



Concept Note

Continental and Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning for Early/Anticipatory Action

22 - 26 April 2024

Venue: Kigali, Rwanda

Introduction

Climate change projections for Africa indicate a future marked by increased climate extremes, posing significant challenges across the continent. As global temperatures continue to rise, Africa is expected to experience more intense and frequent altered precipitation patterns leading to both severe droughts and heavy rainfall events, and an increase in the occurrence of extreme weather events such as cyclones and floods. These changes are likely to have profound impacts on water availability, food security, public health, and biodiversity. Particularly concerning is the vulnerability of African societies due to the high dependence on agriculture, limited adaptive capacity, and existing stresses from poverty, political conflicts, and rapid urbanization. Projections by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and various climate models underscore the urgency for comprehensive adaptation and mitigation strategies to safeguard the continent's development trajectory and protect its populations from the adverse effects of climate change. Technology and a paradigm shift in disaster risk management that favors proactive disaster mitigation over reactive response are highlighting the importance of Early Warning Systems in protecting lives and livelihoods, developmental gains, and adapting to a changing climate.

The IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre ([ICPAC](#)) and the African Center of Meteorological Applications for Development ([ACMAD](#)) in collaboration with the Joint Research Centre ([JRC](#) - EU) are organizing a combined regional and continental capacity building workshops for all the RECs with an aim of **strengthening drought monitoring and early warning**. The



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workshop seeks to bring together technical practitioners from various national institutions mandated and involved in national and regional drought monitoring and management.

The ACMAD and ICPAC have developed African Drought Monitoring and Advisory System (ADMA) and the [East Africa Drought Watch \(EADW\)](#) respectively monitor drought and provide warnings for the member states with the support of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. Launched in 2021, the EADW automatically and routinely monitors drought conditions using a combined bio-physical drought indicator across 11 eastern African countries namely: Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan Tanzania, and Uganda. The ADMA was launched on 2023 and monitors drought for the whole continent. In addition to supporting trans-border drought monitoring and management, the EADW ADMA are meant to complement existing national drought systems while filling in the gaps for countries with no systems.

The objective of the capacity building workshop is to:

- a) Establish a collective comprehension of drought phenomena and methodologies for monitoring them, encompassing data, sources, and interpretation.
- b) Strengthen the capabilities of regional and national institutions to generate and distribute drought early warning information and monitor drought using ADMA and EADW.
- c) Assess continental, regional, and national user needs to support the improvement of the two systems

Participants

The workshop will draw a total of 7 participants from the ICPAC member countries and 26 from the rest of the continent. The participants will be technical staff involved in drought monitoring from RECs and underlying ministries and institutions at the national levels.

- i. National/Regional meteorological agency
- ii. National drought/disaster management institutions

Agenda/Program

Time	Activity	Responsible	Facilitator
Day 1			
8:30 - 9:00	Registration	ACMAD/ICPAC	



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9:00 - 9:30	Opening Remarks & Introductions - Rwanda Met. - ICPAC - ACMAD - Gov. Rep. Rwanda	Rwanda Met.	Rwanda Met.
9:30 - 9:45	Overview of the Project - Objectives of the workshop - Project Phase I & II	ACMAD/ICPAC	Rwanda Met.
09:45 – 10:15	Global drought systems - Overview of JRC work on drought - Global Drought Observatory [is global drought status relevant to the region?]	Joint Research Centre (JRC) - EU	Rwanda Met.
10:15 - 10:45	Tea break & Group Photo		
10:45 - 11:30	Continental Drought EWS - Overview to the African Drought Monitoring and Advisory System (ADMA)	ACMAD	ACMAD
11:30 - 12:00	Regional EWS - Overview to the East Africa Drought Watch	ICPAC	ACMAD
12:00 - 13:00	National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Systems (or processes) <i>[presentation from national institutions</i> - Highlight existing systems/processes - Highlight challenges/opportunities - Socio-economic data/indicator [10 mins per presentation]	Rwanda Met. Kenya	ACMAD
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break		
14:00 - 15:30	Introduction to the African Drought Monitoring and Advisory System (ADMA) functionality - Accessing the ADMA; ADMA interface; mapviewer; navigating through time; accessing metadata	ACMAD	ICPAC
15:30 – 16:30	Group Practical session: Understanding Combined Drought Indicator and underlying indicators	All	ACMAD / JRC
16:30 - 17:00	Health/Coffee Break		
Day 2			
Time	Activity	Responsible	Facilitator



