REACHING THE LAST MILE USER WITH CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICES FOR RESILIENCE BUILDING

BY OLIVER KIPKOGEI
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USER INTERFACE PLATFORMS AS VEHICLES

- WMO defines **User Interface Platform** as a **structured** means for users, climate researchers and climate information providers to **interact at all levels**

- Through User Interface Platforms (UIPs) actors come together to **develop, deliver** and **use** climate information in **support** of robust climate-sensitive decision-making.

Aims of a UIP

- **Dialogue:** build dialogue between climate services users and those responsible for the observation, research and information system pillars of the Framework;
- **Outreach:** improve climate literacy in the user community through a range of public education initiatives and on-line training programmes;
- **Feedback:** identify optimal methods for obtaining feedback from user communities;
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** develop monitoring and evaluation measures of progress made in improving climate services according to agreements between users and providers.

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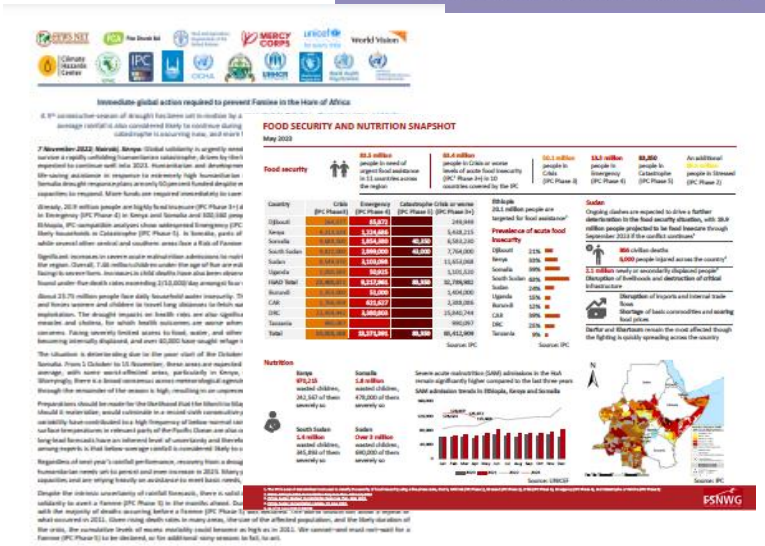
REACHING THE USER- REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS

1. FSNWG

- A regional coordination platform for regional food security and nutrition issues in Eastern and Central Africa.



It is a UIP for coordinating **food security and nutrition situation analysis and advocacy** to ensure that immediate food and nutrition security needs of communities affected by or at risk of being affected by humanitarian crises are fully addressed

