

The Drought Initiative (2018/2019)

Working Group Members: UNCCD,
FAO, WMO, GWP, NDMC (Uni. of
Nebraska) & UNEP-DHI

Presenter: Daniel Tsegai (UNCCD)



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

IDMP Meeting, 25 August 2018

Background

- ‘Drought Resilience’ is one of the five UNCCD strategic objectives to guide action of UNCCD stakeholders in the period from 2018 to 2030.

Strategic objective 3:

To mitigate, adapt to & manage the effects of drought in order to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations & ecosystems”

- ✓ Expected impact 3.1: Ecosystems’ vulnerability to drought is reduced, including through sustainable land & water management practices.
- ✓ Expected impact 3.2: Communities’ resilience to drought is increased.

COP 13 – Decisions on Drought

❑ Decision 29/COP.13:

Parties request the secretariat & appropriate UNCCD institutions & bodies, incl. the SPI to implement the drought initiative for the biennium 2018/19 which proposes action on:

- Drought Preparedness Systems;
- Regional efforts to reduce drought vulnerability and risk; and
- A toolbox to boost the resilience of people and ecosystems to drought

❑ Decision 21/COP.13

Parties request the SPI as part of its work programme for the biennium 2018–2019, to

- Provide technical guidance to Parties to support adoption & implementation of land-based interventions for drought management & mitigation;
- Develop & finalize the technical guidelines to assist Parties in the implementation of the Drought Resilience, Adaptation and Management Policy framework;

❑ Decision 15/COP.13

COP Considers the need for a specific indicator for the strategic objective on drought ... and requests the CST to assist in the work relating to the establishment of such a monitoring framework

About the Drought Initiative (DI)

Objectives

- ☐ To support selected countries in designing national drought plans
- ☐ To develop a toolbox of relevant technical/policy measures and decision tree

Criteria for selecting the countries

- ☐ Expression of interest
- ☐ The presence of meteorological systems and (high-level) political commitment
- ☐ Financial eligibility

