



UNW-DPC



Moving from crisis to risk management



# Capacity Development to Support National DROUGHT Management Policies



Find out more on the initiative:  
[www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement](http://www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement)



**UNW-DPC**  
UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development

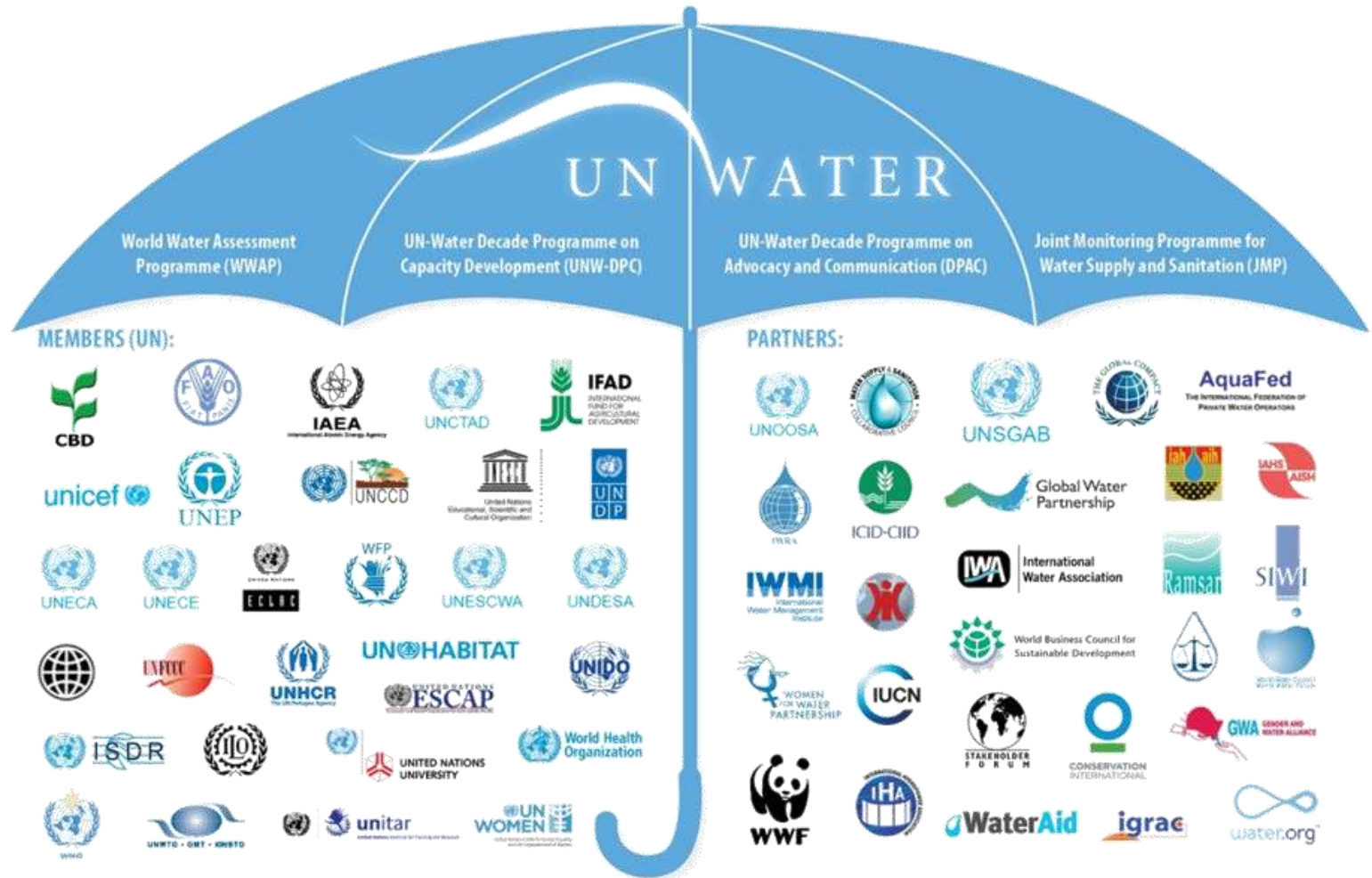
**International Kick-off**  
of the joint UN-Water Initiative of  
WMO, UNCCD, FAO and UNW-DPC on

