



Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)

Activity Report 2020-21

**September 2021
Geneva, Switzerland**

IDMP
Integrated Drought Management Programme

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The **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources. WMO has a membership of 191 countries and territories.

www.wmo.int

The **Global Water Partnership (GWP)** is an international network whose vision is a water secure world. The GWP mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development. The GWP network is open to all organizations which recognize the principles of integrated water resources management endorsed by the network.

www.gwp.org

The **Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)** was launched by WMO and GWP at the High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies in March 2013. The IDMP works with a wide range of partners with the objective of supporting stakeholders at all levels by providing them with policy and management guidance through globally coordinated generation of scientific information and sharing best practices and knowledge for integrated drought management. The IDMP is a contribution to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), especially with regards to GFCS priority areas of disaster risk reduction, water, agriculture and food security. It especially seeks to support regions and countries to develop more proactive drought policies and better predictive mechanisms.

www.droughtmanagement.info

1. Introduction and Executive Summary

This document reports on activities undertaken by the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP), including its regional programmes, in the last two Quarters of 2020 and the first two Quarters of 2021. It also provides an overview of activities that are in the process of being implemented and planned as of September 2021 and provides a brief overview of the process to develop an IDMP 2022-24 strategy as an input to the discussions at the virtual IDMP Advisory and Management Committee meetings in October 2021.

The Integrated Drought Management Programme was launched at the High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies in March 2013. The IDMP Technical Support Unit (TSU) based at WMO is co-headed by Mr Bob Stefanski, the Head of the WMO Applied Climate Services Division. From GWP, Mr Valentin Aich, Senior Water and Climate Specialist seconded to WMO, is co-heading the TSU. Ms Katrin Ehlert, a Junior Professional Officer in the Applied Climate Services Division at WMO has been a member of the IDMP TSU since March 2019. Mr José Camacho, Scientific Officer in the WMO Applied Climate Services Division also supports the IDMP part time.

The IDMP in Central and Eastern Europe (IDMP CEE) is managed by Ms Sabina Bokal, supported by the GWP CEE office in Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Mr Gerald Kairu manages the IDMP Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) at the GWP office for Eastern Africa in Entebbe, Uganda. Mr Armand Houanye manages the IDMP West Africa (IDMP WAF) at the GWP office for West Africa in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The IDMP builds on long-standing cooperation of WMO and GWP and is inspired by the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) that is developing and applying the concept of Integrated Flood Management and provides support through a HelpDesk with the involvement of a wide range of partners.

The IDMP and the APFM are both contributions to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The GFCS bridges the gap between climate information producers and the practical needs of policy makers, planners and other users, such as farmers, water managers, and health workers. It aims to facilitate climate-smart decisions and the APFM and IDMP HelpDesks have been offered as mechanisms to support the GFCS in this endeavor.

The IDMP's objective is to support stakeholders at all levels by providing them with policy and management guidance through globally coordinated generation of scientific information and sharing best practices and knowledge for integrated drought management. The IDMP especially seeks to support regions and countries to develop more proactive drought policies and better predictive mechanisms. While the spatial scope is global, the results of the IDMP are aimed to be practical and policy relevant - tailored to specific regional and national needs and requirements.

One of the main areas of work has been on supporting the regional activities of the IDMP and develop an open and inclusive platform, which can foster synergies among partners and close gaps.

With this focus of the programme, several actions have been taken in the eighth year of operation of the IDMP, which are discussed in more detail in the report:

- The HelpDesk with its “Ask”, “Find” and “Connect” functions has seen its fourth year of operation. In total 224 requests have been recorded and largely completed by the IDMP TSU with support from partners with 53 received during the reporting period (see section 2.10).
- The IDMP TSU has continued the IDMP Virtual Exchange platform as a means to increase interaction with and between IDMP partners and 3 virtual exchanges have been carried out in 2021 (see section 2.1)
- Collaboration with several UNCCD drought-related activities and FAO WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness is moving forward with significant results to support countries in drought planning and raising the profile of integrated drought management (see section 2.3)
- Discussions have started for the organization of a HMNDP+10 in 2023 to review progress made in IDM since the HMNDP in 2013 (see section 2.6)
- Presentation of the IDMP at strategic events to promote the concept of integrated drought management and link it with the relevant political processes has been limited due to Covid-19. Attended events include the World Water Week in August 2021, where IDMP hosted together with IDMP a session on integration of flood and drought management and co-hosted a session with other WASAG partners on progress in drought management.
- Several publications of resources and approaches on the three pillars of integrated drought management with IDMP participation have been published in 2020/21 (see section 2.7.2-3)
- The IDMP is developing several publications strengthening the understanding of integrated drought management and the Three Pillars of IDM (section 2.7.4-8)
- Cooperation with and advice to the IDMP in Central and Eastern Europe that has been operational since early 2013 (see section 2.8.1), the IDMP in the Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) operational since September 2014 (see section 2.8.2) and West Africa (IDMP WAF) operational since January 2015 (see section 2.8.3). As a new development, efforts have started to increase the IDMP’s presence in Central Asia and Caucasus and activities are planned for 2021/22 (see section 3.2.4).
- Support to drought activities in Central America (see sections 2.8.6) and South America (see sections 2.8.7) leading to funding for regional initiatives.
- The IDMP website is being periodically updated and improved to serve as the knowledge repository and display as well as interaction platform for the IDMP
- A series of graphical factsheets for drought has been launched to celebrate World Drought and Desertification Day 2021 and the first factsheet focused on the 3-pillar approach.
- The IDMP TSU has been working on a draft strategic plan for the coming 3 years of implementation. This plan includes several goals and activities that will advance the programme in serving stakeholder’s needs for support in proactive and integrated drought management.
- Resource mobilization efforts have been successful, including annual contributions to the IDMP by NOAA (see 2.14 and 2.15).

With the intent of keeping the Annual Report as concise as possible, the reader is invited to refer to previous Annual Reports and decisions taken at previous meeting (available on the IDMP [Advisory and Management Committee meeting website](#)).

2. Activity Report 2020-2021

Recommendations	Link to regional / national initiatives / partners	Priority	Status as of August 2021
General recommendations			
Further explore IDMP / UNCCD relationship, Continued momentum on NDPs & UNCCD DI		High	Sustained involvement with SPI and IWG
IDMP to better liaise with EU process and reach out to delegations and other regional political processes, More communicate/share info with the EU delegations. Tailor the IDM framework for local contexts		High	DMCSEE (IDMP partner) is liaising with EU processes especially in Q3&4 2021
Focus on gender - impact stories, mainstream gender in drought management, Need more data collection on gender issues	Missing in most NDPs	High	IDMP HOA will work on gender workshop and plan to include into capacity building material (e-learning)
Need to develop more project proposals with partners and that synergizing with on-going initiatives; important to link to on-going projects. Link floods and droughts programmes in (strategic) marketing to apply for funding	Project with FAO on drought management in agri. in Central Asia, Link drought research with academic instit. and youth, HYDROSOS. Volta, Mekong and Chad projects, GCF, GEF, EUROCLIMA+, AF, WB, GFDRR, Regional dev banks	High	Drin AF pre-concept, FAO/UNCCD/WMO/GWP AF discussions on CA, GCF readiness GWP/WMO in Amazon region, CLEAR PATH EU proposal, Lake Chad AF proposal stage, Mekong AF pre-concept note
Integrated platform on drought forecasting	WMO partners, Copernicus - ECMWF, RCCs	Medium	Needs follow-up
Focus more on hydrological drought impacts - energy production, transportation (river levels), more indices on river levels, flow conditions	Joint SC-HYD & SC-AGR activity	Medium	ongoing, linkage with WMO Hydrology (SERCOM - SC-HYD)

Explore the usefulness of identifying national IDMP focal points. GWP and WMO networks to interact and promote IDMP issues, Need better user requirements, - , Simplyfy Knowledge, capacities: financial resources, political will/ownership at subnational level - making it more accessible	Not many people are aware that the IDMP material exists	Medium	TSU to follow up within WMO (CPDB)
Explore how to “combine” flood & drought management & activities (Target Water authorities), Can use extreme drought & flood events to look at water availability	More joint activities with SC-AGR to support IDMP/APFM & SC-HYD, Similarities b/w pillars 1 & 3 with Drought and Floods.	Medium	Flood and Drought management publication, WB EPIC response collaboration, possible pilot projects (Mekong, Lake Chad), WWW sessions with Deltares/WB
Explore HMNDP +10 (to be held in 2023)	Evaluate country progress, Back to back meeting with UNCCD COP	low	Meeting held with HMNDP partners, Concept note to be finalized
Data Quality - to be improved, help countries to collect good data - to define gaps and improve understanding of problems	WMO	Low	Ongoing
Explore way forward with GDIS in context of IDMP and Global Drought Observatory (GDO)		High	ongoing
Increase interaction with Regional Climate Centres, explore better Drought forecasting products and user requirements		High	WMO Climate Services Information System and Tailored Climate Products
Better characterize the IDMP target audiences - Conduct user needs analysis	BoM to support	High	Collaboration with APFM
Assess transboundary water management issues related to drought jointly with APFM	Volta project, DriDanube, Murray-Darling basin, FAO work on hydro-economic modelling for water allocation	Medium	This is part of several current and future projects (e.g. Volta, Lake Chad, Mekong, Drin)

