



Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)

Report of the Advisory Committee and Management Committee meetings 2014

**9-10 September 2014
Geneva, Switzerland**

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Executive Summary

The Management Committee approved the activities proposed for the year 2014/2015 by the TSU (see Annex III IDMP Activity Plan 2014/2015 provided to the meeting participants prior to the meeting).

In addition the meeting of the Advisory Committee and Management Committee of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) articulated the following recommendations:

- Produce the proposed publications according to this order of priority: Integrated Drought Management Framework Document (to be launched at an appropriate event in 2015), Drought Indices Handbook, and Series of Case Studies;
- Engage with partners to exchange information on drought to further enhance the HelpDesk. Organisations are requested to provide documents, policy briefs and tools to be included in the HelpDesk. Further develop the HelpDesk as a mechanism to guide novice practitioners/planners with entry points or “high-level digestible information” on drought management;
- Consider the forming of a Technical Review Group or Groups that provide technical review for specific activities and information. This group could be comprised of existing IDMP Partners.
- Develop a cooperation mechanism with partners to allow them contribute to the IDMP in a consistent way avoiding duplications. Within this mechanism ensure that the cooperation across entities to effectively address drought impacts is further strengthened by bringing together partners that can contribute with their capacity and strength to an integrated management of droughts.
- Ensure that the contributing partners are credited and visible on the IDMP website;
- For the implementation of national and regional initiatives, connect as much as possible with Partners and their projects, as well as with local stakeholders.
- Consider organizing an international conference on drought management in 2016 (three years after the establishment of the IDMP at the HMNDP) and to organize subsequent conferences with a frequency of two/three years that could become a point of reference for those involved in drought management.
- Include representatives of the regional IDMP programmes in the Advisory Committee as observers;

Overarching considerations of the added value of the IDMP that came through during the discussions are:

Proactive rather than Reactive:

- Focus on drought mitigation, vulnerability reduction, planning and preparedness (including monitoring and early warning)
- Consider the whole cycle of disaster risk management and shift the focus to Risk Management (rather than crisis management)

Horizontal Integration:

- The IDMP aims to bring together partners from different disciplines and sectors to find solutions (sectoral approaches from the past are limited in reducing drought impacts).

- IDMP function as an inclusive platform to highlight approaches to Integrated Drought Management of its partners, with a spirit that more can be achieved working together
- Draws on the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management

Vertical Integration:

- Connects and exchanges experiences among the global, regional, national and local level.
- Expertise and application of the principles of Integrated Drought Management is exchanged among levels

Knowledge Sharing:

- The IDMP supports connecting knowledge providers with those seeking knowledge (IDM HelpDesk to be established)
- The IDMP focus on providing entry points to understand and apply the principles of Integrated Drought Management, pointing as much as possible to existing knowledge (such as National Drought Management Policy Guidelines)
- Rather than producing new scientific/highly technical knowledge, the IDMP closes gaps in knowledge and in communicating/applying existing knowledge

Demonstration Projects:

- Demonstrate innovation - applying the principles of Integrated Drought Management
- Build on existing efforts that are scalable and make a significant contribution to building drought resilience through an integrated approach

Develop Capacities:

- Through the above and closing gaps where necessary by partnering with capacity development initiatives that add value and collaborate with relevant partners.

PART I ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Opening

The meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) was held at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland on the 9-10 September 2014.

After welcoming remarks by Donald A. Wilhite, the Chair of the IDMP, and Robert Stefanski, head of the Technical Support Unit (TSU) of the IDMP, as well as opening remarks by Maxx Dilley, Director, Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch on behalf of WMO, and Frederik Pischke, Programme Officer, on behalf of GWP, all participants introduced themselves (see List of participants in Annex I).

At 14.35 the agenda (Annex II) was adopted with no amendments.

2. Overview of past and ongoing activities

Frederik Pischke, GWP Focal Point for the IDMP and the APFM, with the support of the other members of the TSU, presented the activities developed since last AC in October 2013. The following topics were addressed:

- Brief history of the programme and composition of the TSU;
- IDMP approach;
- Expected outcomes;
- Programme's components;
- Regional initiatives (IDMP Central and Eastern Europe – IDMP CEE, IDMP Horn of Africa – IDMP HoA, IDMP West Africa – IDMP WAF, South Asia Drought Monitoring System, Drought Management Efforts in Central America);
- National Drought Management Policy Guidelines;
- Website and Helpdesk;
- Capacity development and workshops.