**Capacity Development  
to Support National Drought  
Management Policies**

**Dr. Reza Ardakanian**  
**Founding Director / Officer-in-Charge**  
**UN-Water Decade Programme**  
**on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)**  
**Bonn, Germany**

# About UN-Water

UNW-DPC



# Background and Rationale

## Droughts – quick facts

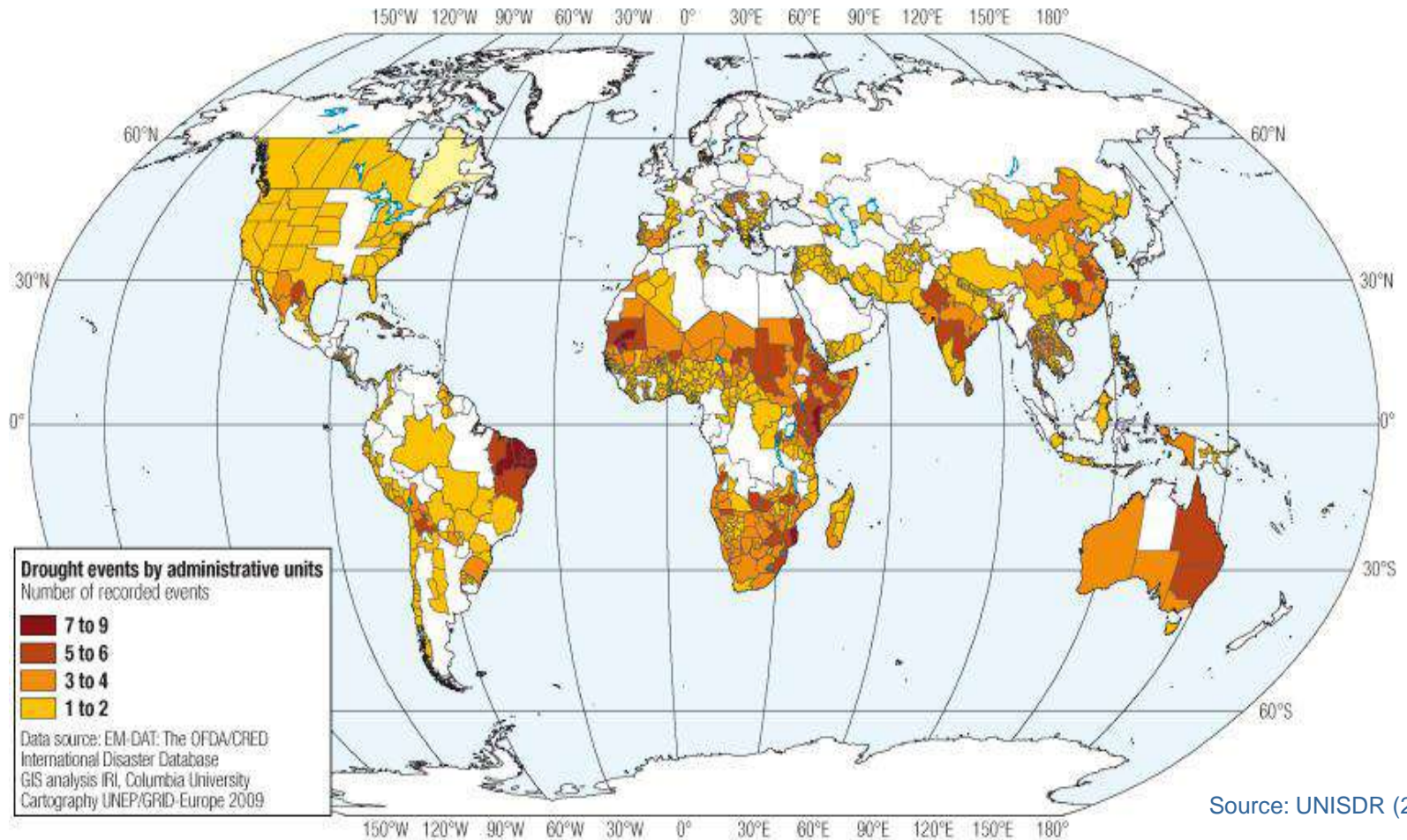
- Drought ranks first among all natural hazards (Bryant, 1991) (based on severity, duration, spatial extent, life and economic loss and other measures)
- Significant implications for food security, water scarcity and energy
- Impacts of drought include reduced crop production and water levels, increased livestock and wildlife death rates, and drastic socioeconomic impacts.
- Climate change is likely to shift the patterns of droughts and possibly increase the frequency and severity of extreme drought conditions



Source (Sivakumar, K.M.)

