33	1 in 3 yrs.
-1.00 to -1.49	Moderate dryness	10	1 in 10 yrs.
-1.5 to -1.99	Severe dryness	5	1 in 20 yrs.
< -2.0	Extreme dryness	2.5	1 in 50 yrs.

North American Drought Monitor

June 30, 2017

Released: Tuesday, July 11, 2017

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/nadm.html>

Analysts:
 Canada - Trevor Hadwen
 Maginda Magendathajan
 Mexico - Adelina Albanil
 Minerva Lopez*
 U.S.A. - Jessica Blunden

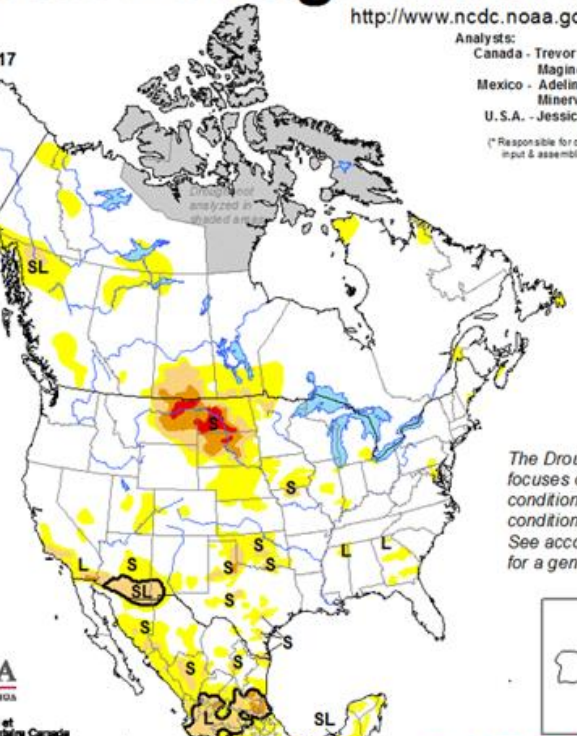
(* Responsible for collecting an analyst's input & assembling the NA-DM map)

Intensity

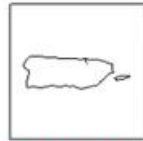
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types

- Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)



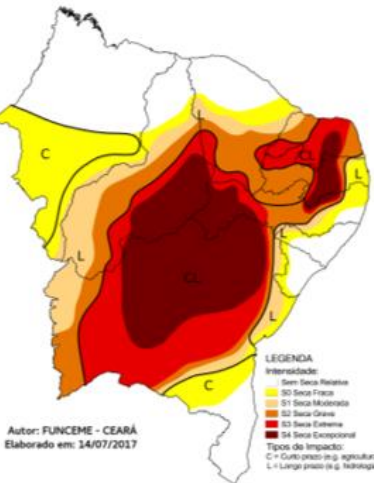
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text for a general summary.



Regions in northern Canada may

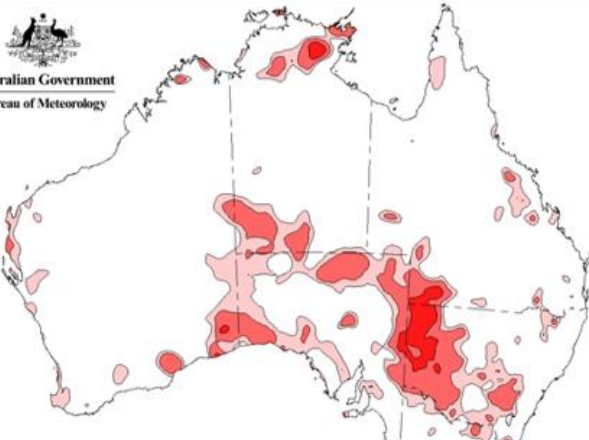


Monitor de Secas
 Junho/2017



LEGENDA
 Intensidade:
 00 Sem Seca Notável
 01 Seca Fraca
 02 Seca Moderada
 03 Seca Grave
 04 Seca Extrema
 05 Seca Excepcional
 Tipos de Impacto:
 C = Curto prazo (e.g. agricultura, pastagens)
 L = Longo prazo (e.g. hidrologia, ecologia)