Explore interaction with HELP – how can IDMP help, what would be contents of collaboration, how can movement into the same direction be ensured?		Medium to ensure alignment	IDMP TSU contributing to HELP flagship report on drought
Continue dialogue with a view for suitable funding opportunities with finance/(re)insurance industry Explore how to engage different industries in preparedness phase – pick most promising industry, Stock taking of what/how partners are interacting with private sector.		Medium	Medium priority, industry partners need to be identified
Explore “Drought Resilience” label from IDMP/intermediaries	What are other orgs that review (intermediaries)? Negotiate with them to include processes - Label results in support letter to projects	Low	Further discussion needed
Define connection with UN-Water Expert Group on Water and Climate Change		Low	Interacted on Water Scarcity publication, Ongoing

Knowledge products			
In order to promote the IDMP, mid-term short report that summarizes regional progress and success stories. This would be very useful and motivate the partners	Make IDMP more visible at the country level	high	Partly covered by virtual exchanges and fact sheets
Increase Knowledge on terminology (e.g. ‘drought risk mitigation’ vs ‘CC mitigation’, water scarcity vs. drought). More support needed. Explore developing subpages on droughtmanagement.info, Where else could this be promoted.	2020	medium	Website updated, will be restructured to host terminology; fact sheets

Work on visualization of IDMP framework and knowledge products. Infographics. Make more understandable.	2020	medium	3pillar fact sheet and more planned
Refine how IDMP promotes looking at vulnerability – in context of raising expectations and understanding, where are the limits? Guidance on how to conduct an assessment, on the ground there is a gap for tools and lessons learned (for capacity building)	2020	medium	IDMP part of UNCCD SPI workflow on Drought Resilience
Support development of GAR2020 special report on drought	UN DRR, JRC, NOAA and share information with partners	High	done
Publish a review publication on pillar 1 and 3 – led by partner under IDMP	IDMP pillar 1, IDMP with support of FAO pillar 3	High	Pillar 3 publication done
Finalize publication on water scarcity and drought, also connect with work of FAO on SDG 6.4		High	done
Finalize Integrated Drought Management Framework Document (include learning from IDMP e.g. 10 step process)		High	pending
Put BACI framework into action, BACI: Economic argument for drivers and barriers to be developed, BACI: Categorization/ Prioritization of methods of economic analysis	World Bank drought and flood policy engagement strategy	High	pending
Develop Impact Stories on the value and impact of IDMP	UNDP CAP-NET?	Medium	propose to combine with midterm short report
Use CAgM Drought Expert Team report for IDMP information products		Medium	CAgM report to be finalized Q3 & SERCOM Drought Report Q1 2022

Examine the usefulness of the 10 steps for countries, Use UNCCD Drought Initiative as case	IDMP CEE (testing 7steps approach for developing national action plans (example of Slovakia))	Medium	pending
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Research			
Explore multi-year droughts and impacts, Explore models	Space and models, Link to climate change	High	Further discussion needed
Explore the connection between drought and health issues	Joint WMO/WHO office	High	WMO/WHO portal features IDMP, WASAG COVID-19 and drought publication
Develop guidance on multiple impacts of drought in different sectors, for different time scales		Medium	Ongoing 3D project in Brazil, JRC initiative for impact database
Explore migration and climate change interaction with drought impacts (food security)	UNCCD work	Medium	pending
Explore the linkages between drought and urban issues	UNCCD, emerging topic, WMO also new focus on urban	Medium	pending
Better understanding of groundwater use during drought	Explore link with groundwater governance of FAO	Medium	pending
Research on better techniques for communication of drought management issues, Then define and produce knowledge product on media interaction	IDMP with partners	Medium	Ongoing: Output of SC-AGR ET-DRG will be worked on in 2022
Explore how drought fits into a Multi-Hazard Early Warning System	CAGM Expert Team, Link to Warsaw Intl Mechanism L&D	Medium	Ongoing, SC-AGR ET-DRG is working on a Global Drought Classification Scheme as contribution to Global Multi-hazard Alert System

Continue to explore the potential for a International Drought Mitigation Research Centre, Connect the high-level policy needs to research (possible International Drought Mitigation Research Centre)		Medium	Ongoing/pending - liaise with Roger Stone
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HelpDesk

Explore how to better classify helpdesk comments and requests	TSU will explore this	High	Pending
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Capacity development

Develop better capacity building tools / resources. Online. Links to hydrology, Water and Food Security (WEF + H nexus), Capacity building: See Covid-19 as opportunity, online training, Materials for children / attractive materials, Explore best ways to communicate, create ownership	FAO e-learning, WMO experts, CAP-NET, Moodle resources	High	Ongoing, Volta Project e-learning modules from DRR manual, goal would be a comprehensive modular drought e-learning package
Bring more young professionals to the capacity development activities	Fostering experts, Ideas on innovative technology	Medium	ongoing

Continuous work - Recommendations

Follow-up with IDMP partners not yet included in the Support Base Partners of the HelpDesk		High	
Explore improving characterization of IDMP partners building on http://www.droughtmanagement.info/ask/ask-partners/		High	
Connect with regional and national products/actors on all 3 pillars (IDMP website)	Include regional and national initiatives and projects (DriDanube, ...)	High	
Website: Maintain "Connect" function as is and continue conversation with partners on how to develop further		Medium	

HelpDesk should have an advisory role on which indicator to use		Medium	
Encourage IDMP partners to, where possible, assign key account manager for IDMP (include in TOR of a partners' staff)		High	
Science-policy and science-practice interface (science and decision-making), ensuring that science is at the table when (policy and practice) decisions are made (more interactive format).	Purpose of projects is science to practice. Link to existing mechanisms/platforms: UNCCD SPI, UN DRR GAR, Bring in BACI, IUGG Science – Diplomacy, Link to professional societies, Link to EU Water Framework Directive	High	
Continue to engage to Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation communities for better visibility (inform with drought management knowledge), Connect to CTCN (UNFCCC Copenhagen), Connect to the Global Center of Excellence on Climate Adaptation (Netherlands, Japan, UNEP), 2020 Recommendation,	-	Medium	
Explore cost recovery options (link to Business Model developed by APFM)	-	Medium	
Identify the appropriate communication channels with IDMP partners and IDMP target audiences, 1-2 Virtual meetings (webinar) per year focused on a certain drought management topic	IDMP partners	Medium	
Ensure that knowledge products can be translated into actions		Medium	

Note: Given the large number of accumulated recommendations, the IDMP TSU will present a condensed version of the above table for approval at the 2021 Management Committee meeting. In addition, the IDMP TSU will recommend limit the number of recommendations to the MC. This will be done in order to sharpen the IDMP's focus on a smaller number of recommendations.

2.1 Partner engagement and Community of Practice on Drought

The IDMP currently has [36 partner organizations](#) out of which [16 organizations](#) completed the information required for Support Base Partners of the IDM HelpDesk. New partners added in 2020-21 were the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and University of Wageningen.

In addition, a revised MoU was signed in June 2017 between WMO and FAO, which highlights many issues including strengthening further cooperation on drought activities especially in relation to the IDMP and FAO's Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture. The joint action resulting from this MoU is updated in a yearly workplan between WMO and FAO.

Following the decision of the IDMP ACMC meeting in 2018 the IDMP TSU has explored developing a community of practice/forum of partners to strengthen the interaction of IDMP partners and other actors on issues of common interest on drought management. Updates have been sent regularly via email to IDMP partners and side discussions among partners held at events and conference to strengthen collaboration. Additionally, as a result of the 2019 IDMP ACMC meetings, the IDMP TSU has developed the IDMP Virtual Exchange Platform. This format comprises a series of virtual meetings on the current status of IDMP and partner work and other drought-related topics of interest. So far, six virtual exchanges have been successfully held with excellent partner input and feedback. More information can be found on the [IDMP VE page](#).

The IDMP TSU is also actively engaging in efforts on building communities of practice within GWP and WMO. GWP is currently in the process of creating a new community of practice with massively extended functionalities. IDMP is collaborating and exploring how to use this best for disseminating information and knowledge on IDM.

2.2 WMO/GWP IDMP Institutional developments

The restructuring of WMO governance bodies which followed decisions taken during the 18th WMO Congress in 2019 is nearly completed. As a result, the newly formed technical Commissions (Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (Infrastructure Commission) and Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (Services Commission)) have started their work (see section 2.4).

The Eighteenth Congress established the Hydrological Assembly to provide advice to Congress on strategic decisions related to operational hydrological issues. Moreover, Congress also established the Hydrological Coordination Panel, with EC approving its Terms of Reference. This Panel will support and advise on the integrated delivery of WMO water-related activities and to undertake preparatory work for the Hydrological Assembly in relation to current and emerging scientific and technical water-related global challenges. In the first Hydrological Assembly, which was held during the Eighteenth Congress, the long-term ambitions 'Everyone is prepared for drought' and 'No one is surprised by a flood' highlighted the need for the IDMP and APFM and their communities of partners to strengthen operational hydrological services. Congress also established a Climate Coordination Panel.

In June 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between WMO and GWP to increase the organizations' long-standing partnership. It was signed on 6 June 2019 during the opening of the Hydrological Assembly held at the Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress.

The MoU has the objective to further strengthen collaboration on the joint initiative programmes on integrated drought (IDMP) and flood (APFM) management.

