

Concept

Regional Training on Applying IWRM Tools for Drought Risk Management

15th -19th June 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Introduction

The Horn of Africa (HOA) is vulnerable to the increasing frequency and severity of hazards such as droughts and floods and their impacts on economic sectors in the region is enormous. The hazards affect key sectors such as agriculture, energy, water and transport among others. Such climate-related hazards are having increasingly adverse effects in the Horn of Africa region and future climate change is likely to further exacerbate the situation. A large proportion of the HOA population is highly vulnerable with a low adaptive capacity to climate change. Rural communities in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) are likely to be affected most because of their high dependence on rain-fed agriculture and natural resource-based livelihoods. The HOA capacity to adapt to climate-related hazards should therefore be developed to limit the negative impacts of climate change and address the country's socio-economic and developmental challenges effectively. The HOA faces a shortage of technology and skilled human resources due to limited knowledge and capacity to effectively predict future climate events. Secondly, there is inadequate existence of systematic processes for packaging, translating and disseminating climate information and warnings. Thirdly, the community level usage of climate information and responses to receive warnings is poor.

Nile IWRM-Net/CAP-Net and Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa (GWP EA) are working in partnership to capacitate key institutions in the Horn of Africa for sustainable management of water resources and increased water security.

Cap-Net is UNDP's global network to strengthen capacity development at the local level towards sustainable management and development of water resources and improved access to water supply and sanitation. Cap-Net is made up of a partnership of autonomous international, regional and national institutions and networks committed to capacity development in the water sector and have accumulated over 10 years of experience of capacity development. Capacity development is identified as a governance issue and strategic activity area that cuts across these thematic areas, alongside other governance issues on water integrity, human rights based approach, leadership and water diplomacy and gender, areas in which Cap-Net has been and continues to be active. For Cap-Net, capacity development for sustainable management of water resources remains the core theme with special attention to supporting actions on the ground and a focus on performance of water management institutions. Nile IWRM-Net is one of the regional networks of Cap-Net that was established in 2005.

Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa was established in 2003 to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels in the eastern Africa region. GWP EA focuses on providing effective but neutral stakeholder forum to facilitate consultation processes amongst different actors in the region, aimed at enhancing livelihoods through sustainable water use and management. It promotes the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach to foster the coordination, development and management of water resources for sustainable development. GWP EA has very good stakeholder platforms at both eastern Africa region and country levels to facilitate coordination and dialogue among various stakeholders, and among different programs/initiatives. They are key in enhancing coordination/collaboration, networking and information/knowledge sharing, capacity building, and for policy dialogue.

Cap-Net and GWP EA are partnering to support effective adaptation planning to reduce impacts of droughts as well as use approaches like Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) through capacity building of key institutions. Therefore, a regional training workshop has been organised to take place from 15th to 19th June 2015, with the aim of strengthening the capacity of water and climate professionals in the HOA region on drought disaster risk management, IWRM approach and the need for timely responses to forecasted climate-related risks.

Objectives of the training

- To increase knowledge and understanding of drought risk management frameworks
- To build capacity of participants to address challenges of climate change/drought within the framework of Integrated Water Resources Management
- To provide an opportunity for sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices regarding the climate/drought resilience and the IWRM approaches.

Expected outputs of the training

- Participants have increased knowledge and understanding of drought risk management frameworks
- Participants gain knowledge and appreciation of how to address climate change/drought issues within the framework of IWRM
- Participants are able to identify opportunities and best practices for adapting to climate change and drought resilience through applying an IWRM approach

The training is organized in line with Cap-Net's core theme of capacity development for sustainable management of water resources. In addition, it will contribute to achieving IDMP HOA objectives which include:

- Strengthen capacities for drought management at national & local levels and enhance knowledge development and sharing of experiences
- Promote sharing of lessons and best practices on drought management in the participating countries.
- Enhance partnership and collaboration for drought management.
- Promote influencing of policies and programs towards sustainable drought management

The training is a follow up to the regional workshops that were organized in August 2014 through UN-Water, WMO, FAO, UNCCD as part of the UN-Water Initiative on “Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies.

Participants

The training course will be attended by a total of 24 participants, from water/climate change/disaster related Ministries, Departments and Agencies within the HOA region. Participants will be drawn from within the HOA countries of Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Somalia. Also, other countries from the Nile region such as Burundi, Congo, Egypt and Rwanda will also be included. Two to three participants are expected from each of the aforementioned countries. Participants will be capacitated to undertake trainings in their respective countries.

Training Material

CAP-Net has developed a training manual for Drought Risk Management. This will be customised to fit into the HOA/Nile regional conditions and used for training as well as learn lessons and best practices that can be operationalized in the targeted countries.

Facilitators

Over the years Cap-Net has groomed experts in the subject matter. The training of trainers workshop will be facilitated by CAP-Net/Nile IWRM-Net members who have been trained as trainers. Others will be from ICPAC, and the Global Water Partnership who will share their experiences and lessons. ICPAC is specialised in providing technical support on weather forecasting and as such will be critical in the drought early warning systems.

Location, Duration and Timing

The regional Training of Trainer’s (TOT) workshop will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The duration of the TOT will be 5 days inclusive of one day field trip to an innovative demonstration initiative in drought management/water security in either Genale Wada River Basin in Dello Mena Woreda OR in the Central Rift valley system of Ethiopia. The training is proposed to take place from 15th to 19th June 2015.

Course Organisation

The course is jointly organised and coordinated by GWP EA and CAP-Net /Nile IWRM-Net.

The contact information for the coordinators is as follows:

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