



Virtual Exchange “Institutional Coordination for Drought Resilience”

Eswatini National Drought Plan – Institutional Arrangement

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INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION FOR DROUGHT MANAGEMENT IN ESWATINI

Institution that leads drought management and coordination

- Government established a parastatal body Under the Deputy Prime Ministers Office - **the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA)** - to coordinate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programmes, including drought.
- NDMA thus assumes the role of **Inter-Cluster coordinator of the National Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan**. The relevant Government Sector Ministries/Departments have focal points who assist NDMA in coordinating and managing all issues pertaining to DRM (Drought)
- In case of Drought, **the Ministry of Agriculture become the co-leader, assisting NDMA**

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Table1: Role player in Eswatini Drought Risk Reduction and Mitigation

ENTITY	ROLE
Government of Eswatini	The government of Eswatini has the ultimate mandate and responsibility to lead and coordinate all national disaster preparedness and response actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of disasters. Under DPMO, NDMA is the overall national coordinator of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programmes.
NDMA	NDMA coordinates the different DRR clusters in line with the Disaster Management Act (2006) and Disaster Risk Management Policy (2010).
National Committee on Multi-Hazard Contingency Planning (MHCP).	Multi-sector involvement/engagement was undertaken through the Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan (MHCP). The MHCP is led, coordinated and managed through the NDMA Clusters

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ENTITY	ROLE
Civil Society	In the context of an expanded humanitarian country partnership, civil society organizations such as Red Cross, World Vision Eswatini, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries and Save the Children play a vital role in DRR coordination and implementation of DRR activities.
The United Nations Country Team (UNCT)	Under the guidance of the UNRC, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is responsible for effective and efficient implementation of Inter-Agency disaster risk management activities. It provides support overall leadership to the cluster planning, response and recovery and for initiating dialogue with the Government and donors. The UN Agencies serve as the Core Lead Agencies and work closely with their relevant counterpart Lead Agencies in Government.

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ENTITY	ROLE
The National Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit	The National Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit is responsible for providing leadership and coordination on health emergencies, providing emergency medical/ambulance service, shaping the health emergency research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options for disaster risk management for health , monitoring disease outbreaks and assessing performance of health system during emergencies.
The Multi-sector involvement/Engagement Committee	Since 2013, a multi-sector involvement on DRM has been undertaken through the Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan (MHCP) . This body is coordinated and managed through an Inter-Cluster/Sector arrangement with the relevant Government Agency serving as the Lead Agency and the United Nations or relevant NGO Agency as Core Lead Agency.

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ENTITY	ROLE
The Eswatini Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC)	This body collects household level information to assess levels of chronic food insecurity, malnutrition, livelihoods and vulnerability in rural households in all regions of the country. It builds the capacity of core Swazi VAC members to undertake integrated food security and vulnerability analyses of household survey data.
The Eswatini Meteorological Service (EMS)	The Eswatini Meteorological Service issues seasonal forecast and sensitize farmers on the importance and the use of the forecast for planning.

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ENTITY	ROLE
The Department of Water Affairs (DWA)	The DWA monitors hydro-meteorological indicators and issues drought-related information
The National Early Warning Unit (NEWU)	The NEWU conducts food supply assessment in conjunction with other stakeholders, provide advice on food supply policies, gather, analyze and disseminate information on food security issues, provide early warning information on the expected weather conditions and crop production in liaison with the Department of Meteorological Services. The unit further liaises with regional and international bodies on issues of food security that have a bearing on the local food security context.

Coordination in Practice

Coordination and Sharing of information

- **Monthly meeting** called by NDMA
- Information presented during **cluster meetings**
- NDMA receives information from partners and prepares **quarterly reports**
- **Early warning information** transmitted to farmers through media, sms, extension officers
- **Regional meetings through SADC to consider seasonal focus**
- **Monthly updates during drought events informs cabinet decisions and realignment of national budget**
- **Vulnerability assessment informs priority area** during implementation of mitigating measures – *e.g. food parcels, cash services*

Lessons Learned

- **Cluster approach** ensured participation of key stakeholders
- The **approach influences realignment of budget** in times of drought
- **Challenge is the complexity in coordinating big stakeholders**
- Advice is to **ensure participation of key stakeholders** because they come with **additional funding**