The new WMO/GWP MoU identifies four priority areas for strategic collaboration:

- Strengthen the management of hydro-climatic extremes through the joint programmes on drought (IDMP) and flood (APFM) management;
- Strengthen the capacity of countries to develop high priority bankable water and climate projects;
- Strengthen stakeholder engagement on developing water information and products at the regional and country level through on-going collaborations with other WMO programmes ([GFCS](#), [HydroSOS](#), [HydroHub](#), World Water Data Initiative (WWDI)).
- Joint programmes, project development, service delivery and joint resource mobilization such as the joint preparation and implementation of the flood and drought management project in the Volta Basin.

GWP has appointed Mr Dario Soto-Abril as new Executive Secretary. Dario, a native of Colombia, took up his position on 1 March 2021. After spending the first part of his career as a corporate lawyer, he worked for 14 years as the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of The Trust for the Americas, the non-profit affiliate of the Organization of American States. During this time, he led the Trust's expansion from 3 to 22 countries, building coalitions and public-private partnerships around free trade, workers' rights, and human rights.

The High-Level Panel on Water (HLPW), through the Government of South Africa, commissioned GWP to develop a HLPW legacy water initiative for Africa. In response, the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) has been developed in collaboration with African Union and the African Development Bank (AfDB) Africa Water Facility. The Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government adopted the AIP as part of Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa – Priority Action Plan 2 (PIDA-PAP 2) during the 34th ordinary session of African Union summit on 7 February 2021. The goal of the AIP is to mobilise US\$30billion in climate-resilient water investments by 2030 and create 5 million jobs. The objective of the AIP is to enhance job creation through gender sensitive investments in water security, industrialisation, and climate resilient development. The APFM and IDMP have been approached to secure their technical expertise and respective communities for the implementation of the AIP (<https://aipwater.org/>).

In 2020, GWP launched a Network strengthening initiative to support implementation of the new Strategy. The Strengthening Regional Operational Network Growth (StRONG) programme builds on previous GWP successes, aiming to enhance the capacity of the Regional and Country Water Partnerships to deliver results in a consistent, reliable, and agile way. Its three pillars – based around leadership and skills, institutional set-up, and network effects – is intended to unlock the barriers to further progress posed by a lack of capacity, finance, institutions, knowledge, and network connectivity.

Other important activities of GWP that have been launched during the past year were the revamping of the GWP ToolBox knowledge-sharing platform, overseeing the Water ChangeMakers awards, and mobilising stakeholders to access climate funding through a series of webinars.

In early June, GWP organised the annual Regional Days meeting, which convenes all 13 Regional Water Partnerships and GWP head office staff. For the first time, this was organised entirely online, providing new opportunities to explore virtual learning. The event used participatory online platforms to ensure as

many participants as possible could engage fully, interact person-to-person, and air their diverse views. As a result, many participants will be taking these techniques and tools forward, using them in other relevant activities.

2.3 Collaboration with UNCCD and FAO

In April 2018 in Rome, FAO, UNCCD, WMO, GWP and the US National Drought Mitigation Centre held the *Consultation Meeting: Strategic partnerships on drought preparedness* to ensure that the UNCCD Drought Initiative, the FAO Water Scarcity in Agriculture working group work has progressed in a complimentary and synergistic way to support countries to advance towards a proactive and integrated approach to drought management. WMO and GWP are co-leads together with UNCCD and the University of Nebraska in the FAO Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) working group on Drought Preparedness. In collaboration with many partners of the IDMP, WASAG is moving forward with events and publications, such as the World Water Week event “[Integrated drought resilience in a changing climate](#)” on 25 August 2021 and the working paper “[Thinking ahead: Drought resilience and Covid-19](#)”.

Following the Decision on the *Policy advocacy on drought* of the UNCCD COP13 in Ordos, China 6-16 September 2017, the implementation of a Drought Initiative (DI) for the biennium 2018-2019 (Decision [29/COP.13](#)) has advanced under the leadership of UNCCD with strong engagement of the IDMP alongside FAO, UNEP DHI and the NDMC in order to strengthen the capacity of countries to enhance drought preparedness and response to drought and to pursue a proactive approach on integrated drought management.

Based on UNCCD COP 14 decisions, several UNCCD initiatives were started in 2019 with involvement of the IDMP. The following updates can be made:

- The [Intergovernmental Working group](#) (IWG) on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD (Decision [23/COP.14](#)) presented a progress report during the [CRIC19](#). This report concludes the second phase of the IWG which was a stock-take and consideration of options for the four themes the IWG is working on (based on the three pillars of integrated drought management), namely:
 - Task Group 1 - Early Warning and Monitoring Systems (Pillar 1)
 - Task Group 2 - Vulnerability and Impact Assessment (Pillar 2)
 - Task Group 3 - Drought Risk Mitigation & Response Measures – Physical (Pillar 3)
 - Task Group 4 - Drought Risk Mitigation & Response Measures – Policy (Pillar 3)

This interim report will be updated and developed into a report including recommendations for decision making at COP-15 (scheduled for Q2 of 2022). Several IDMP partners are involved. Mark Svoboda (NDMC) is the chair of Task Group 1 and Robert Stefanski (WMO) is the co-chair.

- Based on the decision of UNCCD COP13, WMO was appointed as an observer to the **Science and Policy Interface** (SPI) of the UNCCD along with FAO and other UN organizations. Following the decision of the UNCCD COP14 (Decision [18/COP.14](#)) regarding the objectives of the SPI, a technical report on drought resilience is currently under development during the 2020-2021 biennium with the help of consultants. The preliminary title of this report will be “Multiscale Approaches for Assessment and Monitoring-the Resilience of Vulnerable Populations and Ecosystems to

Drought”. The final output of the SPI work on drought during the 2018-19 biennium, a report with the title “Enhancing the role of land-based interventions in drought mitigation and risk management” can be downloaded from the UNCCD website ([link](#)).

- The establishment of a **monitoring framework for the UNCCD strategic objective on drought** was decided ([Decision 11/COP.14](#)). This resolution calls for the establishment of a global drought indicator that is aligned with the vision and road map for a Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS) framework and the Global Drought Indicator endorsed by the 18th World Meteorological Congress. The IDMP TSU had provided input to the UNCCD CST draft document in preparation of UNCCD COP14 and has reviewed the Good Practice Guidance draft report for documenting drought events using the SPI.

In order to leverage the work initiated by COP14 decisions, FAO and UNCCD have jointly developed and launched a project with GEF funding hosted by FAO and called “Enabling Activities for Implementing UNCCD”. The IDMP is partner to all four work packages:

- Supporting Intergovernmental Working Group on Drought
- Enhancing the Drought Toolbox
- Enabling the implementation of the national drought plans
- Drought vulnerability assessment and preparedness for mitigation measures

The project was launched in May 2021 with a duration of three years.

Further discussions are needed regarding the co-branding of UNCCD activities as part of IDMP. COVID-19 has delayed these considerations.

2.4 Work of the WMO Services Commission

As part of the WMO Constituent Body Reform, the WMO [Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services & Applications](#) (Services Commission) has been established following the decision of the Eighteenth Session of World Meteorological Congress (see section 2.2).

Under the umbrella of the Services commission, the Standing Committee on Hydrology (SC-HYD) under the leadership of Marcelo Uriburu Quirno (also Vice-chair of SC-HYD) added two activities related to the IDMP into their workplan. Activity 8 is directed to providing scientific and technical advice to the WMO/GWP IDMP and to represent WMO hydrological community at the IDMP governance meetings. Marcelo Uriburu Quirno is also providing support and advice for the activity 7 (APFM) and ensuring there is a linkage between both programmes and that the work is aligned with the deliverables of other Standing Committees of the Services and Infrastructure commissions of WMO.

The Standing Committee on Services for Agriculture (SC-AGR) continues the work of the former Commission of Agricultural Meteorology and provides scientific and technological guidance to WMO Members in the sectors of agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries, not only for food production but also for agricultural meteorological risk governance in terms of agro-ecosystem resilience and sustainability, especially with higher priorities on climate services and capacity development. The SC-AGR is chaired and co-chaired, respectively, by Prof. Roger Stone and Dr. Elena Mateescu.

Under the Services Commission, the Standing Committee on Services for Agriculture (SC-AGR) hosts the expert team on drought (ET-DRG; website: <https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/agmp/SC-AGR/ET-DRG>). The ET-DRG is led by Andrea Susnik and Christa Pudmenny and brings together currently 18 drought experts with a focus on regional and gender balance. Linkages are established with other Standing Committees under the Services Commission on Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate and Hydrology. The ET-DRG has been mandated by WMO members, for the current term until the end of 2023, with the following expected outputs:

- A report that summarizes global drought impacts, preparedness, resilience, management, policy, and effective user-engagement practices.
- A report on the status of drought-monitoring systems, outlooks, impacts, assessment of possible agricultural yield losses due to drought and preparedness in the WMO regions.
- Guidance material on how to clearly communicate the existing definitions of drought, drought triggers, the various components of the lifecycle of drought, in cooperation with SC-HYD (Hydrology);
- A framework and standards for a Global Drought Classification System to be included in GMAS (Resolution 17 (Cg-18)).
- Updated Handbook of Drought Indicators and Indices (WMO No. 1173) in conjunction with the WMO/GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) and in cooperation with SC-CLI, SC-HYD and SC-DRR.