Co-chaired by IGAD and FAO

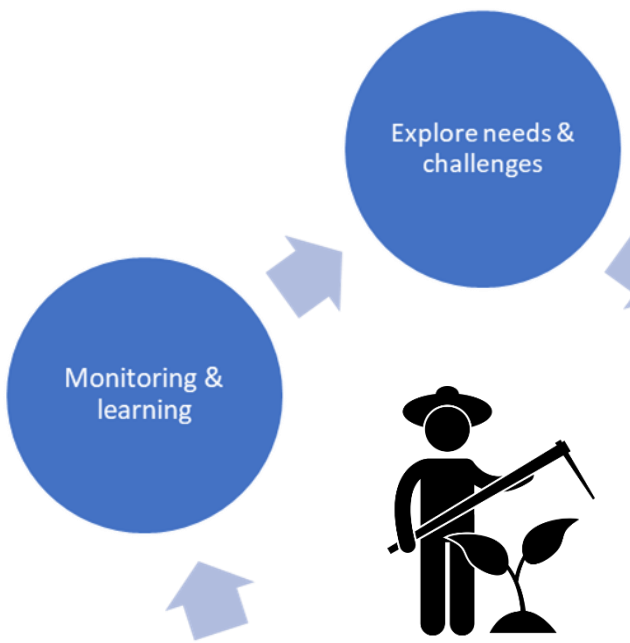
https://www.icpac.net/fsnwg/

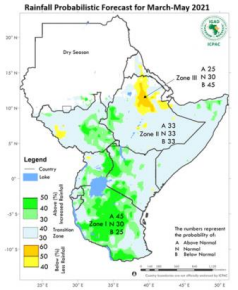
2. GHACOF AND

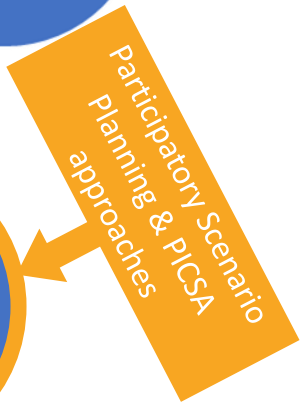
3. NCOF

Coproduction of climate advisories for agriculture at subnational levels

ACREI







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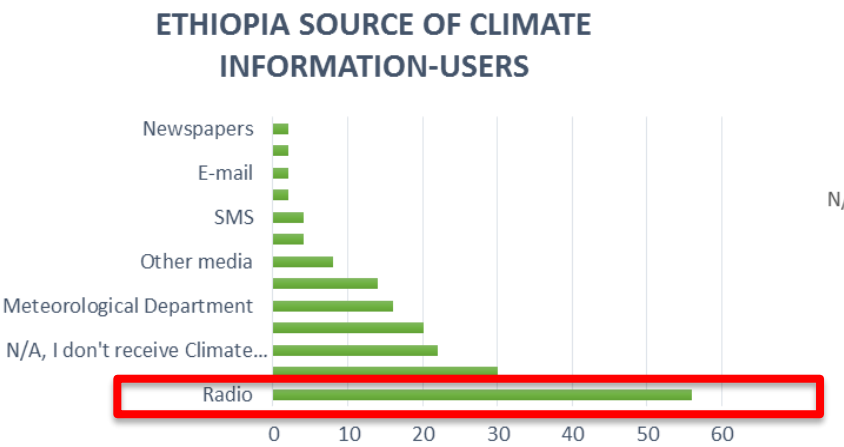
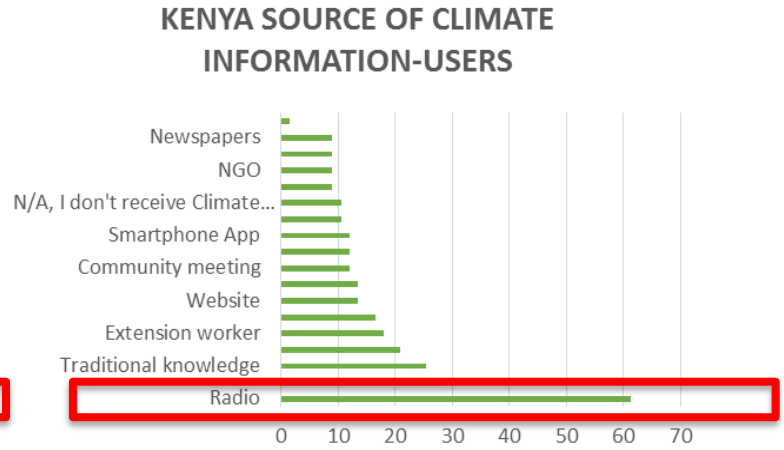
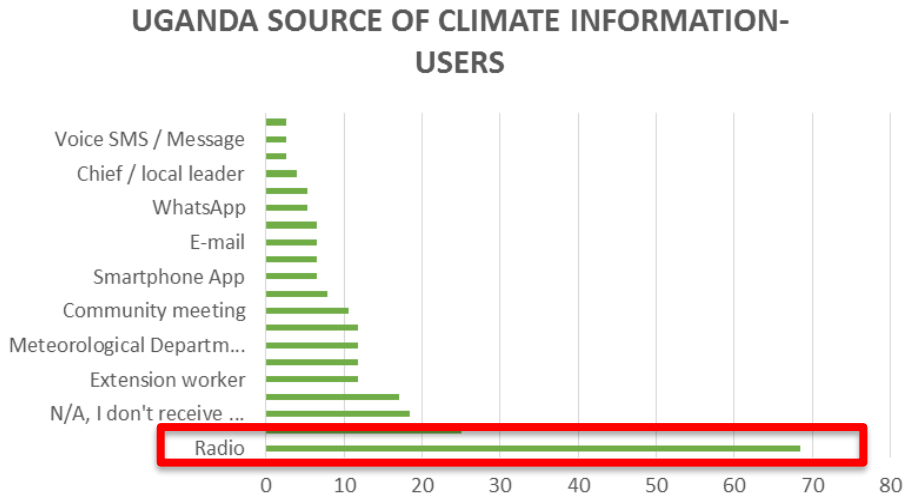
Desired Channels of Receiving Climate Information