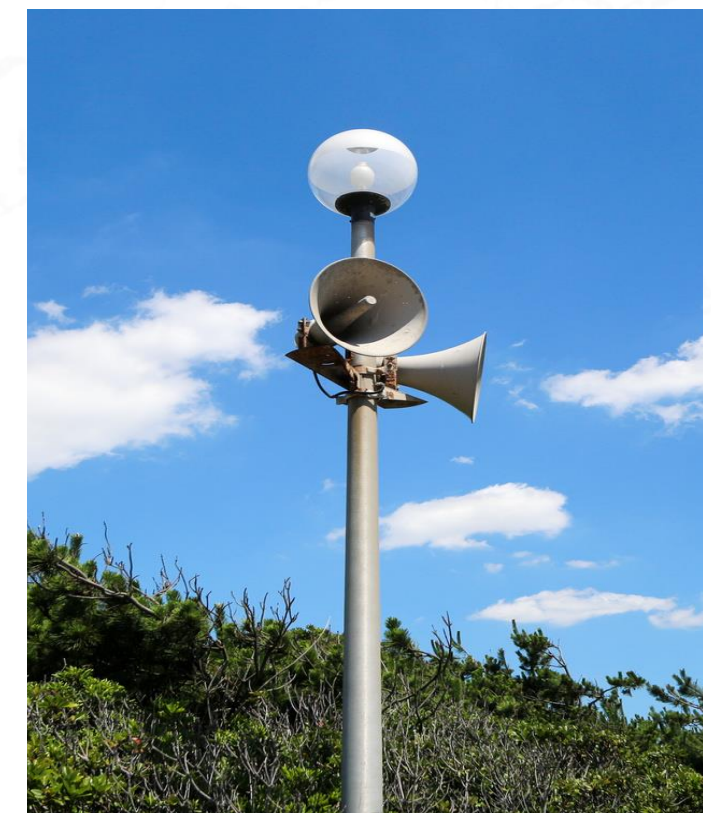
Project Title: Restoration of ecosystems, integrated natural resource management and promotion of SLM in Mbuluzi River Basin of Eswatini

The project goal is to **improve food security and natural resource management** in the Mbuluzi landscape and contribute to rural livelihoods, national, regional, and global environmental benefits.

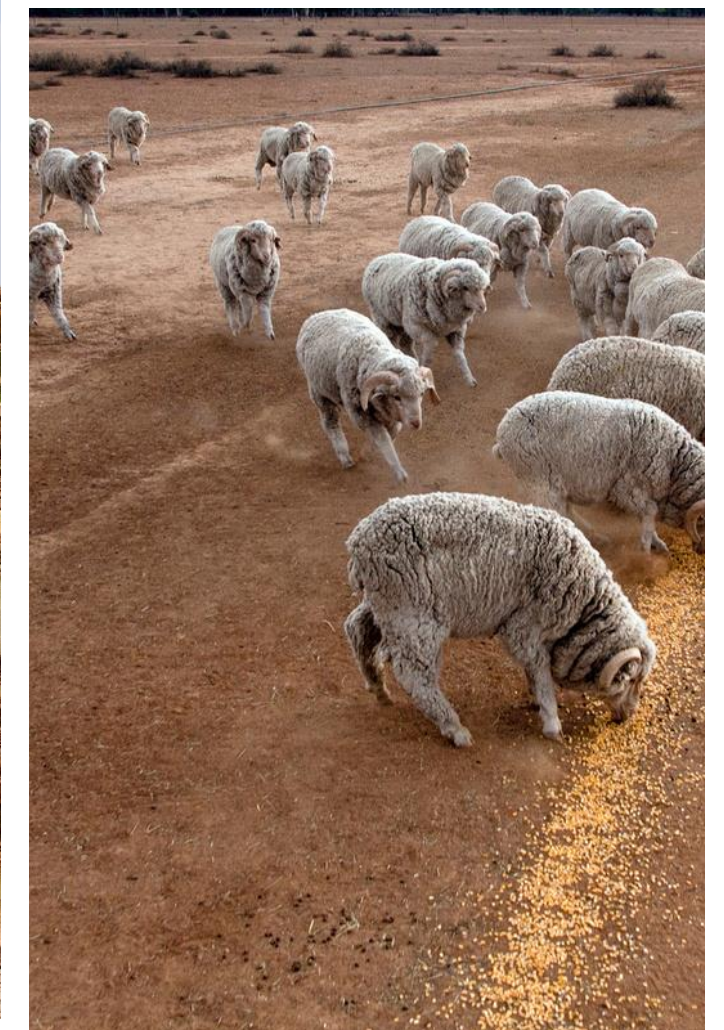
The project objective is to **enhance the conservation of an eco-resilient and highly productive Mbuluzi River landscape and effectively managed protected areas** that provide critical ecosystem goods and services.

The project promotes the **adoption and application of integrated sustainable land management and ecosystem restoration technologies to safeguard the integrity of key ecosystems** in the Mbuluzi Catchment in Eswatini. It focuses on the interface between people and the ecosystems on which they depend for livelihoods. It will bring together all the people using land resources within the Mbuluzi River Basin to harness and manage their natural resources more sustainably for optimum benefits.

The project ensure that the **sustainable management of ecosystem goods and services is fully integrated into national and local level development planning.** It is expected to yield **multi-developmental benefits to Eswatini's Vision 2022: Agriculture and Environmental Sustainability.** It also builds upon the strong commitment by the Government of Eswatini to promote productivity through improved biomes and productive ecosystems in the Mbuluzi catchment



The project is **fully aligned with Eswatini's National Voluntary Targets on Land Degradation Neutrality**. The targets were defined during a LDN Target Setting Process, and seek to avoid, minimize and reverse land degradation; reduce current annual loss of forest to cropland; increase forest cover through afforestation and agroforestry programmes; increase land productivity in all the country's four regions through SLM practices; increase the amount of land set aside for nature and wildlife conservation; rehabilitate degraded and abandoned land for crop production.



THANK YOU.