2.5 Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS) and Global Drought Information System (GDIS)

At the 18th Meteorological Congress in June 2019, the following resolutions were approved: Resolution 16 (CG-18) - Guide(s) on the Support of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to their National Multi-hazard Early Warning Procedures, Coordination Mechanisms, Systems and Services and Resolution 17 (CG-18) - Ensuring Integration of Drought Risk Management in WMO activities ([pages 77 to 79 of Cg-18 report](#)). The Resolution 17 decided to develop a Global Drought Indicator (GDI, now renamed to: Global Drought Classification System, GDCS) as input into WMO activities such as the proposed Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS), Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS), and cataloguing of high impact events and that information on the outcomes of these efforts be provided to UNCCD in support of relevant UNCCD decisions. This Resolution is linked to UNCCD CST draft decision described in section 2.3 above.

The SC-AGR ET-DRG has been mandated with the development and implementation of the GDCS and work has started with a workshop in July 2021 and a planned global assessment of drought monitoring setups (see 2.4).

With regards to the Global Drought Information System (GDIS), discussions are ongoing with WMO, NIDIS, GEO and the US National Centers for Environment Information (NCEI) on the status and future of this initiative and the updating of the [GDIS website](#).

2.6 HMNDP+10

Following several discussions of the TSU with partners and the 2020 recommendation to explore the possibility to organize a HMNDP+10 meeting in 2023, a meeting was held between WMO, GWP, UNCCD, FAO, NDMC, NOAA and others to discuss this topic. It was agreed that preparations for a HMNDP+10 meeting should go ahead and that the IDMP should be the organizing entity of the meeting. A concept note for the HMNDP+10 meeting is under development.

2.7 IDMP Publications and contributions

2.7.1 Knowledge resources on the three pillars of IDM

Following the recommendation of the IDMP ACMC meetings the IDMP continuous to update information on practical applications of integrated drought management structured by the three pillars as part of the resources made available in the HelpDesk. Partners are encouraged to submit any of their tools or products they wish to highlight. <https://www.droughtmanagement.info/pillars/> In addition, the IDMP is curating drought management related publications in its library (<https://www.droughtmanagement.info/find/library/>) and IDMP tools can be found here: <https://www.droughtmanagement.info/find/guidelines-tools/>.

2.7.2 UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk – Special Issue on Drought

The [UNDRR SRD](#) was launched in June 2021, containing three complementary parts: 1) Modernizing our understanding of drought, 2) Droughts – the lived experience (case studies), and 3) Looking ahead: From Risk to Resilience. As the understanding of the globally networked aspects of drought and other complex risks improves, the changes required to reduce risk and improve the experience of drought become possible. This Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR) Special Report on Drought 2021 aims to take a clear step forward in building that awareness. The IDMP and several partners contributed to this report. There was a recommendation in this report on a possible global mechanism on drought and this should be discussed by IDMP partners.

2.7.3 World Bank – EPIC Response report

The World Bank published a report on innovative flood and drought governance in Q2 2020 entitled “[An EPIC Response – Innovative Governance for Flood and Drought Risk Management](#)”. This approach looks at floods and droughts not as independent events, but rather as different ends of the same hydro-climatic spectrum that are inextricably linked. It also provides a comprehensive framework to help national governments lead a whole-of-society effort to manage these risks. The IDMP TSU as well as several IDMP partners were actively involved in the review of this report, and discussions have been started to support dissemination of the approach and its implementation in different countries.

2.7.4 IDMP brochure on water scarcity and drought

The IDMP TSU, with the support of the IDMP partners has developed a concept paper on Drought and Water Scarcity during the past years. The paper outlines the differences between the two phenomena and how they interact, as impacts are often the same. Along with the presentation of selected case studies and initiatives, it features approaches to cope with both drought and water scarcity as their impacts can be mitigated and managed through Integrated Water Resources Management. The document has

undergone extensive review and received excellent input from our partners. The publication is in proof stage and is likely to be published by the time of the 2021 IDMP annual meetings.

2.7.5 Knowledge product on the 3rd pillar of IDM: Drought Mitigation, Preparedness and Response

The IDMP, with financial and technical support from FAO, has developed a knowledge product on the 3rd pillar of IDM. This publication contains information and guidance on drought risk mitigation, preparedness and response along with a number of case studies, and complements existing publications on the 1st and 2nd pillar of IDM. The knowledge product is in the editing stage and will be available soon.

2.7.6 IDM framework document

The development of a framework paper to serve as the intellectual framework of the concept of integrated drought management, the Three Pillar approach. It is a synthesis of existing publications around the topic to succinctly define the concept and approaches to integrated drought management focusing on the three pillars of integrated drought management. The final review of this draft document has been completed and the framework paper will be published after final editing later in 2020.

2.7.7 IDMP/APFM concept paper on Integrated Drought and Flood Risk Management

In continuation to the work stream on the 3rd pillar knowledge product, FAO has provided funds to the IDMP in order to elaborate a concept paper on technical challenges and opportunities of integrated flood and drought management. Dr Caroline King-Okumu and Dr Caroline Wittwer, two experienced experts who have been working with the IDMP and APFM, respectively, for several years, have taken on the development of this new publication. It is planned to be finished at the end of 2021. An expert review panel is currently being established.

2.7.8 HELP Flagship report

The High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP) publishes an annual report and approached GWP/WMO with a request to contribute with an article. The IDMP suggested a publication on combined effect of drought and heatwaves in Central Asia in the summer 2021 and current activities in regard of a regional drought mechanism, which will also include the current efforts of IDMP in the region. The report will be published in April 2022.

2.8 IDMP Regional Initiatives and projects

The IDMP regional project managers for the IDMP CEE, IDMP HOA and IDMP WAF are in constant exchange with the TSU and are featuring regularly in the IDMP VE with updates of their work. The core funding received by NOAA will also be used to leverage existing plans and project ideas in the regions. Regular calls to share experiences, learn and plan jointly are planned for the new reporting period 2021/22.

In addition to the regional programmes, the TSU has developed several project ideas and concepts during the reporting period. In the context of hydrological and climatological extremes, several project concepts deal with the integration of flood and drought risk management. The TSUs of both IDMP and APFM, both hosted at WMO, are working closely together to develop joint approaches (see also 2.7.5, 2.7.7, 2.8.4).

The following provides a brief summary of the activities carried out by the IDMP regional initiatives during the reporting period, as well as IDMP activities in other parts of the world and it gives a brief overview of ongoing project scoping and development activities.

2.8.1 IDMP Central and Eastern Europe (IDMP CEE)

1. Drought as one of the ICPDR 3rd RBMP Significant Water Management Issues

In accordance with the requirements of the 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive, all EU Member States have to prepare the 3rd River Basin Management Plan until 22 December 2021. In this context, the document on [Significant Water Management Issues for the Danube basin](#) for the 3rd RBMP has been prepared by ICPDR. Also based on the outcome of the IDMP CEE and DriDanube project and through our long cooperation with ICPDR, drought was included as one of the SWMI at the end. On 29-30 June 2021 there was a [stakeholder consultation](#) organized with the purpose to contribute with their input to the Public Consultation process for the Danube River Basin Management Plan & Danube Flood Risk Management Plan Updates 2021. Drought and water scarcity were mentioned a few times during this workshop and in other comments sent by stakeholders with the message, that much more has to be done.

2. Natural Small Water Retention Measures

Finalization of the FramWat project and start of the OPTAIN project

3-year long project funded by Interreg Central Europe has finished on 30 June 2020.

The [“Framework for improving water balance and nutrient mitigation by applying small water retention measures”](#) project was aiming to establish a common regional framework for flood, drought, and pollution mitigation by increasing the buffer capacity of the landscape with the use of Natural (Small) Water Retention Measures (N(S)WRM) approach in a systematic way. You can read more about the project [here](#).

In September 2020, a bigger project has started: The [OPTAIN](#) - *Optimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe* (EU-funded research and innovation project, 2020-2025) proposes a social and scientific journey towards the increase and better understanding of the multiple benefits of Natural/Small Water Retention Measures (NSWRMs). OPTAIN aims to: 1) Identify efficient and easy-to-implement techniques for the retention and reuse of water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across Boreal, Continental, and Pannonian regions; 2) Optimize the spatial allocation and combination of NSWRM, based on environmental and economic sustainability indicators.

3. Transfer of knowledge, experiences and tools to Mediterranean and Caucasus and Central Asia region

In summer 2021 we have started with activities supported by NOAA funds in two neighbour regions:

a) [Decision support for drought for the Drin basin countries](#) (cooperation with DMCSEE)

Main objectives of this activity are: 1) To upgrade the regional web-based information platform (Drought Watch) with country data (Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia); 2) To support countries in early drought detection and provide information for decision support.

Activities will include: Cooperation with DMCSEE and Drin basin countries Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia; IT consultancy to upgrade the platform; Support to countries in preparation of drought

monitoring data and risk assessment data; Build capacities in the countries (regional training + national visits/trainings).

b) Knowledge & Capacity building products, science, and dissemination (Cooperation with GWP CACENA)

Among the main objectives of this activity are: To review the current status of drought management in CACENA region; To prepare concept and steps for establishment of the IDMP in the region; To exchange between GWP CACENA and GWP CEE experts/partners

4. Workshop “Beyond scarcity – water scarcity and drought risk management in the Danube region

We have organized this workshop together with the World Bank Danube Water Programme on 20-21 September 2021. Main objectives were: 1) to raise awareness about the relevance, past and potential future impacts of water scarcity and droughts in the Danube region; 2) to provide a forum for a technical exchange on good practice approaches; 3) to allow for taking stock on challenges and potential support needs for future action.

You can read more [here](#).

