

**Operational Guidelines of the
WMO/GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)
September 2021**

The Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) was launched in March 2013 as a joint initiative of the WMO and GWP on the occasion of the High-Level Meeting on Drought Policies (HMNDP) in Geneva. The IDMP consists of a Technical Support Unit, Co-sponsoring International Organizations, Support Base Partners/ Partners, Financial Partners and a governance structure consisting of an Advisory Committee and a Management Committee, whose functions are detailed below.

Technical Support Unit (TSU)

The Technical Support Unit of the IDMP is based in the WMO Services Department (SD). The TSU is composed of the seconded professional staff from WMO, GWP, and other co-sponsoring international organizations, as agreed by the Management Committee. Overall responsibility for the operation of the IDMP is assigned at the level of the Director of the SD through the Director of the CS Branch at WMO. The Head of the Applied Climate Services Division is the head of the Technical Support Unit. In particular, the Technical Support Unit has the following functions:

- i Ensures implementation of the annual work plan, as proposed by the Advisory Committee and approved by the Management Committee referred to below, and formulates its yearly work plan timetable to meet the expected results;
- ii Serves as the point of contact for incoming requests to the IDMP and its HelpDesk functions;
- iii Routes incoming requests to the IDMP Co-sponsoring International Organizations and Support Base Partners and coordinates follow up;
- iv Provides strategic advice concerning drought management policy, strategy and institutional arrangement in response to requests;
- v Provides technical backstopping and project management, for the implementation of projects developed under the IDMP;
- vi Maintains, updates and upgrades the IDMP website and related information and develops new components (especially drought management guidelines/tools) as required;
- vii Develops and maintains, as a basis for the continuous improvement of the IDMP Services, a registry of received requests and follow up actions taken;
- viii Strengthens the IDMP Support Base and maintains linkages and regular communication with Support Base Partners (see below) and Financial Partners (see below), amongst others, by keeping track of available competencies and areas of interest;
- ix Develops and implements an IDMP information/outreach strategy;
- x Develops an IDMP community of practices tailored to different User Groups as and when recommended by the Advisory and Management Committees;
- xi Provides advocacy for Integrated Drought Management (IDM) concepts in appropriate international and national initiatives;
- xii Provides coordination and secretarial support for the activities under the IDMP, as well as to the Advisory Committee and Management Committee;

- xiii Provides logistical and technical support for capacity building activities as part of the IDMP; and
- xiv Liaises regularly with the TSU of the APFM to harmonize activities between the two related programs and exchange knowledge and know-how.

Co-Sponsoring International Organizations

The High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies (HMNDP) was held in March 2013 and was co-organized by WMO, FAO and UNCCD along with many other co-sponsors. In order to recognize the spirit of cooperation in the organizing and successful completion of the HMNDP and their work on drought issues, there is a need for developing a mechanism for the inclusion of like-minded organizations that share the same goals of the IDMP and allow them to join the IDMP on an equal basis.

Therefore, any organization with a stated scope and substantive activities on drought management issues are invited to be co-sponsoring international organizations of the IDMP. To be considered a co-sponsoring international organization, the organization should contribute to the IDMP with the minimum commitments being at least one of the following:

- Resource person(s) for IDMP TSU;
- Significant financial support to IDMP Trust Fund (greater than 75,000 CHF per year) or through direct financial contributions to IDMP projects (also greater than 75,000 CHF per year).

It is recommended that international organizations considering becoming a co-sponsoring institution do so for not less than a two-year period adhering to the above commitments. Also, the co-sponsored international organizations agree to directly liaise with other co-sponsored organizations on international drought initiatives. They also agree to share information on regional, national and local drought initiatives and other initiatives of relevance to the IDMP. It is recognized that co-sponsoring international organizations can engage in their own regional, national or local projects solely or with other institutions and organizations.

All co-sponsoring international organizations would automatically be part of the IDMP Management Committee. If co-sponsored international organizations would like to withdraw from the IDMP, a 6-month notice is required. A 6-month notice of termination of status would also be given should such an organization cease to make the above listed resource person or financial contributions or not fulfil the spirit of being part of the IDMP such as failing to share information on regional, national or local drought management initiatives.

Support Base Partners

Given the multi-disciplinary nature of drought management issues, the IDMP aims to bring together organizations working on drought issues from different perspectives in order to engage them in the activities of the IDMP and to support their drought related initiatives. Institutions participating in the Support Base, known as Support Base Partners, indicate their readiness to dedicate a minimum of in-kind human resources capacity on a voluntary basis to ensure timely response to the requests received under the HelpDesk. The main areas of activity where support base partners may engage include:

- i Advice and high-level advocacy for drought management policy and strategy formulation, especially in the context of Integrated Drought Management;
- ii Development, input and review of technical documents and guidelines related to drought management;
- iii Facilitation of workshops and training in support of Integrated Drought Management;

- iv Development, review and provision of drought management tools and e-learning options for capacity building; and
- v Formulation of high-level objectives/scoping for drought management proposals with parties requesting IDMP Services.
- vi Advice and high-level advocacy for drought management policy and strategy formulation, especially in the context of Integrated Drought Management;

Institutions interested in promoting the implementation of integrated approaches to drought management, and willing to work together with the IDMP can become a support base partner to the IDMP by expressing their interest to be engaged in the IDMP in a letter and designating a focal point within their organization. The focal points of these organizations will be invited to the Advisory Committee of the IDMP (see below).

Partnership with the IDMP is open to all institutions that subscribe to the basic concepts and aims of Integrated Drought Management, and which are willing to work together to fulfil the objectives of integrated drought management. Contributions by organizations will be acknowledged on the IDMP website and in the activities to which they contribute.