# Droughts – affected areas

Number of drought disasters as recorded by EMDAT (1974–2004)



- Drought affects almost all climatic regions
- Most affected: Africa, Australia, Brazil, Central Asia, China, India, S.E. Europe and USA

# On the Initiative ...



## “Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies”

a new initiative, under UN-Water, which brings together the expertise of several UN agencies to advance capacity in targeted drought-prone countries to enable them develop effective drought management policies.



# About the Partners



Capacity Development to Support  
**National DROUGHT**  
Management Policies

UNW-DPC

- **The World Meteorological Organization (WMO):** The UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behavior of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, climate and the resulting distribution of water resources. ([www.wmo.int](http://www.wmo.int))
- **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD):** the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. ([www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int))
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):** aims to raise levels of nutrition and agricultural productivity, enhance the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. ([www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org))
- **UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC):** strengthens the capacity development activities of UN-Water members and partners and supports them in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) related to water. ([www.unwater.unu.edu](http://www.unwater.unu.edu))



# Towards a paradigm shift

## From crisis to risk management



Proactive

Reactive

Source: Adapted from National Drought Mitigation Center, <http://drought.unl.edu>

➔ A need to develop risk-based drought management policies



# Key Objectives and Goals



- Raise awareness on risk based NDMP
- Enable nations to assess their national situation on disaster management and to identify and address the capacity needs
- Capacity development to enable nations to identify a suite of strategies needed to develop risk based national drought management policies



# Implementation Mechanism



## Regional Workshops:

- Eastern Europe
- Asia-Pacific
- Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean

## Purpose:

- To provide an overview of problems related to drought management and National Drought Management Policies
- To focus on the capacities that countries need to develop risk based management policies.

**1<sup>st</sup> Regional Workshop in Romania, June 2013 (tbc)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Workshop in Iran, October 2013 (tbc)**

# Regional Workshops



- Open to participants
  - from all committed countries of the respective regions,
  - identified from ministries and national organizations in a selective process
  - willing to commit to preparatory work
- Fostering cross-disciplinary network building by bringing together participants from different national ministries.

# UNW-AIS

UN-Water *Activity* Information System

**Discover, learn and share!**

An integrated online information system and  
e-learning platform for water-related activities



[www.ais.unwater.org](http://www.ais.unwater.org)

UNW-AIS is managed by UNW-DPC

[www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement](http://www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement)

# Implementation Mechanism



## UN-Water Activity Information System (UNW-AIS)

UN WATER | UNW-AIS  
UN-Water Activity Information System

Home Projects Publications Learning Platforms UN-Water

Home > Topics > Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management > National Drought Management Policies Initiative

Topic outline

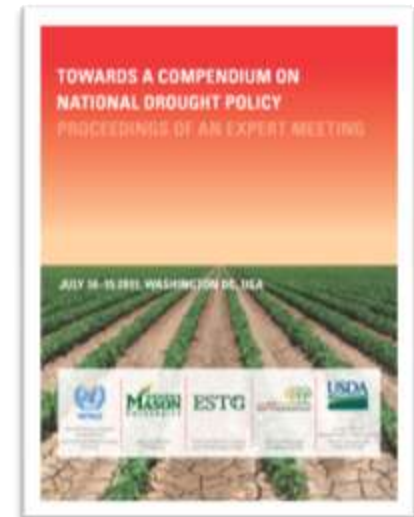
A UN-WATER INITIATIVE  
**Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies**

WMO FAO UNCCD UN-WATER

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in cooperation with the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) have initiated the Joint Capacity Development Project on National Drought Management Policies. The project was launched by an international kick-off workshop in Geneva in March 2013, and will be followed by a series of regional workshops in several drought-prone regions worldwide in 2013-2014. After the workshop series, the initiative will close with a final wrap-up conference.