5. Danube Drought Strategy

The DriDanube project partners developed a [Danube Drought Strategy](#) which aims to build the capacity of the Danube region to overcome common deficiencies in coping with drought, and thus help switch from reactive to proactive drought management approach. This Strategy was officially published at the beginning of 2020 and we have been promoting it throughout the year.

6. Integrated Drought Management Training for Drin basin countries

Two days online training (10-11 March 2020) on Integrated Drought Management were organized for the participants from four Drin basin countries (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia) with the goal to enhance the capacity for an integrated, proactive approach to drought planning, adaptation and management. Training was prepared and implemented by [GWP Central And Eastern Europe](#) in cooperation with the [Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe](#) (DMCSEE).

Training was focusing on the needs and challenges for drought management in the Drin river basin, supported by the three pillars of the IDMP. Main outcomes of the training were: a) Increased knowledge and understanding of drought risk management frameworks; b) greater awareness about effective drought risk management and responses; c) knowledge on existing network and practices in wider region (Central and Eastern Europe / Southeastern Europe); d) awareness of the institutional mechanism mobilization and participation in drought disaster management; e) knowledge on basic steps/foundation for their future drought management policies/plans.

You can read more about it [here](#).

2.8.2 IDMP Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA)

Drought is one of the major natural hazards affecting people’s livelihoods and socio-economic development. In the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region, stakeholders, mainly farmers (particularly small-scale holders) and pastoralists are subjected to the adverse effects of drought. The frequency of rainfall deficit periods characterizing the IGAD region since the 1980s has increased. This

has negatively affected the populations whose livelihoods rely mainly on agriculture, livestock, forest resources, water, wetlands, etc. Efforts are being made by a number of partners in the IGAD region, including the IDMP HOA to intervene with aim of strengthening their resilience to droughts. Details in link [here](#).

IDMP HOA Activity Report- 2020/21

- Contribution of IGAD case study in the GAR special report on drought. the case study highlighted the burden of water scarcity in the region as being felt most by women and girls. therefore, the need to increase equality in access to drought risk management opportunities (empowering women, developing equitable credit schemes and equal access to information). The case study was presented during the launch of the GAR special report on drought. See details for link <https://www.undrr.org/event/launch-gar-drought-2021>.
- Undertake a capacity needs assessment to identify gaps and hindrances to effective drought management. This activity is still on-going and targeting four countries in the HOA region. The countries include Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. The assessment will generate needs and priorities which will support the review process of drought national policy, institutional regulatory frameworks.
- Training on the use of the intervention plan for the benefit of the different actors involved at national and regional level. The meeting that was conducted for both national and regional benefit enhanced understanding of the status of the early warning systems in the HOA countries, training on the use of the Early Warning intervention plan and dissemination of lessons learned and best practices on EWS and Action.

Facilitate establishment of regional and national drought management multi- sectoral/ stakeholder platforms to coordinate partner efforts. The meeting constituted Government representatives Ministry of Agriculture Water Fisheries and Livestock/ Directorate of Rural Hydraulics (Djibouti), Ministry of Environment and Forestry / Directorate of Climate Change (Kenya), Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources (Sudan), Ministry of Water and Environment / Directorate of Water Resources Management (Uganda). Overall, the meeting agreed to convene sectoral meetings in the individual countries to establish and or strengthen drought platforms.

2.8.3 IDMP West Africa (IDMP WAF)

1. Main activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts

IDMP WAF GOAL 1: CATALYSE CHANGE

Work Package 1: Drought negative effects are managed in West Africa through the regional initiatives and cooperation/Act.2: Reinforce regional collaboration among pertinent Institutions on drought management/Put in place a regional West African platform on Drought management

Support to the elaboration of National Drought Plans under UNCCD Drought Initiative: UNCCD, WMO, FAO and GWP have agreed on a framework to collaborate in supporting the UNCCD Drought Initiative. This includes technical and programmatic support, leveraging the knowledge and expertise the WMO/GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (<https://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-West-Africa/WE-ACT/News--Events/GWP-WA-supports-national-drought-plans-development-in-Benin-Burkina-Faso-and-Niger/>). After the 3 workshops organized by GWP-WAF in collaboration with the

Country Water Partnerships, the UNCCD national focal points and the national consultants, the National Drought Plans have been finalized. NDPs from Niger and Benin are available.

Work Package 2: Improvement of drought management through national and regional plan/strategies reviewed/Act. 2: Elaboration (with AGRHYMET+ GWP-WA TC) of West African regional guidelines for national sector plan

Insurance quality of regional guide on IDM: GWP-WA Technical Committee is ensuring the quality to finalize the document. To best meet the expected content for a technical guide on GIS, its quality assurance was entrusted to a member of the technical committee of GWPAO. This is an ongoing activity.

Support for assessment of national capacities and needs in floods and drought forecasting and warning systems in the Volta Basin: as part of the implementation of VFDM Project, GWP-WAF invested in the organization of the exchange mission on national capacities and needs for floods and drought forecasting and warning systems in the Volta Basin, as well as the organization of national workshops to present the findings and recommendations issued from the mission. This activity aims to assess the capacities and needs of national structures in terms of flood and drought forecasting and warning systems in order to develop integrated, adapted, sustainable and sustainable solutions and Volta basin-wide solutions in support of building resilience to climate change at local, national and regional levels. At the end of December 2020, GWP-WAF heavily supported the finalization of the reports from Benin and Togo. These two reports were reviewed and then shared with countries' stakeholders allowing to check if comments and improvements that they provided during the national workshops were considered. A follow-up was made but to date, no feedback has been received from them. The mission reports and the workshop reports are available.

Support for mapping of flood and drought vulnerability and capacity at community level in the Volta Basin: At the end of December 2020, GWP-WAF supported the mapping of vulnerability and capacity at community level in the Volta Basin. The objective of this activity is to identify the multidimensional factors of vulnerability and risk in areas of the Volta Basin exposed to hydrometeorological risks such as floods and drought, particularly targeting 60 sites of the Volta basin (Burkina Faso-15, Ghana-15, Mali-7, Togo-7, Benin-8 and Côte d'Ivoire-8), in the 10 pilot areas previously identified. During the period, GWP-WAF invested in finalizing the concept note for the activity, recruiting local experts and building their capacities on the methodological approach and collection tools. data in the field and the organization of the mission to test the methodology and data collection tools in Burkina Faso and Ghana for the benefit of local experts. GWP-WAF with the support of the VBA mobilized the national and local authorities to facilitate the organization of the field mission to the national experts as well as making financial and logistic arrangements for the successful start of data collection work in the field. Once the field mission started, close monitoring was carried out based on the schedule proposed by the local experts. This monitoring by GWP-WAF made it possible to finish the field mission, finalize and share in time the filled data collection sheets for each of the 60 pilot sites and the field mission reports prepared and submitted by the local experts. The mission reports are available.

Work Package 5: New innovative solutions found for Drought Management in the focus sub-area (water resources, agriculture, and desertification)

The lessons learnt from the implementation of the pilot projects in the countries (Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo) are being using to coach the CWP of Burkina Faso, Benin and the NGO "Eau Vive Internationale" for

the execution of "TonFuturTonClimat (TFTC)". *TonFuturTonClimat* is an initiative that aims to integrate young people in the decision-making process of action related to climate change adaptation and resilience in three countries of West Africa namely Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo. It is financed by Quebec's Green Fund and GWPO.

(<https://www.gwp.org/fr/GWP-Afrique-Ouest/GWP-in-Action/thematiques/tonfuturtonclimat/>).

IDMP WAF GOAL 2: GENERATE AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Work Package 7: The results of IDMP WAF are well shared in the region and the selected countries / Awareness on drought are improved

As part of the implementation of the TFTC, the results obtained from the implementation of the activities were capitalized and then shared with the different stakeholders. Capitalization sheets have been produced and disseminated at the national level.

IDMP WAF GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

Work Package 8: Regional/ countries level partnerships' competencies enhanced/Act. 2: Key stakeholders' engagement and strengthening the network

Youth involvement / GWP-WA Regional Programme on Youth Employability GWP to partner for synergy and impact:

GWP-WAF in collaboration with its partners IUCN, VBA, Eau Vive Internationale and IRC has started coaching young professionals through its regional programme for the employability of young people in jobs related to water security and climate resilience. The programme is being implemented through the Integrated Drought Management Project in West Africa (IDMP-WA), #TonFuturTonClimat initiative, the Nexus & Food and Nutritional Security Programme and the Water Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP). Three young professionals carried out the evaluation of the TFTC project. This evaluation revealed, among other things, that small-scale community actions carried out by youth associations in Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo make it possible to set in motion a dynamic for the development of initiatives to preserve the ecosystem on a larger scale at the level of producers throughout the targeted communes.

Participation in meetings

Participation to the Advisory Committee (AC) and Management Committee (MC) meetings of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) held at the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Offices in Stockholm, Sweden on 24-25 August 2019: The IDMP WAF project manager gave an overview of IDMP Western Africa from July 2018 to June 2019 (http://www.droughtmanagement.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/IDMP_ACMC_Report_2018.pdf).

Act. 2: Fundraising

In 2020, GWP-WA submitted a technical and financial proposal to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) for the implementation of the Sahel Opportunities Project. Unfortunately, at the conclusion of the tendering process, GWP-AO was not selected.