A presentation illustrating the South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SA DMS) jointly developed by the IDMP, GWP South Asia and IWMI was given by Mr. Vladimir Smakhtin, team leader at the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

3. Discussion

a. Development of Governance Structure and cooperation with partners

The Committee discussed the Operational Guidelines established during the Advisory Committee (AC) Meeting in October 2013 and proposed to:

- Include representatives of the regional programmes in the AC as observers;
- Form a Technical Review Group;
- Develop a cooperation mechanism with partners allowing the creation of a network of networks where all related initiatives merge in a consistent way and duplication is

avoided. To achieve this objective, it is suggested that communication continues between the TSU (in particular, through Robert Stefanski and Frederik Pischke) and the already designated focal points of the partner organizations;

- Identify the area/s of expertise where every organization could provide its contribution and create a profile of work for each of them. To this aim, a workshop or a regional event gathering all the partners could be convened;
- Make contributions by partners visible (on the website and any other IDMP products to which they contribute);
- Give partners the opportunity to present their activities during the AC meeting;
- Welcome partners participating to the AC to select two to represent all partners in the Management Committee (MC) meeting. Other partners also interested to join may participate as observers in the MC meeting.

b. Publications

The AC supported the development of the planned publications listed below, with high priority given to the Integrated Drought Management Framework Document, followed by the Drought Indices Handbook, and the Series of Case Studies. In particular, the Committee gave some recommendations in relation to each publication:

- Integrated Drought Management Framework Document
 - The focus should be on the integrated aspect of drought management, which represents the true novelty brought by the Integrated Drought Management approach. This entails the inclusion of aspects such as: connections with other water related hazards; the interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral nature of drought management; the linkage between drought and climate change and, consequently, the contribution of ecosystems to drought management; loss and damage assessment (i.e. the impacts of drought on the economy, transports, etc.);
 - The description of the institutional setting needed to implement drought management policies should be at the core of the document;
 - The target audience should encompass not only policy-makers, but all stakeholders, including local communities and NGOs.
- Drought Indices Handbook
 - The publication should aim to orient users among the numerous existing indices, without directing them to specific indicators, software and institutions;
 - Socially related indicators and gender based indices should be included as far as possible;
 - Different inputs could be drawn from: UNFCCC Loss and Damage International Mechanism, Hyogo Framework of Action and its successor document, SDGs, UN Water Country Briefs, publications by UNESCO-IHP FRIEND-Water programme , UNISDR and FAO;
 - As with the National Drought Management Policy Guidelines, the document will be developed with opportunities to shape the document. A first draft of the structure and indices to cover will be shared for feedback and a draft of the

document later on. UNESCO-IHP and JRC showed their interest in taking part to the development of the Handbook, all partners will be informed.

- The various WMO Technical Commissions (Commission for Agricultural Meteorology, Hydrology and Climatology) could review and provide experts for this handbook and any other technical drought issues.
- Series of Case Studies
 - A suggestion was made that drought management policies implemented in Mexico and the USA, although in their first step could be suitable case studies. A call to all members will be made for case studies.

c. IDMP Regional initiatives

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the three ongoing regional initiatives (IDMP Central and Eastern Europe – IDMP CEE, IDMP Horn of Africa – IDMP HoA, IDMP West Africa – IDMP WA), stressing the importance of liaising with and involving local organizations and the IDMP’s focus on vertical integration. In relation to this, the World Bank proposed to connect with its regional programmes and projects.

Concerning specifically the IDMP initiatives in Africa, a suggestion was made to link with the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) active in the region.

d. IDMP National initiatives

Acknowledging the worth of the national initiatives in Mexico and Turkey, members of the AC indicated opportunities to coordinate with other activities implemented by partners in the same areas, for instance the European project EuroCLima, which has wide connections in South and Central America.

e. Cooperation on Capacity Development

The IDMP highlighted its links with efforts of CapNet and supporting through WMO’s involvement regional drought policy workshops carried out by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), FAO, UNCCD, CBD and WMO. While recognizing the efforts of the regional workshops in working together with other institutions, the Committee recommended consistency in the approach to collaboration, especially when working with countries. The added value brought by cooperation not only in practical terms, but also for the symbolic message conveyed (i.e. different organizations making efforts to work together towards a common goal) was emphasized. In light of this, the following advices were formulated for the IDMP:

- Connect drought management to aspects of water management and policy-making;
- Shift the partnership exercise from the discussion on how drought management should be done to the implementation side;
- Capitalize on the work done by sharing knowledge and information.

f. IDMP website

Both the content and the layout of the website were praised. Recommendations for the further development of the “Library” section induced:

- Include the organizations with their logo on the webpage to indicated the network of the programme and demonstrate transparency and visibility of associated institutions and programmes;
- Establish criteria to select the publications to be included, in relation to both target audience and main topics;
- Organize the Library around few key themes;
- Ensure socio-economic aspects are included;
- Add links to other major databases, e.g. the World AgroMeteorological Information Service (WAMIS).

g. IDMP HelpDesk

The Committee supported the continued development of the HelpDesk as a platform to link the needs of the community of users to experts and institutions. It indicated its overall goal as giving guidance about entry points to the topic or “high-level digestible information” to novice practitioners/planners. For this reason, it recommended to structure it in such a way that users could find information autonomously, but also obtain answers by reaching out to the TSU and the wealth of expertise of the IDMP’s partners.