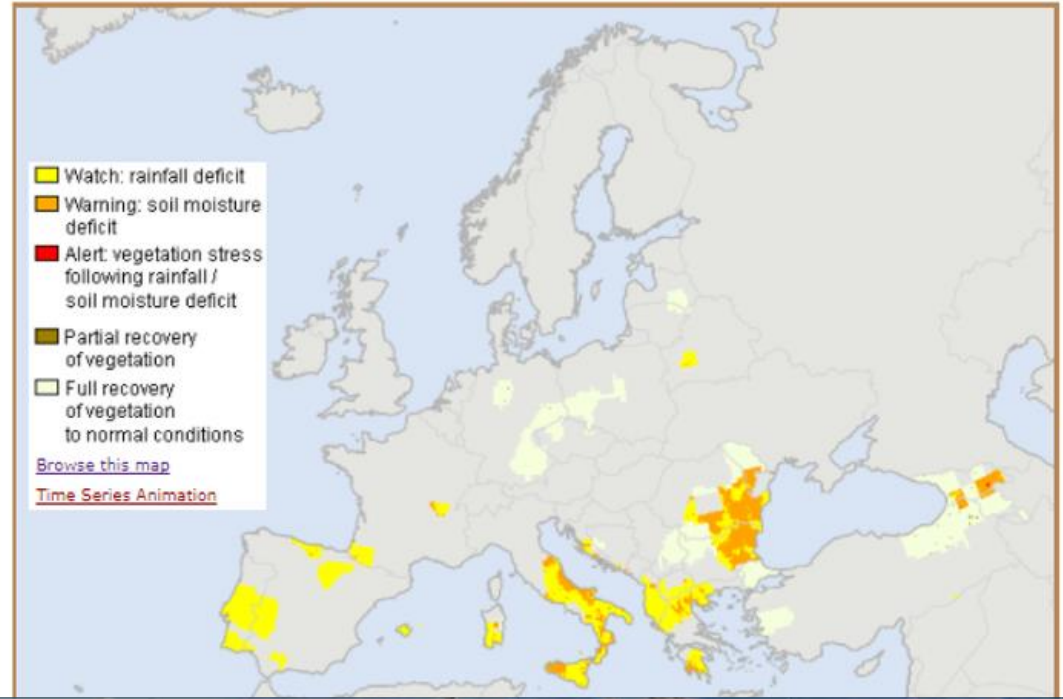
<http://www.bom.gov.au>
 © Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology



Rainfall Percentile Ranking
 Serious Deficiency
 Severe Deficiency
 Lowest on Record

<https://www.droughtmanagement.info/pillars/monitoring-early-warning/>

SERCOM Expert Team on Drought



- Watch: rainfall deficit
 - Warning: soil moisture deficit
 - Alert: vegetation stress following rainfall / soil moisture deficit
 - Partial recovery of vegetation
 - Full recovery of vegetation to normal conditions
- [Browse this map](#)
[Time Series Animation](#)