In response to the February 2020 call for projects of the International Climate Cooperation Program (ICCP), the International Secretariat for Water (ISW) and the Global Water Partnership in West Africa (GWP-WA) submitted and obtained funding for the implementation of Phase 2 of the TonFuturTonClimat initiative (TFTC 2), in collaboration with the Country Water Partnership of Benin (PNE-Benin), the Country Water Partnership of Burkina Faso (PNE-Burkina) and the NGO Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement du Togo (JVE Togo). The initiative prioritizes the development of project models that are sustainable, economically viable, replicable, have tangible impacts for people, and involve young rural and peri-urban leaders in the design, planning, and implementation. The TFTC2 initiative will be implemented from 2021 to 2023 and is based on the development of three (3) new projects including: (i) the "Mobilization of youth associations for better management of water resources in the Tchoutchoubou micro-basin in the Pendjari basin" project in Benin ; (ii) the project "Promotion of good practices in sustainable land management, adaptation to climate change and conservation of biological diversity in the rural commune of Komki Ipala" in Burkina Faso; and (iii) the project "Support to young people for a transition to sustainable agriculture through agro-ecological practices in the municipalities of Grand Kloto" in Togo. The budget mobilized is 499 000 USD.

2.8.4 Adaptation Fund: Volta Flood and Drought Management Project (October 2020-August 2021)

The APFM TSU continued the implementation of the [VFDM project](#) activities together with other Executing Partners (Volta Basin Authority and Global Water Partnership-West Africa), External Implementing Partners (CIMA Research Foundation, Italian Department of Civil Protection, Knowledge & Innovation, IUCN, UNITAR/UNOSAT) and active support, participation and engagement of Regional, National and local agencies and communities. Implementation of some of the planned activities in the first and second year were delayed and are still on-going due to the global covid-19 Pandemic situation. Many of the activities planned (involving travel to the countries) in the second year of the project were postponed to the last quarter of the year 2021 or will be conducted virtually in agreement with the National services.

The IDMP is actively involved in the capacity building activities of the VFDM project. For this purpose, the IDMP TSU is working on developing online training modules on IDM – with a focus on monitoring and early warning. The blended self-paced and presential training is planned to be held at the beginning of 2022.

Based on the discussion and approval of the VFDM Project Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC), the APFM TSU submitted the second project progress report (PPR) to the Adaptation Fund Secretariat during the second week of August 2021 highlighting the achievements, challenges and risks encountered during the implementation. Once the PPR-II report is approved by the Adaptation Fund Board, the funds for third year activities will be made available to the Implementing Partner (WMO) of the project.

The mid-term evaluation of the VFDM project is planned for early 2022 through an independent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) expert.

The table below describes the VFDM activities completed, on-going and planned until July 2022. More information on the workplan can be found [here](#).

Activities completed until July 2021	Activities carried out between July 2020-June 2021	Activities postponed and on-going due to the Covid-19 Pandemic	New activities planned between August 2021-July 2022
Letter of Agreement with the project executing Partners (VBA and GWP-WA) and External Implementing Partners (CIMA, Italian Civil Protection, Knowledge and Innovation, IUCN, UNITAR/UNOSAT)	Preparation work for developing Training Curriculum and carrying distance learning courses on End-to-End Early Warning System for Flood Forecasting (E2E-EWS-FF) and Third Pillars of Drought Management.	Development of the Centralized databases (1.1.2.3)	Development of Long-term risk management framework or strategies
Special Service Agreement with Independent Consultants	Design and Development of the VOLTALRAM EWS (on-going till the end of the project) https://volta.myDewetra.world	Development of Training curriculum and distance learning course on drought monitoring and EWS for floods and drought	Development of Hydrological models and forecasting system for the National portion of the Volta Basin
VFDM Monitoring and Evaluation manual	Consultation and Integration with other completed, on-going and planned projects to ensure synergies or complementarities (on-going).	Development of risk maps for floods and drought at the basin level	Finalize pilot sites and initial consultation for testing the applicability and effectiveness of the VOLTALARM EWS during the monsoon and dry seasons
National Consultation meetings with the Six countries agencies and the VBA	Pilot test studies to test the methodology and guidelines for conducting local risk mapping in the 60 sites	Climate Scenarios and impact on various sectors (Urban, Agricultural, Water resources etc.) are developed	Regional workshops to present the existing policies, plans and guidelines on flood and drought management and climate change adaptation (NAPA, NAP etc.) and prepare action plan for improving them
National Consultation reports including current capabilities, needs, recommendations, action plan etc. are available	Country missions to assess IT network and databases availabilities, need and current capabilities (1.1.2.2) National IT/Database reports are developed and discussion with countries are on-going	Capacity of stakeholders to use Floods and Drought risk maps are enhanced	Development of community-based flood and drought manual for the Volta Basin countries incorporating experiences and lesson learnt from the CBFDM activities in the six communities
Local risk mapping activities in the 60 pilot sites of the Volta Basin (Activity 1.1.3) is completed and reports are available	Development of risk maps for floods and drought at the basin level	Implementation of community-based flood and drought management activities in the six selected sites	

Preparation and consultation with the National stakeholders on the activities on environmental and ecosystem services (Activity 1.2.3.1-1.2.3.7)	Development of Training Curriculum and carrying out e-learning and face-to-face capacity development sessions	Capacity development of the National and Regional stakeholders on Nature-based solutions for flood and drought management	
Finalization of the Training Manual for mainstreaming gender in E2E-EWS-FF and IFM	Identification of the six sites for implementing community-based flood and drought management activities	Review of existing policies, plans and guidelines on flood and drought management and climate change adaptation (NAPA, NAP etc.)	
Development of the Project Progress Report (PPR)-I and II submitted to the Adaptation Fund Secretariat	Organize and conducted National training workshops on Mainstreaming Gender into E2E-EWS-FF and IFM		

2.8.5 IDM pre-concept for the DRIN basin (AF)

In order to meet the need for improved proactive drought management in the Drin basin and building on the achievements and lessons learned from the DriDanube project, the IDMP TSU together with IDMP CEE and GWP MED have started the work on a project proposal on IDM in the Drin river basin. With WMO as implementing entity, it will include the NMHS of the three basin countries Albania, Montenegro, and North-Macedonia as executing entities.

2.8.6 IDM project in CA - discussions with FAO and UNCCD

Discussions have started between WMO, GWP, FAO and UNCCD to develop a project proposal for strengthening drought resilience in the Central Asian region through proactive drought risk management.

2.8.7 IDM project for the Mekong River basin

WMO has started the process for obtaining funding through the Adaptation Fund (currently at stage concept note) for a project on strengthening capacities for climate services in the Mekong River basin. The overall objective of the project is to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience of the Mekong River communities in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam to climate variability and change by implementing climate-smart decision-making networks for better disaster risk management of drought and floods, agriculture management, and water resources management encompassing hydropower generation.

2.8.8 Activities in South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS)

IWMI continues to support the South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS: <http://dms.iwmi.org>). The status of SADMS will be provided by IWMI during the IDMP Advisory Committee meeting.

2.8.9 Activities in Central America

Drought management activities have been developed by GWP Central America with support from the IDMP and with close involvement of the regional WMO office in Costa Rica since 2013 (further information [here](#)).

Based in parts on this work, the Euroclima+ project “Increasing capacities for risk reduction on droughts and floods and promotion of resilience in Central America” received a commitment for EUR 2.2M of funding and was launched on 2 July 2019, in San Salvador. This project has started the implementation jointly by the regional integration system (SICA) entities, including the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD/lead institution), the Coordination Centre for Disaster Prevention in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC/co-executor) and the Regional Committee on Hydraulic Resources (CRRH/co-executor). GWP Central America with technical assistance of the IDMP will be participating in the preparation of drought policies, pilot projects on RWH and capacity building activities of the Project, among other activities.

The objective of the project is “to increase the effectiveness of disaster risk management, with a regional and inclusive approach for the benefit of the Central American population” and is meant to be implemented in 2 years in Central America, starting in July 2019 and finalizing in 2021.

In the context of this project, 6 national workshops of 5 days each were held in 2020 in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica and El Salvador with active participation of the IDMP TSU. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, these workshops were facilitated in a virtual format. The workshops were organized around the three Pillars of IDM, also sourcing from IDMP materials. Based on the findings of these workshops, in 2021 the CCAD, with the support of GWP Central America, developed regional guidelines for the formulation and implementation of drought management policies. Consultations are currently taking place for the validation and finalization of the guidelines, which were prepared using IDMP’s drought policy guidelines.

2.8.10 Activities in South America

The Drought Information System (SISSA) for the Southern South America was [formally launched in June 2021](#) (video). In addition, SISSA partners held a brainstorming meeting in April 2021 on plans to conduct an in-person workshop which has been postponed due to the COVID-19 situation. This project is funded from the Inter-American Development Bank and is the result of the [Workshop on Developing a Drought Monitoring, Early Warning and Mitigation System for South America](#) held in August 2017.

EUROCLIMA+ is also funding two other drought-related projects in South America: (1) [a project with CIIFEN to strengthen the regional and national drought and floods information and management systems in the Andean countries \(Western South America\)](#) for 1.5 million Euro for 3 years, and (2) a proposal submitted jointly by SENAMHI Bolivia and SENAMHI Peru to work on droughts in the Altiplano. All three projects will complement one another and they all will work together towards the common ultimate goal of supporting, developing, and implementing SISSA for the entire South American region.