As all the partners were solicited to give their support to the HelpDesk, the TSU was assigned to design a mechanism to allow each organization give its contribution according to its expertise and make it accessible to the users.

h. Contribution to international processes

The meeting discussed the processes listed in the Activity Report (paragraph 2.9, p. 16), namely the Sustainable Development Goal, the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, and the UNFCCC COP-21 processes that are designed to shape the post-2015 development agenda.

Participants also asked to reflect the recognition of the IDMP in 2013 at the global and regional level, namely: meetings of the Regional Association IV of WMO and the Iberoamerican Conference of Directors; and proposed the IDMP’s participation in the 2nd Mediterranean Conference in November 2014, Murcia, Spain.

The Committee noted the critical importance of 2015 in shaping the future development agenda. It endorsed the IDMP’s participation as much as the TSU can take up these tasks with its current level of staff and suggested the integration with the different organizations participating in these processes.

The Committee was informed that the IDMP was officially recognized by the WMO Executive Council and the WMO Commission for Agricultural Meteorology in 2014.

i. Outreach and Communication

No specific comment was made in addition to what already mentioned at points f., g. and h.

j. General advice on focus and direction of IDMP – Critical Issues

The Committee recommended continuing to monitor progress made through the development of success criteria indicators built on the GWP’s results based framework already in use.

The engagement with the development of National Adaptation Plans should be continued as this mechanism has the potential to attract substantial funding to strengthen the resilience of countries to climate impacts.

4. Summary of critical issues and recommendations

The main recommendations of the Advisory Committee to be considered by the Management Committee were summarized at the end of the meeting as follows:

- Include representatives of the regional programmes in the AC as observers;
- Consider the forming of a Technical Review Group or Groups that provide technical review for specific activities. This group could be comprised of existing IDMP Partners.
- Develop a cooperation mechanism with partners to allow them contribute to the IDMP in a consistent way avoiding duplications;
- Further develop the HelpDesk as a mechanism to guide novice practitioners/planners with entry points or “high-level digestible information” on drought management;
- Ensure that the cooperation across entities to effectively address drought impacts is further strengthened by bringing together partners that can contribute with their capacity and strength to an integrated management of droughts.
- Produce the proposed publications according to this order of priority: Integrated Drought Management Framework Document, Drought Indices Handbook, and Series of Case Studies;
- For the implementation of national and regional initiatives, connect as much as possible with Partners and their projects, as well as with local stakeholders.
- Visibility of the organizations contributing actively to the programme has to be improved and guaranteed.

5. Selection of Partners for the Management Committee meeting

In compliance with the Operational Guidelines of the WMO/GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP), the IDMP Technical Support Unit in cooperation with the Chairperson decided to invite Mohammed Bazza, from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Advisory Committee decided that the Support Base Partners Francisco Espejo, from the Agencia Estatal de Meteorología (AEMET), Spain and Vladimir Smakhtin, from the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) would represent the partners. In addition David Coates, UN CBD and Masahiko Murase, ICHARM requested to participate as observers in the Management Committee.

6. Closing

In closing the meeting, the Chair thanked the members of the AC for their constructive participation and recommended the TSU to incorporate their suggestions into future work. Mr. Maxx Dilley, on behalf of WMO, and Dr. Ania Grobicki, on behalf of GWP, expressed their appreciation for the valuable contribution provided by the participants and congratulated the TSU on the good job of developing the IDMP from a concept into implementation.

The Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 12.30 of 10 September 2014.

PART II MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

7. Opening of the Management Committee

The meeting of the Management Committee (MC) of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) was held at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland on the 10 September 2014. It was chaired by Prof. Donald A. Wilhite.

8. Review of progress on implementation of IDMP activities for the year 2013/2014; oversight recommendations; discussion of governance arrangements/engagements of partners

The MC endorsed the recommendations and conclusions formulated by the Advisory Committee, adding the following remarks:

a. Engagement of partners

The importance to present the Support Base Partners and their expertise to the external audience through the website was recognized, as well as the need to create a network (for instance, an intranet) to allow them to connect and communicate to each other their achievements and contributions to the programme.

The proposal of organizing a workshop or a regional event gathering all the SBPs was accepted. Because of other international commitments involving most of the partners, a first proposal was made to convene such meeting during 2016.

b. Publications

While confirming the order of priority for the new publications proposed by the AC, the Committee suggested the establishment of a timeline to manage the development of the new publications, especially the Integrated Drought Management Framework document. Concerning the latter, it was proposed to send the reviewed outline to partners for comments, develop a first draft and then circulate it among the SBPs to collect their inputs for a second revision. Partners interested in taking part to the drafting process were invited to express their willingness to contribute to the TSU. A similar process was proposed for the Handbook on Drought Indices.