Radio stations a key stakeholder in climate information dissemination → identify appropriate timing, language & format → key enabler in the CIS chain.

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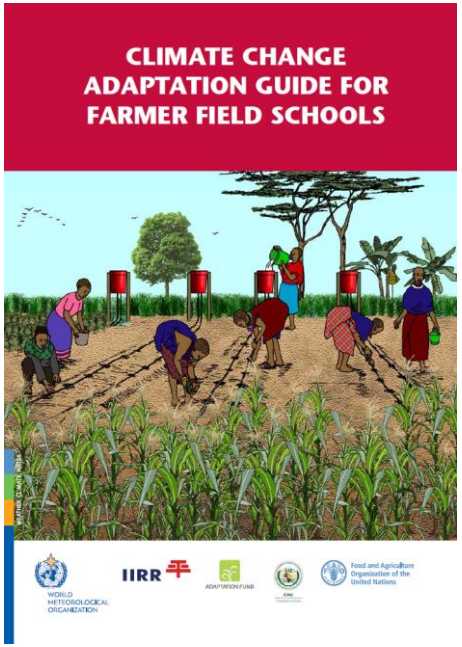
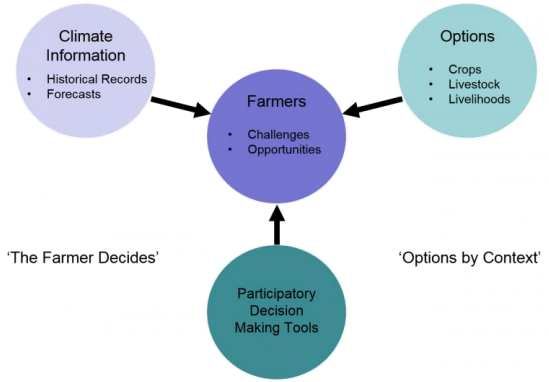
Integrating weather and climate into Farmer Field Schools (FFS)

- 60 FFS groups supported across project sites in the 3 countries
- A key focus was on **integrating climate information into FFS practice** for adaptation in their agricultural activities
- Farmer field schools (FFS) can serve as a **bridge between science and local knowledge** and practices
- Enhance **coproduction** of climate knowledge
- Ensure **ownership** of climate advisories for agriculture



Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture

- Participatory approach for climate services and agricultural extension, developed by researchers at the University of Reading
- Aims to support smallholder farmers to make informed decisions under variable and changing climatic conditions
- Integrates:
  - accurate, locally-specific climate information – (R-)INSTAT
  - locally relevant crop, livestock & livelihood options
  - participatory approaches
- Findings from Regional PICSA training in Kenya:
  - **Crops and varieties promoted in the county are unsuitable for the climate and this is reinforced by the experience of farmers**
  - **PSP & PICSA are complimentary – PSP largely based on discussion of the forecast – PICSA uses historical climate data – both integrate local knowledge**