2.9 International Drought Mitigation Research Centre

Discussions are still ongoing with regards to International Drought Mitigation Research Centre (IDMRC). The COVID-19 situation has slowed development of this activity and further discussions of this will take place at the upcoming AC/MC meeting.

2.10 Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk

The IDMP meeting in September 2017 has launched the Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk. The HelpDesk consists of a “Find” section (to find resources in the library and access tools and guidelines), a “Connect” section (to link to IDMP initiatives) and an “Ask” section (to request advice and technical support). The “Ask” section was the final section that completed the HelpDesk. A draft profile of all partners for the catalogue of services of the HelpDesk was developed by the IDMP TSU and each Support Base Partner’s profile has been uploaded to the IDMP website. Fourteen IDMP Support Base Partners (see section 2.1) have reviewed the profile and concluded the discussion on the modalities of engagement with the HelpDesk to date. Follow-up has been sent to others. In addition to the “Ask” function of the IDMP HelpDesk, stakeholders can also submit questions via the comment function in the [online Drought Indicator tool](#).

In total 53 requests have been received through the HelpDesk from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 with a sum of 225 requests since the inception of the HelpDesk in 2017. Close to all requests have been completed by the IDMP Technical Support Unit with IDMP partner engagement and the IDMP regional offices. For 2020/21, out of these 52 requests, 47 requests were questions related to indicators and indices referring to the IDMP publication, *Handbook of Drought Indicators and Indices* (Figure 1a). As shown in Figure 1b, the majority of requests were related to rapid guidance on drought indices, while smaller proportions were requests for technical assistance (workshops, strategy, drought policy) and capacity building. Most requests did not contain information on the stakeholder’s affiliation (research, public/private sector). For 85 % of the requests, the country or region was not specified. Stakeholders that did indicate their region were mainly from Europe, Africa and Asia (2 requests each).

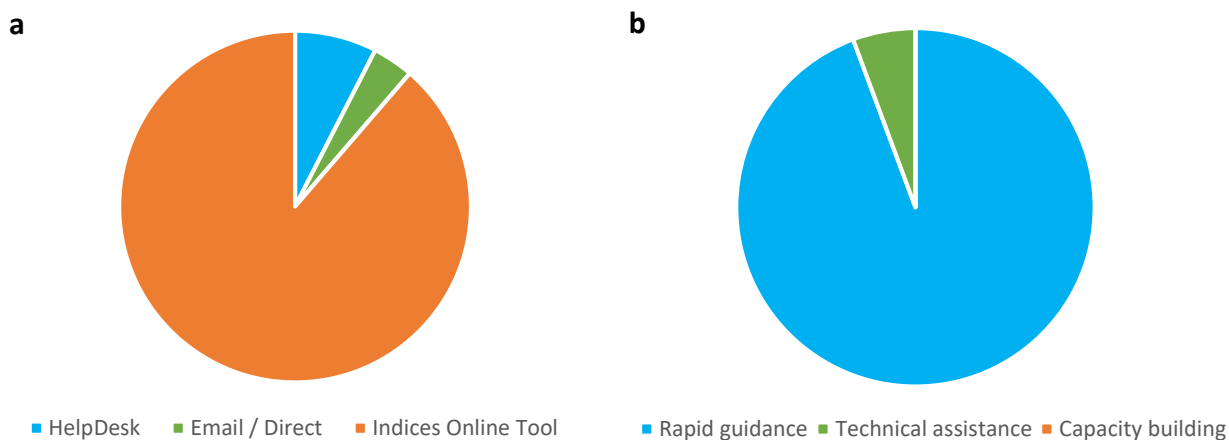


Figure 1 a) Source of IDMP assistance requests (HelpDesk, Email/Direct, Indices online tool), b) Type of requests posed. In total 53 requests were submitted for the 2020/2021 reporting period.

2.11 IDMP Website

The IDMP website is being maintained by the IDMP TSU with WMO and GWP support. Pages are updated to include the latest development on regional activities, publications, and documents. The website content is since 2020 available in English, French, Russian and Spanish. In addition, the TSU has been

working with an external consultant to update the website template and looks. The updated design of the website is online since September 2021.

The section “[Advisory and Management Committee Meetings](#)”, provides an overview of the meetings of the management group and their main recommendations since its establishment in 2013, with the last addition of last year’s 2020 IDMP annual meetings. A “[Partners](#)” page presents the programme’s partner organizations, with links to their websites.

The pages of the IDMP regional initiatives are continuously being expanded. The website also contains a map that provides an overview of the various activities of the IDMP and a space to explain the status of each of the activities. This map is being updated with the current work on the website.

To date the library of drought-related publications contains 323 drought-related publications. Publications can be easily added to the library by the IDMP Technical Support Unit and IDMP partners are invited to suggest additional and new publications that should be included.

Please visit the IDMP website to find out more: <http://www.droughtmanagement.info/>

2.12 Development and Implementation of the Communication Strategy

In order to disseminate information about IDMP’s activities and outcomes, different methods of communication have been used. The IDMP website and social media channels are the primary methods of engaging with audiences and generating sustainable growth. The IDMP website has been transferred to a new layout in summer 2021 and the TSU is working on making the website more user-friendly. Feedback from partners on this is welcome.

A new feature of the IDMP outreach materials are fact sheets, the first of which was launched in June 2021 (available [here](#)). The IDMP TSU has started discussions with the APFM TSU in order to use synergies for increasing the programmes’ visibility.

IDMP website

Figure 2 shows the recorded number of website visits per day for the last four reporting years (1st July – 30th June). The distribution of visits over the year is relatively even, with a decline for the end of year / holiday period. For the 2019-2020 reporting period, an increase in website visits is noticeable from September 2019, which coincides with the UNCCD COP14 in Delhi and suggests a relation to the IDMP’s active engagement in this event. In the 2020-21 reporting period, the trends are largely following the long-term average. There are several days with unusually high frequentation of the website, which cannot be explained by any event. Since 2017, the website has seen a continuous increase in visits, as can be seen in Figure 3. In the 2020-2021 reporting period, a total of 46.412 users visited the IDMP website according to Google Analytics.

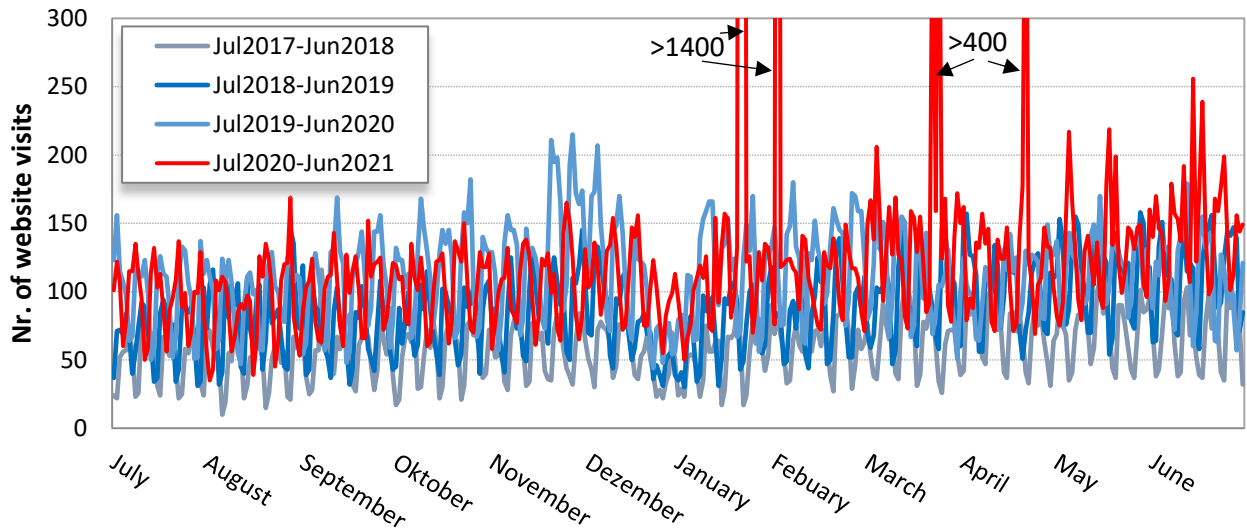


Figure 2 Number of website visits throughout the reporting period (July - June) from 2017-2021 (Source: Google Analytics, viewed on 20.09.2021).

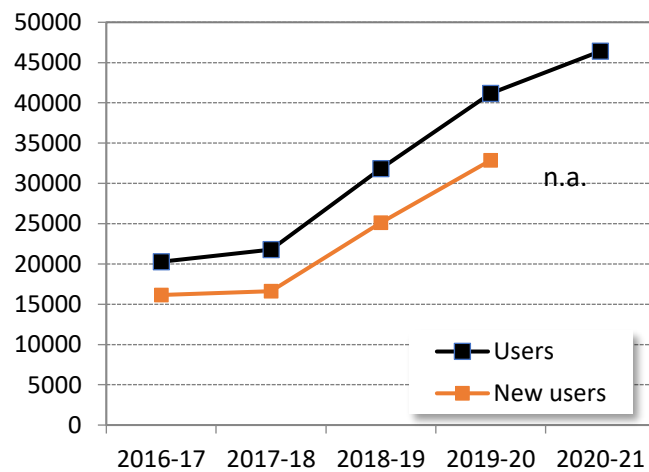


Figure 3 Total number of website visits (www.droughtmanagement.info) in the past 5 years.