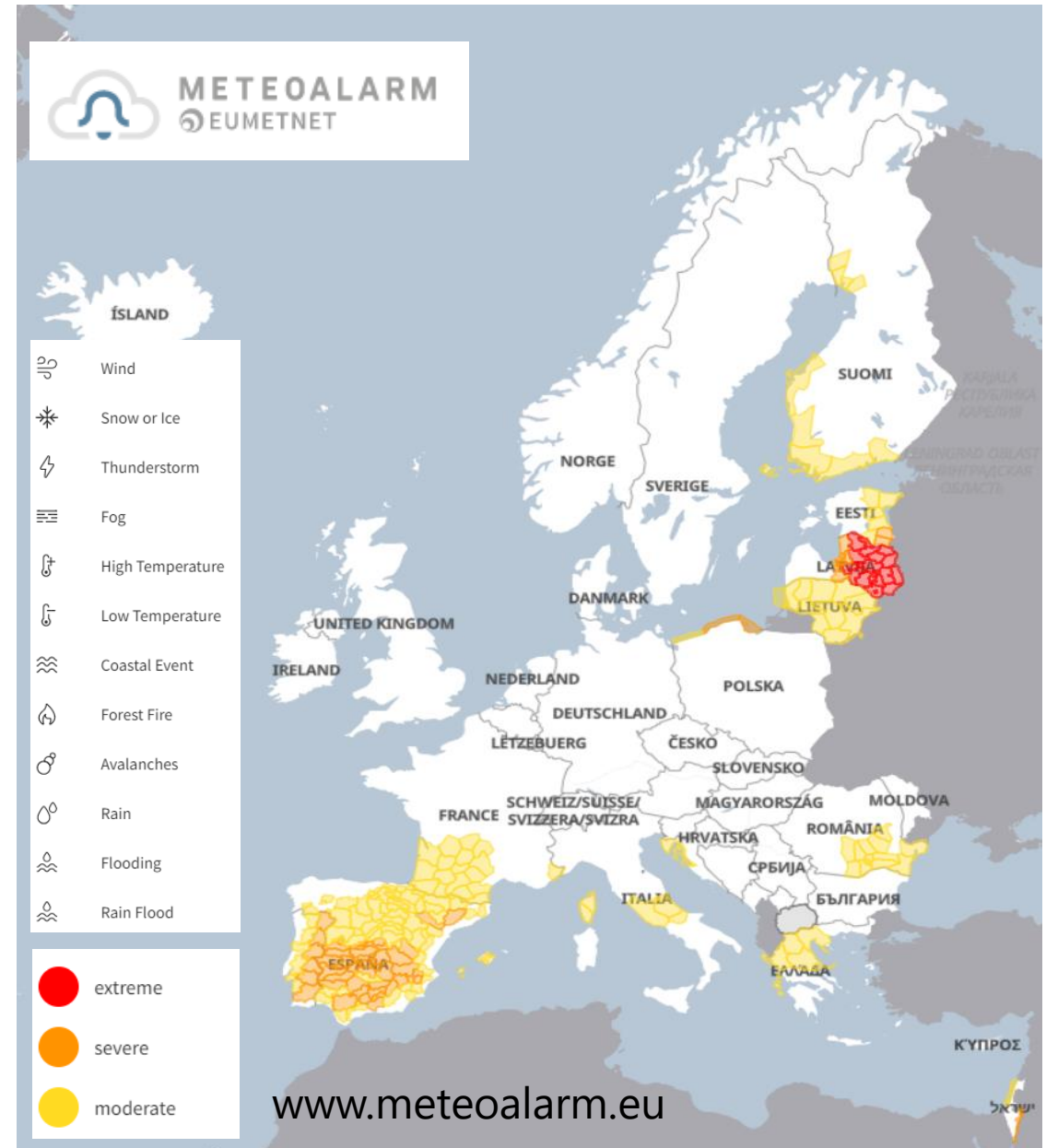
Issued: 04/09/2020

Next steps/milestones

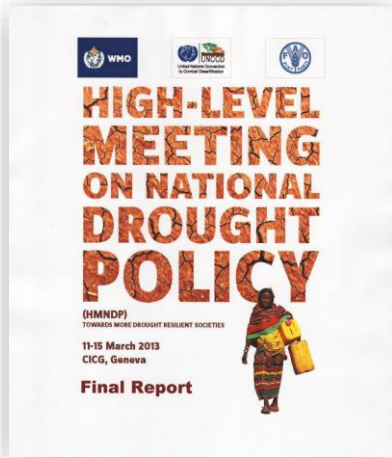
- Collect input from the national level (Q3 2022)
- Develop a draft implementation plan for GDCS based on the concept note (Q3 2022)
- Development of a pilot system for GDCS (from 2023)



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The Integrated Drought Management Programme



IDMP's objective is to **support stakeholders at all levels** by providing **policy and management guidance** and by **sharing scientific information, knowledge and best practices** for Integrated Drought Management.