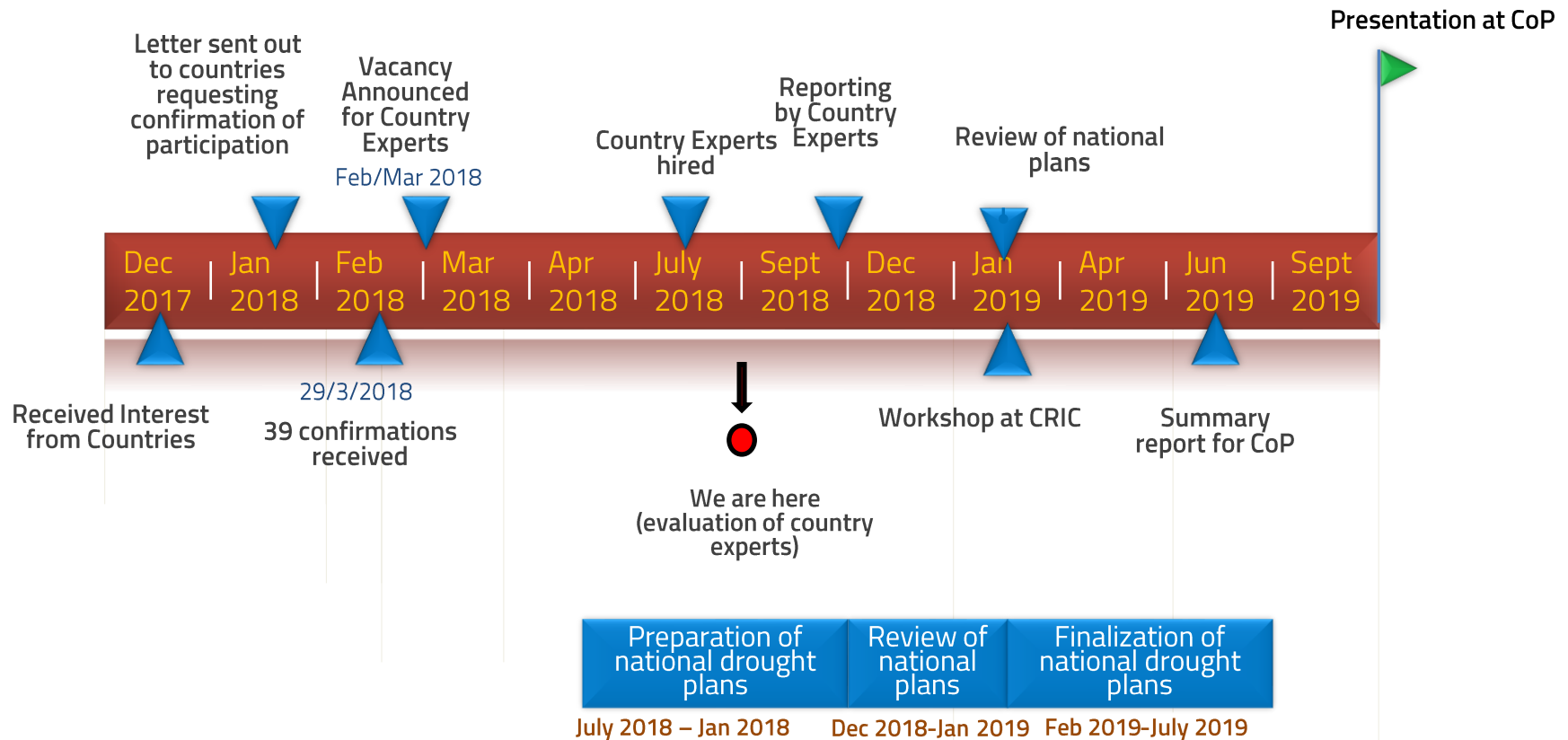
I. National Drought Plans

43 Countries are on board . . .

Region	Countries with pre-requisites in place	#
Africa	Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Niger, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, The Gambia, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe.	22
Asia	Uzbekistan, Cambodia, Philippines, Iran, Iraq, Marshall Islands, Kuwait, Vietnam, Jordan	8
LAC	El Salvador, Paraguay, Venezuela, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Ecuador, Grenada	9
CEE	Macedonia, Serbia, Moldova, Azerbaijan	4
Total		43



Timeline



One National Expert per country

☐ Three milestone of deliverables:

☐ **Work plan** (June-July 2018) 

☐ First draft of **National Drought Plans** (Aug/Sep 2018) 