https://research.reading.ac.uk/picsa/picsa/

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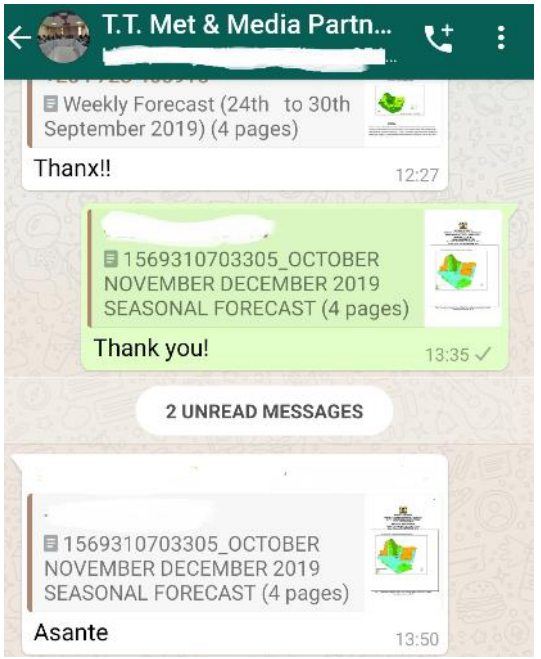
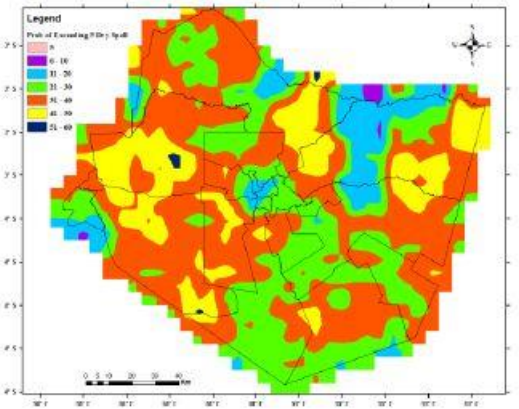
OUTCOMES

- ✓ Improved understanding and capacity in the interpretation of season forecasts by intermediaries and end users
- ✓ Increased trust in climate producers and forecast
- ✓ Improved communication and feedback mechanisms



Probability of the number of dry spells season exceeding 5 spells



Challenges for climate services delivery to the last mile - service provider perspective

- Farmers require **local level agrometeorological information** that can realistically represent the farming environment, which is often lacking.
  - **Observation gaps**: Low density land-based observation network
  - **Capacity gaps**: Human, financial and technical resources of NMHSs & agricultural extension advisory services to reach farmers with the information
- When information is produced at the national level, it **may not reach the intended end user(s)** such as farming communities

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CHALLENGES FOR CLIMATE SERVICES DELIVERY TO THE LAST MILE - FARMER PERSPECTIVE

- Lack of location specific climate advisories – **More focus on NCOF**
- **Limited understanding of the terminologies** used in climate advisories by farmers and intermediaries (e.g. what is above normal)
- **Lack of trust** in climate forecasts (linked to lack of understanding of uncertainty)
- **Limited availability of technical resource persons** to explain the advisories
- **Late receipt of climate advisories** to enable decisions
- Lack of a meteorological officer in the location (maybe only an observer).

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LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COPRODUCING CLIMATE SERVICES – COMMUNITY LEVEL

- Only a few farmer representatives can participate in the PSP → broader dissemination through different media/other channels is crucial.
- Weather and climate updates throughout the season is crucial to farmers and other stakeholders to enable strategies to evolve.
- Added advantage can be gained by linking the advisories generated, to participatory planning and community adaptation planning as well as to organised farming groups such as Farmer Field Schools (FFS),
- Supporting community rain gauges for local monitoring of weather and climate – Link to Component 1 & 2 of ACREI

LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COPRODUCING CLIMATE SERVICES – SUBNATIONAL LEVEL

- Advocacy with leaders at the subnational level from various sectors critical to ensure ownership and sustainability
- Formation of a multi-sectoral technical team to lead the planning and implementation of the PSP process is critical
- Including Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITK) experts in the process is important.
- Having decentralised NMHS staff is an advantage – e.g. Kenya where there is CDM – interacting with media and end users.
- Ensuring gender equity in participation requires an intentional effort.

LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COPRODUCING CLIMATE SERVICES – PARTNERSHIPS

- Strengthening participation and buy-in of media practitioners in the PSP process (media partnership) is key
- SMAP approach required close interaction between the meteorological authorities and the media, resulting in both increased coverage and increased interest by the end users for climate information.
- It is possible to intensify interaction between the meteorological authorities, media and other partners online.

THANK YOU!!

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