Throughout the last three years, the percentage of new visitors as compared to total visits has been constant at a high level, between 76 – 80 %, showing no trends. The bounce rate however, a measure for users navigating away from the website after viewing only one site, has been steadily increasing over the last four years at a relatively high level of 73.0-84.9 %, while the average time spent on the website has increased from 0:1:39 in 2016-17 to 0:2:26 in 2020-21 (Table 1).

Table 1 Website statistics for the IDMP website (www.droughtmanagement.info) for the last four reporting periods 2016-2021.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Bounce rate [%]	73.0	74.6	78.5	78.3	84.9
Average time on website [min]	1.42	1.52	1.32	1.39	2.26
Pages per session	1.74	1.72	1.54	1.53	n.a.
Number of Sessions per user	1.43	1.45	1.38	1.36	n.a.

The landing page gets most of the views. When people engage with the website, the most visited pages are about the mitigation, preparedness and response page, the indices overview and the standardized precipitation index, followed by different indices (PDSI, SPEI, VCI, TCI, VHI, etc.). Website visitors primarily come from the India and the United States of America, followed by China, Indonesia and Germany.

IDMP social media

The IDMP is continuing its strategy of publicizing activities and projects in the joint APFM-IDMP Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. This has created a tool to drive traffic to both websites. In 2020, the Water Youth Network has assigned two focal points within their disaster risk reduction team, who are supporting the APFM on communication and outreach activities both internally among Support Base Partners and externally. The IDMP benefits from this liaison through the joint Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts.

Information material

A new series of graphical factsheets was launched on World Drought Day 17 June 2021. These factsheets summarize on 1 page in a graphical, attractive way different aspects of IDM and the first factsheet focused on the three-pillar approach.

In addition, the IDMP has a brochure and roll-up posters for events.

International Events

Members of the TSU took part to various international conferences, where they gave presentations introducing the IDMP. These are further detailed below in section 2.13. Please refer to section 2.8.1, for events attended by the IDMP CEE, section 2.8.2 for IDMP HOA and section 2.8.3 for IDMP WAF.

2.13 Engagement with International Processes and Events

The IDMP TSU has been engaged with the following international activities (in addition to the UNCCD and FAO activities described in section 2.3 above);

- In April 2021 the IDMP TSU participated in capacity building workshops of the “[Building Forward Better](#)” initiative by FAO
- For the World Water Week 2021 IDMP hosted together with APFM a session on integration of flood and drought management and co-hosted a session with other WASAG partners on progress in drought management.
- In September 2021, the IDMP TSU and CEE regional programme participated in a workshop co-organized by the World Bank and GWP, called “[Beyond Scarcity: Water Scarcity and Drought Risk Management in the Danube Region](#)” (online)

In 2021 many events have been cancelled or postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2.14 Fundraising

Work continues to identify fundraising opportunities for the IDMP. In 2018, there were discussions with the APFM and IDMP TSU on the funding landscape which established a donor database. The aim was to

support the APFM and IDMP's quest for resource mobilization as part of a new APFM and IDMP business model.

The IDMP is receiving annual funding from NOAA through the GWP administrative processes. In this context, the IDMP TSU has developed a work plan and budget to use the funds for further development of core IDMP activities in coordination with the IDMP recommendations.

2.15 Financial Support

The expenditure report of the IDMP for the year 2021 will be provided to the Management Committee of the IDMP at the meeting.

3. Workplan for the period 2021-22 and IDMP strategy

3.1 Global Activities

The IDMP will continue to work towards a coherent approach to Integrated Drought Management and a strong joint push towards a proactive, risk-informed management of droughts.

Ongoing efforts to develop capacity building materials for Integrated Drought Risk Management will be continued in the 2021-22 reporting period. E-learning modules are planned to be developed starting from the [Drought Risk Reduction in Integrated Water Resources Management](#) manual by IDMP and UNDP CapNet. Once developed for the global level, the modules will be tailored for the regional/national context. The IDMP TSU is working on this together with the WMO training office and in coordination with UNDP CapNet.

3.2 Regional Activities 2021-22

3.2.1 IDMP Central and Eastern Europe

The following activities were started in summer 2021 with the support of NOAA funds and will continue during the new reporting period 2021/22:

a) Decision support for drought for the Drin basin countries (cooperation with DMCSEE)

Main objectives of this activity are: 1) To upgrade the regional web-based information platform (Drought Watch) with country data (Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia); 2) To support countries in early drought detection and provide information for decision support.

Activities will include: Cooperation with DMCSEE and Drin basin countries Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia; IT consultancy to upgrade the platform; Support to countries in preparation of drought monitoring data and risk assessment data; Build capacities in the countries (regional training + national visits/trainings).

b) Knowledge & Capacity building products, science, and dissemination (Cooperation with GWP CACENA)

Among the main objectives of this activity are: To review the current status of drought management in CACENA region; To prepare concept and steps for establishment of the IDMP in the region; To exchange between GWP CACENA and GWP CEE experts/partners.

3.2.2 IDMP Horn of Africa

The outputs and activities planned in the 2021/2022 annual cycle include:

Output 1.1.2: Institutional linkages for EW information established

- Develop/Review EW information sharing frameworks at regional, National and sub-national levels
- Develop periodic feedback user friendly tools on accessing, utilizing and reporting EW information to mandated institutions
- Develop an emergency response plan for Drought disasters at the regional and national level

Output 2.1.2: Adaptive capacity of institutions, farmers and pastoralists in drought management improved

- Develop capacity building plans for regional, national and sub-national levels
- Develop capacity building materials related drought
- Undertake exchange visits and learning tours for cross learning in areas with successful drought management innovations including ground water management initiatives

Output 2.2.1: New/existing regional and National arrangements /networks for drought management supported

- Support review/development of MoUs, protocols and stock route agreements for drought management between farmers and pastoralists
- Facilitate establishment of regional and national drought management multi-sectoral/stakeholder platforms to coordinate partner efforts
- Support regional and national partners to jointly mobilize resources for Drought Management in a changing climate context

Output 4.1.1 Good practices and lessons on drought management, EWS and Climate Change impacts documented and disseminated

- Generate and package information dissemination materials on EW, CC and drought adaptation actions in forms for easy uptake (e.g. policy briefs, brochures) adapted to the various stakeholders

Output 4.1.2 Drought information management strengthened

- Engage policy makers in dissemination of drought management information and best practices

IDMP HOA will carry out activities in relation to social inclusion as follows

a. Promote the role of women in building drought resilience

The activities will include:

- Carry out a study to establish the role of women including vulnerable youth, women with disabilities, women living in drought hit areas among others, the level of their participation and their capacity needs and gaps in drought resilience and management,
- Build the capacity of women leaders and farmers in building drought resilience,
- Exchange learning visits for women leaders and farmers in relation to building drought resilience,
- Develop and publish a policy brief on the role of women in building drought resilience,

- Develop and print Informational, Educational and Communication Materials with key messages on promoting the role of women in building drought resilience.
- b. Develop workshop material for gender transformative drought management**
The activities will include:
- Conduct Capacity needs and gaps of key staff from relevant institutions in integration of Gender Transformative Approach (GTA) in drought resilience and management,
 - Develop the training module on gender transformative drought management,
 - Conduct capacity building /training for key staff from relevant stakeholders in integration of GTA in drought management,
 - Develop technical brief on Gender transformative drought management.
- c. Develop business cases supporting the role of women in building the drought resilience**
The activities will include:
- Carry out a mapping of existing business cases supporting the role of women including the vulnerable groups in building the drought resilience,
 - Develop relevant and replicable business cases that promote the role of women including the vulnerable groups in building the drought resilience,
 - Develop technical briefs on developed relevant and replicable business cases that promote the role of women including the vulnerable groups in building the drought resilience.

3.2.3 IDMP West Africa

To be added in the final report based on AC/MC discussions.

3.2.4 IDMP Central Asia and Caucasus

Many countries in Central Asia and Caucasus are currently experiencing massive drought and water scarcity. This situation has been causing tensions and open conflict in the region for a long time, with the disappearance of the Aral sea being a prime and widely known showcase. Meanwhile there are many research efforts to develop a drought monitoring system for the region and several of the Central Asian countries agreed to develop a joint regional drought strategy, which is done under the auspices of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (EC IFAS) by the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC). IDMP is using seed funding from the budget provided by NOAA to start the work for one Central Asian and one Caucasian country, Uzbekistan and Armenia. In both countries initial steps for drought policies have been undertaken and IDMP can support these processes by bringing in global expertise and even more important, the experience of the regional IDMP CEE programme, which underwent a similar process during the past 20 years.

3.2.5 Activities in South America

To be added in the final report based on AC/MC discussions.

3.3 Publications planned for 2021/22

Please refer to sections 2.7.4-2.7.8 for publications that are currently being developed. We are expecting all mentioned draft documents to be published in the 2021/22 reporting period.

3.4 IDMP strategy 2022-2024

In continuation to the last IDMP strategy 2017-2019, the IDMP is planning for a new 3-year strategy 2022-2024. The process to prepare this strategy has started within the TSU but is meant to be directed by the partners and the community. The strategic areas in which IDMP will be focusing its activities and plans to have impact are:

1. Promote IDM and catalyze change
2. Capacity Building, Knowledge Management and Communication
3. Partnerships and IDMP governance

The strategy will be discussed and ideas collected during the Annual Advisory Meeting 2021 and the process discussed during the Annual Management Meeting.

Annex 1 IDMP Operational Guidelines ([available here](#))