The Three Pillars of Integrated Drought Management

Formulating **proactive** drought policy:

PILLAR 1

MONITORING AND
EARLY WARNING



PROACTIVE
DROUGHT
MANAGEMENT

PILLAR 2

RISK AND IMPACT
ASSESSMENT



PILLAR 3

DROUGHT RISK MITIGATION,
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



Pillar 1: Monitoring and Early Warning

- **Integrated** monitoring of key indicators (hydrological, climatological, impacts)
- **Used to trigger actions in drought plans**

Pillar 2: Risk and Impact Assessment

- Knowledge of **who and what is at risk and why** – root causes of impacts

Pillar 3: Risk Mitigation, Preparedness and Response

- **Proactive** measures to increase coping capacity
- Response measures that support the principles of drought risk reduction

IDMP HelpDesk Functions



ASK

- **Directly request support:** Contact form, tailored advice through the IDMP TSU and partners

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Ask a question" with a sub-header "Communications regarding your question." The form includes input fields for "Given Name", "Family Name", "Email", "Organization / University / Company", "Country", and "Subject". Below these is a larger text area for "Question/Request". At the bottom, there is a "Send" button and a disclaimer: "By checking the mark here, I accept that the advice and suggestions through this Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Global Water Partnership (GWP) and IDMP partners concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. I further accept that neither the IDMP Partners, WMO nor GWP and its staff shall be held institutionally or personally liable for the advice, guidance and professional opinion generated under the HelpDesk. I agree that the answer will be made available in an anonymized and generalized way in the HelpDesk Question and Answer section, so that the knowledge generated by the IDMP can be made available to the public at large."



FIND

- Tools and examples of Applications on the **3 Pillars** of IDM
- Overview of Drought Management **Plans and Policies**
- Drought Management **Library** (323 vetted entries) and **IDM Glossary**
- IDMP knowledge products like the Handbook on Drought Indices and Indicators



CONNECT

- Regional activities: **4 Regional IDM Programmes** in Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, East Africa and West Africa
- **IDM Projects** (Central America, South America, Southeast Asia, West Africa, ...)
- Engagement with **international processes** (FAO, UNCCD, UNDRR, and others)
- Training and capacity building events

FOCUS Africa project

Full value-chain Optimize Climate User-centric Services for Southern Africa (FOCUS-Africa)

Main objective

Develop **full value chain climate services** in the SADC region, by targeting specific sectors industry relevant case studies, while strengthening the underpinning climate prediction and projection science and assessment of associated socio-economic benefits.



Grant Amount : 7 million Euros funded by EU

Starting Date/ Duration : 1st September 2020/ 48 months

Main Sectors: Food security, Water, Energy, Infrastructure

Target Countries: South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique, Malawi, Mauritius



<https://focus-africaproject.eu/>



CASE STUDY - FOOD SECURITY

MALAWI

CONTEXT The economy in Malawi is heavily based on rainfed agriculture. 80% of the population is engaged in subsistence farming.

Climate projections indicate a warming trend, a decrease in the number of rainy days, and an increase in heavy rainfall.

Climatic shocks such as floods and droughts resulting from these changes significantly impact local livelihoods.

Malawi is one of the countries with the largest percentage of area experiencing a decreasing rainy season.

As a result there is uncertainty around seeding time, crop diversification planning and postharvest management.

All this calls for improved seasonal climate prediction, delivery of seasonal and decadal products and characterisation of future weather extremes.



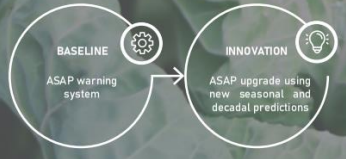
Food scarcity and quality may deteriorate with climate change and further affect malnutrition rates. Reliable forecasts are crucial for informing food security and humanitarian intervention planning.

CLIMATE INFORMATION & SERVICES COPRODUCTION



Analysis of state-of-the-art climate information.

Analysis of local socio-economic contexts, values and vulnerabilities.



Engagement of stakeholders through communication and awareness raising.

Knowledge exchanges with users and stakeholders through interviews and workshops.