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8:30 - 9:00	National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Systems (or processes) <i>[presentation from national institutions</i> - Highlight existing systems/processes - Highlight challenges/opportunities - Socio-economic data/indicator <i>[10 mins per presentation]</i>	Somalia Morocco	ACMAD
9:00 - 10:00	Group Presentation and discussions	All	ACMAD / JRC
10:00 - 10:30	African Drought Monitoring and Advisory System - Indicators and Methodology for Combined Drought Indicator - Understanding drought extent and evolution <i>[Interactive session & practical discussion]</i>	ACMAD / JRC	ICPAC
10:30 - 11:00	Health/Coffee Break		
11:00 - 12:00	Plenary Session <i>[map drought indicators and impact indicators used at REC and national level]</i> <i>[group work]</i>	RECs/National institutions	ACMAD
12:00 - 13:00	ADMA - Analysis and Reporting functionality continued <i>[Practical exercise - objective: situational analysis to support intervention decision]</i>	ACMAD	ICPAC
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break		
14:00 - 15:30	<i>[Practical exercise - objective: situational analysis to support intervention decision]</i> - Group presentation [10 mins per group] - Interactive session [map key information (indicators) necessary for intervention decision and action]	All	ICPAC/ACMAD
15:30 - 16:30	Plenary Session -Use of forecast -Group presentation and plenary discussion	All	JRC / ACMAD
16:30 - 17:00	Health/Coffee Break		



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Day 3			
Time	Activity	Responsible	Facilitator
8:30 - 9:00	National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Systems (or processes) <i>[presentation from national institutions</i> - Highlight existing systems/processes - Highlight challenges/opportunities - Socio-economic data/indicator <i>[10 mins per presentation]</i>	Zambia Madagascar	ACMAD
9:00 – 10:00	Introduction to the East African Drought Watch (EADW) functionality - Accessing the EADW; EADW interface; mapviewer; navigating through time; accessing metadata	ICPAC	ACMAD
10:00 - 10:30	Health/Coffee Break		
10:30 - 11:30	Group Practical session: Understanding Combined Drought Indicators and Underlying Indicators	All	ICPAC / JRC
11:30 – 13:00	East Africa Drought Watch - Indicators and Methodology for Combined Drought Indicator - Understanding drought extent and evolution <i>[Interactive session & practical discussion]</i>	ICPAC	ACMAD
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break		
14:00 - 15:00	EADW - Analysis and Reporting functionality continued <i>[Practical exercise - objective: situational analysis to support intervention decision]</i>	ICPAC	ACMAD
15:00 - 16:30	EADW - Analysis and Reporting functionality continued <i>[Practical exercise - objective: situational analysis to support intervention decision]</i> - Group presentation [10 mins per group]	All	ICPAC / JRC
16:30 - 17:00	Health/Coffee Break		



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Day 4			
Time	Activity	Responsible	Facilitator
8:30 - 9:00	Recap	AUC	AUC
9:00 - 10:00	EADW - Creating drought EW bulletin - Effective dissemination mechanisms (Regional and national experience, what was effective) - Integrating forecast data/information into bulletins - Integrating data from other sources (water)	ICPAC / JRC	ACMAD
10:30 - 11:00	Health/tea/coffee break		
11:00 - 13:00	EADW - Creating drought EW bulletin [Practical session continues] - Analysis on user-defined boundary (draw/upload) - Integrating forecast data/information into bulletins - Integrating data from other sources (water)	All	ICPAC/JRC
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00 – 15:00	Plenary Session [Group bulletin project presentation] [10 mins per group]	All	ACMAD
15:00 - 16:30	Plenary session - What was done during the recent drought, and what was effective?	All	ACMAD
16:30 - 17:00	Tea/Coffee break		

Day 5			
9:00 – 9:30	Recap	ICPAC	
9:30 - 10:30	User needs assessment - Regional	All	ACMAD / ICPAC / JRC /



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10:30 - 11:00	Health/tea/coffee break		
11:00 - 11:30	User needs assessment - Continental	All	ACMAD / ICPAC/ JRC /
11:30 – 13:00	Recommendation - Regional (EADW) - Continental (ADMA)	All	ACMAD / ICPAC/ JRC /
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00 – 15:00	Closing ceremony	Host institution	Host institution
15:00 - 16:00	Networking and Tea/Coffee break	All	All

- END -



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