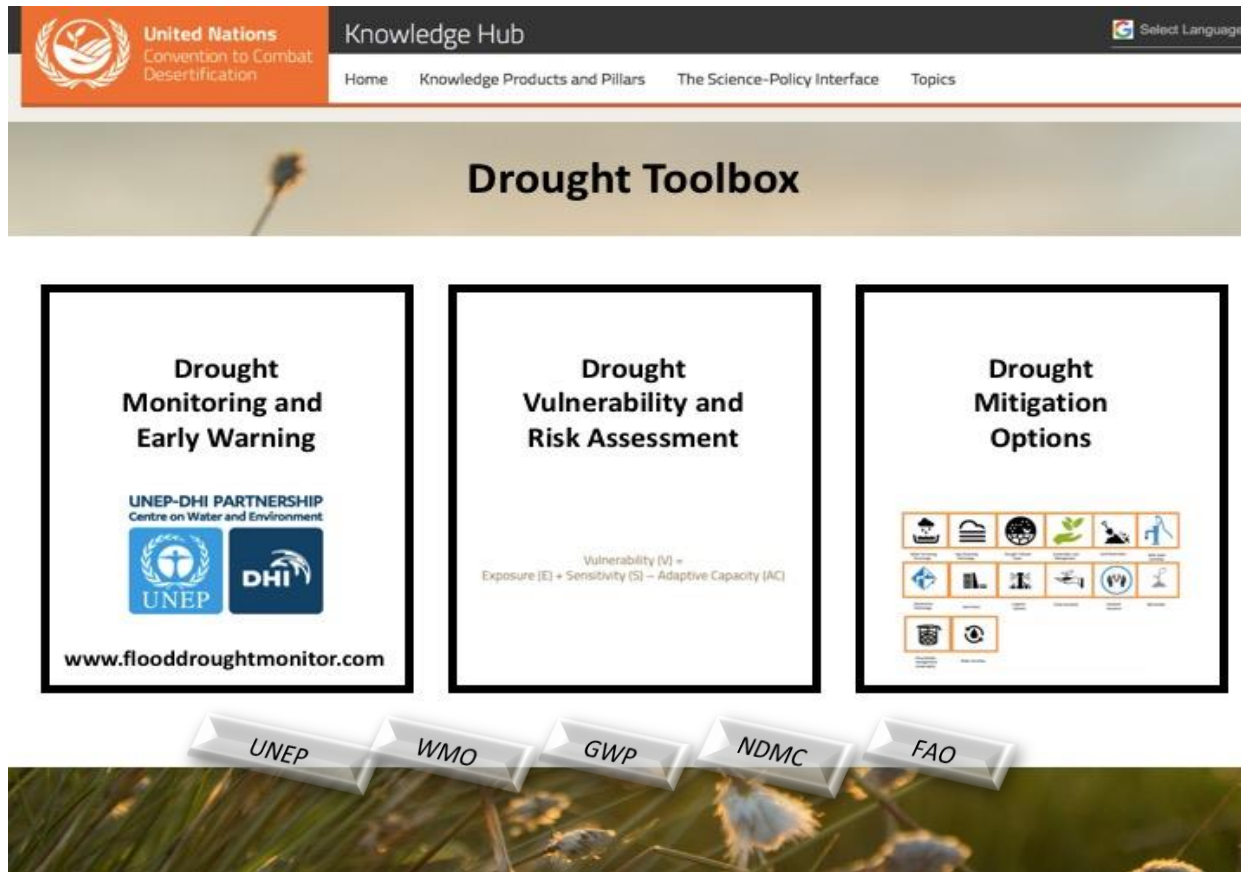
☐ Final draft of the **National Drought Plans** (Dec 2018/Jan 2019) 

II. The Drought Toolbox

Objectives

- ☐ To carry out a consolidated review of recognized techniques, tools and practices to mitigating the impacts of drought from which Parties could choose a best fit given their specific circumstances. The tools will be categorized in line with the three pillars of drought preparedness: (i) monitoring, early warning and forecasting tools used by decision makers; (ii) vulnerability assessment tools for identifying hotspots; (iii) drought risk mitigation tools with key “policy” and “technical” measures.
- ☐ To review (“best”) practices on drought adaptation and produce a decision tree bringing together relevant evidences, recommendations and methodologies that can be applied in drought-prone countries.
- ☐ To create a web platform (“a one stop shop”) for all drought preparedness measures also by providing link to the various relevant tools in other organisations.