Participatory trials and applications of new climate services to support adaptation pathways and improve food security.

THE TEAM		
RESEARCH	SERVICE PROVIDER	USERS
BSC	DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES	Local farmers' associations
JRC EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Amigo	Agricultural research organisations
		Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security



Aim

Improvement of seasonal climate prediction, delivery of seasonal and decadal products and characterisation of future weather extremes.

Tools and Approaches

- **Upgrade ASAP** warning system with optimized seasonal forecasts and decadal forecasts → *Detection and assessment of drought*
- Calculation of the **onset of the rainy season** → *Adaptation of the crop calendar*
- Application of the **ECroPS crop modelling** tool with local data and new climate projections and decadal predictions → *Risks, vulnerabilities and adaptation pathways identification*
- **Improve service visibility** → *Advanced visualisation techniques and modern communication and dissemination practices*
- **Maximise the usability** and impact of the services → integration into existing infrastructure, consideration of LK, tailoring to local contexts

Context

Climate projections indicate warming trend, a **decrease in the number of rainy days, and an increase in heavy rainfall**, which will significantly impact local livelihoods

A large percentage of the country is experiencing a decreasing rainy season, which in turn is creates **uncertainty around seeding time, crop diversification planning and postharvest management.**

All this calls for improved seasonal climate prediction, delivery of seasonal and decadal products and characterisation of future weather extremes.



Aim

Improvement of seasonal climate predictions, delivery of seasonal and decadal products & characterisation of future weather extremes.



Expected results

- Improved usability and relevance of ASAP, APHLIS and WOFOST (ECroPS),
- Better informed agricultural planning and post-harvest management,
- More sustainable adaptation pathways.

CASE STUDY - FOOD SECURITY

TANZANIA

APPROACH



Analysis of state-of-the-art climate information.



Coproduction process.



Integration of local knowledge and latest climate information in ASAP, APHLIS and WOFOST.



Participatory trials and testing of new climate service.

Fact Sheet:



SCAN ME



Summary

- The **Global Drought Classification System** is being developed by the WMO Expert Team on Drought
→ <https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/sercom/sc-agr>
- The **Integrated Drought Management Programme** supports stakeholders at all levels in IDM, with many partners and a HelpDesk → www.droughtmanagement.info
- The **FOCUS Africa project** develops new climate services and applications, including improved seasonal forecasting for drought early warning and management → <https://focus-africaproject.eu/>



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Thank you
Merci

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Global Multi-Hazard Alert System

- **What?** WMO framework, driver and vehicle to incorporate hazardous weather and environmental events into planning, policy, and practice on the global, regional, and national scales.
- **How?** Authoritative warnings that are issued by the NMHS are incorporated into a global warning system
- **Long-term ambitions**
 - All Members have the capacity to issue alerts and warnings
 - Targeted groups receive and act as a result of issued authoritarian alerts
 - Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standard installed and operational
 - Global weather, water, ocean and climate extremes are available
 - Decision making processes are supported by GMAS
 - Science supports alerts and warnings to enhance action



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Structure of the project (Workpages, Case studies)

CSs	Country	Sector	Research / Timescale
CS1	South Africa	Food Security/Insurance	High-res Projections
CS2	Malawi	Food Security	Calibrated/Bias-corrected Seasonal Forecast
CS3	Mozambique	Food security / genetics	Seasonal Forecast/ projections
CS4	Tanzania	Food security	Seasonal Forecast / Projections
CS5	Tanzania	Infrastructure	Calibrated climate Projections
CS6	Tanzania	Renewable Energy	Seasonal Forecast / projections
CS7	Malawi	Energy/ Water	Projections
CS8	Mauritius	Water and agriculture	Seasonal forecast / drought indices

WPs	Topic
WP1	Stakeholder engagement, communication and dissemination
WP2	End-users' requirements and climate risks assessment
WP3	Understand Climate Processes
WP4	Methods and tools development
WP5	Prototypes of end-user tailored climate services development
WP6	Socio-economic value assessment and Exploitation of climate services
WP7	Capacities Development
WP8	Project management