The utility of the Series of Case Studies in addressing the implementation aspects of drought management was underlined. Organizations and institutions involved in the implementation of drought projects should be closely involved.

c. Outreach and Communication

Taking into account the partner organizations' policy discouraging the development of logos for programmes and projects, the strengthening of a visual identity of the IDMP by using similar typeface and color scheme was recommended. The preparation of basic power point presentations about the main topics related to drought management were also found to be potentially useful to support partners in the promotion of the IDMP.

9. Presentation of financial report; medium and longer-term funding situation

The IDMP Expenditure Report for the period 2013 to June 2014 was presented and illustrated by the TSU to the MC, which approved it with the recommendation to additionally reflect the expenditures incurred in by the Partners (for example the costs of attending the AC/MC meetings, the organization of workshops that are part of the IDMP).

The opening of a WMO trust fund for the IDMP is envisaged for 2014 for the continuation of the IDMP and the High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy (HMNDP) activities. This will allow for budget planning for the future.

The Committee noted the need for a strategy for the next years, both from a programmatic and a financial point of view. The development of a multi-year workplan, including indicators, deliverables and estimate budget and investments, was suggested, especially in view of attracting additional donors. In relation to this, Dr. Ania Grobicki indicated opportunities for fundraising in the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) of the UK Department for International Development (DfID) as well as with the African Development Bank's Africa Water Facility.

10. Action plan activities for the year 2014/2015

The Management Committee approved the activities proposed for the year 2014/2015 by the TSU (see Activity Plan 2014/2015 pages 17-20) and confirmed the recommendations by the AC. Two additional suggestions were raised:

- Hire consultant to support the TSU in developing publications;
- Consider organizing an international conference on drought management in 2016 (three years after the establishment of the IDMP at the HMNDP) and to organize subsequent conferences with a frequency of two/three years that could become a point of reference for those involved in drought management and provide an international forum for drought management. One option for this event could be to liaise with the 6th International Disaster and Risk Conference, 28 August – 1 September 2016, Davos, Switzerland, proposing to devote a whole day to drought.

11. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 17.30 on 10 September 2014.

ANNEX I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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**ANNEX II AGENDA OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF THE INTEGRATED DROUGHT MANAGEMENT
PROGRAMME (IDMP)**

**Agenda
Advisory Committee Meeting of the
Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)**

Tuesday, 09 September, 14:00 – 17:30 and Wednesday, 10 September, 09:00 – 12:30

Venue: WMO; 7bis, avenue de la Paix; CH-1211 Genève
Meeting Room: Press Room in the WMO building

Time	Item
14:00 – 14:15	Welcome, round of introduction, adoption of agenda
14:15 – 15:30	Overview of past and ongoing activities Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of Governance Structure and cooperation with partners ▪ Publications ▪ IDMP Regional Initiatives ▪ IDMP National Initiatives
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/ Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30	Continuation of discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cooperation on Capacity Development ▪ IDMP Website ▪ IDMP HelpDesk ▪ Contribution to International Processes ▪ Outreach and Communication ▪ General advice on focus and direction of IDMP – Critical Issues
Starting 19:00	Informal Dinner

Continuation of Advisory Committee Meeting, Wednesday, 10 September, 09:00 – 12:30

Time	Item
09:00 – 09:15	Recap of previous day discussions
09:15 – 10:30	Continuation of discussion of activities
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/ Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	Discussion on Integrated Drought Management framework document
12:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Summary of critical issues for IDMP- Selection of Partners for Management Committee meeting- Wrap up of Advisory Committee Meeting- Concluding Remarks from the Chair

Agenda

**Management Committee Meeting of the
Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)**

Wednesday, 10 September, 14:00 – 17:30

Venue: WMO; 7bis, avenue de la Paix; CH-1211 Genève
Meeting Room 8th floor Jura side of the WMO building

Time	Item
14:00 – 14:10	Welcome and Introduction
14:10 – 14:40	Review of progress on implementation of IDMP activities for the year 2013/2014 Oversight recommendations from Management Committee
14:40 – 15:00	Discussion of governance arrangements/ engagement of partners
15:00 – 15:30	Tea/ Coffee break

15:30 – 16:00	Presentation of financial report Medium and longer-term funding situation Staffing situation and liaison with APFM
16:00 – 16:30	Consideration and decision of action plan/ activities for the year 2014/2015 as recommended by the Advisory Committee meeting
16:30 – 17:00	Discussion and decision on budget
17:00 – 17:30	AOB Concluding Remarks

ANNEX III Activity Report 2013-2014 and Activity Plan 2014-2015 (separate file)