The agreement to be a support base partner is formulated through an indication of the area of expertise of the organization through an agreement and an indication of the Support Base Partner's readiness to dedicate a pre-set amount of in-kind human resources capacity on a voluntary basis to ensure timely response to the requests received under the IDMP, for example in the form of an exploratory visit, initial introductory workshops/training, or inputs to formulation of project proposals or other possible services in accordance with the specialized capacity of the respective Support Base Partner.

Financial Partners

Institutions providing financial support to the IDMP are known as Financial Partners of the IDMP. They contribute to the WMO through the IDMP Trust Fund and to the GWP through its Climate Resilience through Water Programme and other co-sponsoring international organizations through their funding mechanisms. As in the case of co-sponsoring international organizations, financial partners would automatically be part of the IDMP Management Committee

Liability

Neither the co-Sponsoring International Organizations nor Support Base Partners nor Financial Partners and their Staff shall be held institutionally or personally liable for the advice, guidance and professional opinion generated by the IDMP. A clear disclaimer to this effect will be provided on the website.

Governance

A. Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee (AC) will serve as a resource to make recommendations to the Management Committee on guiding the development and implementation of the IDMP, providing indications about the latest scientific and technical advances in drought-related issues, and reviewing and assessing the IDMP TSU activities. With the support of the TSU as Secretariat, the AC will consist of the following: 4

- i The Chairperson: Nominated jointly by Co-sponsoring International Organizations;
- ii Two representatives from each co-sponsored international organizations; One representative from each of the three following Standing Committees of the WMO Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (Services Commission): Standing Committee on Services for Agriculture (SC-AGR), Standing Committee on Climate Services; Standing Committee on Hydrological Services.;
- iii One representative from each of the Support Base Partners (SBPs);
- iv One representative from each of the Financial Partners;
- v One representative from the APFM.

The Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee are as follows:

- i Guides the implementation of the IDMP and its HelpDesk activities, making proposals for the annual work plan to be considered by the Management Committee;
- ii Ensures, by advising the TSU, that the IDMP develops and maintains an adequate service spectrum, and effective and efficient working arrangements vis-à-vis beneficiaries, Support Base Partners and Financial Partners;
- iii Ensures multidisciplinary inputs into the activities of the IDMP and suggest approaches to implement Integrated Drought Management (IDM) concepts in the field;
- iv Proposes guidelines for prioritizing, at a general level, activities and requests received by the HelpDesk;
- v Ensures, through yearly revision of TSU activities, quality assurance of IDMP functions and services;
- vi Guides and supports the advocacy and dissemination process of IDM and the activities of the programme, including the HelpDesk;
- vii Proposes to the Management Committee policies for internal and external communication.

B. Management Committee

The Management Committee will review the progress of work, monitor implementation of the programme and decide on the budget plan. With the support of the TSU as Secretariat, the Management Committee will consist of:

- i The Chairperson: To be nominated jointly by the co-sponsoring international organizations, who is also the chairperson of the Advisory Committee;
- ii Two representatives from each co-sponsoring international organization;
- iii One representative from each of the Financial Partners;
- iv Two members from the Support Base Partners, as decided by the Advisory Committee. In cooperation with the Chairperson, the TSU might invite additional participants on an ad-hoc basis.

The Terms of Reference of the Management Committee are as follows:

- i Provides oversight to the IDMP and its TSU and HelpDesk, monitoring the progress of implementation of activities and the Advisory Committee recommendations;

- ii Determines the level of financial support required for the IDMP including the TSU and HelpDesk, as well as the corresponding resource mobilization strategy; Approves the IDMP annual work plan and budget;
- i Adopts modifications to the governance framework of the IDMP;
- ii Sets criteria of eligibility for Support Base Partners as well as the threshold to qualify as a substantive financial contributor;
- iii Establishes its own modus operandi and procedural rules, as well as those of the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee and the Management Committee will at least meet once a year and shall meet, as far as possible, in conjunction.

Contributions and Resources

The IDMP activities are carried out using resources consisting of core in-kind and financial contributions from the co-sponsoring international organizations, voluntary in-kind contributions from Support Base Partners and financial contributions by the Financial Partners to the IDMP Trust Fund. Outputs from IDMP activities also include information and expertise in support of HelpDesk functions.

The in-kind and financial contributions from WMO include:

- i The provision of professional and general service staff support from the SD of WMO to the Technical Support Unit;
- ii The provision of logistics in the form of office space and utilities for the IDMP Technical Support Unit;
- iii Provision of technical inputs from the SD of WMO and the APFM.

GWP is supporting the IDMP under core funding from its Water and Climate Programme. The in-kind and financial contributions from GWP include:

- i The provision of a seconded staff support to the TSU from its Water and Climate Programme;
- ii Web hosting for relevant parts of the IDMP;
- iii Provision of technical inputs from the Climate Resilience through Water Programme of GWP and relevant Regional and National Water Partnerships.

The other co-sponsoring international organizations will contribute to the IDMP with at least one of the following commitments:

- Resource person(s) for IDMP TSU;
- Significant financial support to IDMP Trust Fund (greater than 75,000 CHF per year) or through direct financial contributions to IDMP projects (also greater than 75,000 CHF per year).

The level and extent of in-kind contributions from Support Base Partners is determined in the Letter of Engagement signed by each of them and would be reported on an annual basis to the Management Committee.

WMO will set up a dedicated budget line within the IDMP Trust Fund to receive the contributions necessary for the operation of the IDMP.

IDMP Overview