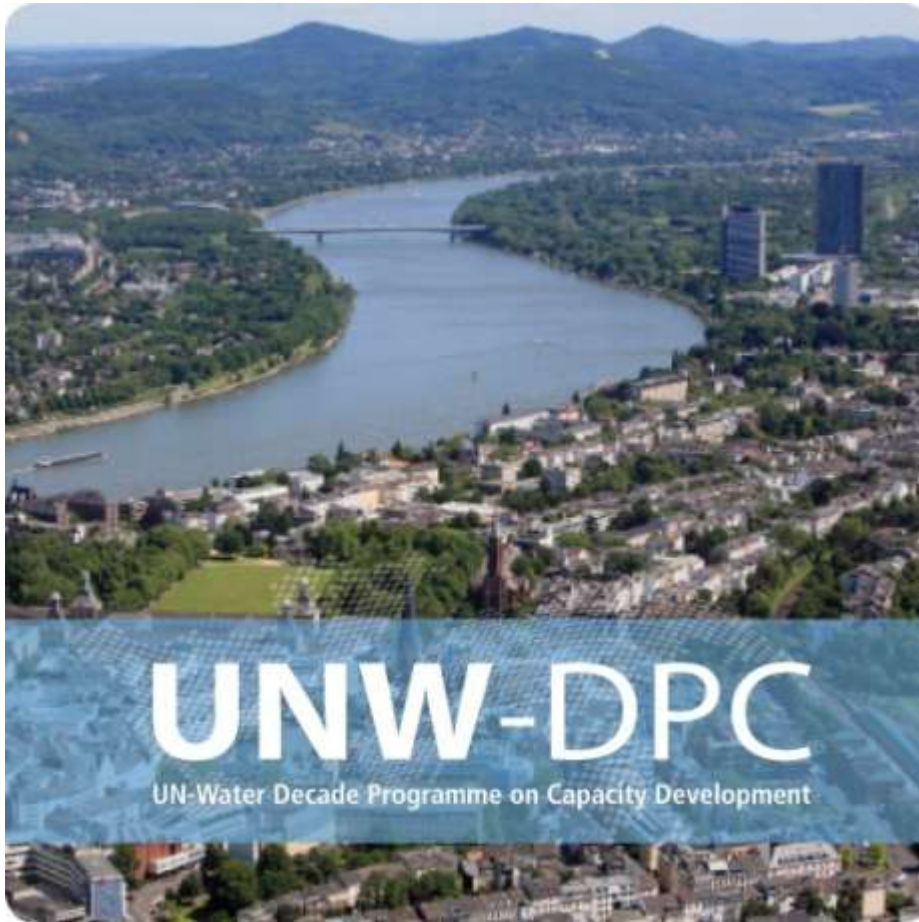
It has been estimated that droughts are the world's costliest natural disaster, accounting for a cost of 6-8 billion US dollars annually, and affect more people than any other form of natural disaster (Wilhite, 2000). They are considered to be the most far-reaching of all natural disasters, causing short and long-term economic losses as well as significant secondary and tertiary impacts, particularly in the food, water and energy sectors. Droughts are considered to impact nations and countries around the world with dramatic economic and ecologic damage. To reduce the societal vulnerability to droughts, the initiative aims to reinforce a resilient shift to sustainable water...

- Documents the activities of the initiative
- Reference and workshop material, such as



# Thank you!

UNW-DPC



**UN-Water Decade Programme on  
Capacity Development  
(UNW-DPC)**

**UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY**

UN Campus  
Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10  
D-53113 Bonn, Germany  
Phone: + 49 (0) 228 815-0652  
Fax: + 49 (0) 228 815-0655  
E-Mail: [info@unwater.unu.edu](mailto:info@unwater.unu.edu)  
[www.unwater.unu.edu](http://www.unwater.unu.edu)



UNW-DPC



Moving from crisis to risk management



# Capacity Development to Support National DROUGHT Management Policies



Find out more on the initiative:  
[www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement](http://www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement)

