



29th United Nations Climate Change conference (COP29)

Theme: “In Solidarity for a Green World”

Date: 11 - 22 November 2024

Location: Baku, AZERBAIJAN

SIDE EVENT TITLE

Climate Services for the Disaster Risk Reduction: Implementation of the African Multi-Hazards Early warning and Early Action System for Loss and damage reduction



I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Substantial increase in frequency, intensity and impacts of extreme events is reducing economic growth across Africa. Warming trend in Africa is higher than the global average. North Africa recorded a 4 degree per century warming rate over recent few decades. Institutional infrastructure for early warning under establishment and operationalization in Africa will be presented with discussions to accelerate contributions to anticipatory action saving lives.

The Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and global development agenda consider Early warning as a key priority. The Africa Programme of Action for DRR includes [Multi Hazards Early Warning and Early Action System](#) for building resilience to disasters. With climate change, Africa is regularly recording compounding hazards (floods, droughts, storms, wildfires, cyclones, heat waves, disruptions on the agriculture season...) with devastating socio-economic impacts.

High temperature and heat waves particularly in North Africa during summer leading to wildfire, droughts often persistent in Eastern and Southern Africa, floods and storms with a focus on southern Africa and coastal areas. Establishment and operationalization of multi-hazard early warning are essential. Awareness of stakeholders on the progress on institutions and infrastructure for MultiHazards Early Warning and Early Action System will be raised.

Development cooperation has provided support for the establishment of continental Multi-hazard Early Warning System. Analysis of the past, monitoring of the present and prediction of the future climate are key components of an effective MHEWS.

The Belgium government development cooperation programme sponsored the scanning of historical African Climate data covering more than forty (40) countries.

The [Copernicus programme](#) is supporting production of images and digital data from microfiches produced by the scanning operations. Frequency and trend analysis on historical hazards and impacts will be updated to strengthen our understanding of past extreme climate events and related socio-economic impacts.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Centre for data and statistics improves access to socio economic data related to climate change impacts. Cyclone FREDDY (the longest lasting tropical system on record from February 05 to March 14, 2023) led to more than US\$ 500 million in losses and damages disrupting society and economy for upcoming years in countries of Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Commission regions.

II. OBJECTIVE AND METHODOLOGY

The side event will showcase the operations of Multi-Hazards Advisory Centre at ACMAD coordinating preparations of sections of the annual state of climate for Africa each year, developing and using training materials for weather and climate impacts forecasting and warning for meteorological services personnel, supporting the situation room at AUC with disaster situation reports and continental watches to reduce disasters impacts in Africa.

Through speeches, presentations, remarks, questions and answers, this side event will highlight the achievements of RCCs and partners on MHEWS. The discussion session will lead to key messages on challenges and opportunities to accelerate early warning and early action to the last mile guiding the



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INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME

ongoing discussions on losses and damages at COP 29 and the review of the key priorities and quick wins in implementation Plan of the revised African meteorology strategy. Additional exchanges with the audience will consolidate the messages and conclusions on the MHEWS modernization in Africa.

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

The discussion session will lead to key messages on challenges and opportunities to accelerate early warning and early action to the last mile guiding the ongoing discussions on losses and damages at COP 29 and the review of the key priorities and quick wins in implementation Plan of the revised African meteorology strategy.

Additional exchanges with the audience will consolidate the messages and conclusions on the MHEWS modernization in Africa.