II. The Drought Toolbox structure



II. The Drought Toolbox

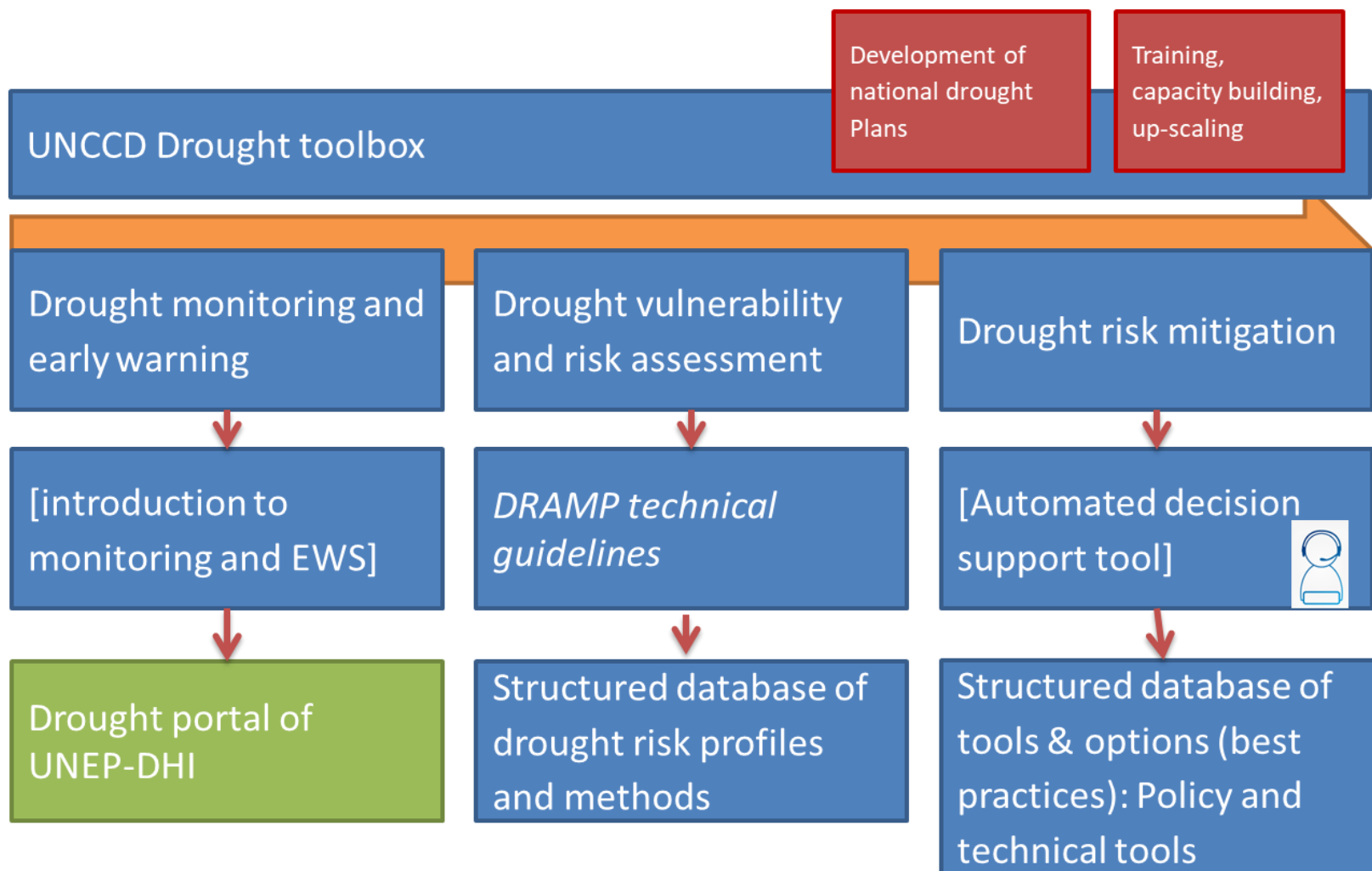
Deliverables

- ❑ A detailed /comprehensive Drought Toolbox that can be applied at national and sub-national levels.
- ❑ Training manual and user guide for the toolbox. The training material could be a combination of pdf based guidelines and video based tutorials.

Design

- ❑ The toolbox is designed to provide drought stakeholders with easy access to tools, case studies and other resources to support the implementation of National Drought Plan.
- ❑ The drought toolbox collates a large number of tools organized in 3 modules:
 - Drought monitoring and early warning
 - Drought vulnerability assessment
 - Drought risk mitigation

II. The Drought Toolbox: Building Blocks



II. The Drought Toolbox

Overall Project Management: UNCCD Secretariat

Work package 1: Monitoring and Early Warning module (module 1) (UNEP-DHI, WMO, GWP):

Activities include (i) Development of prototype for 1 country , (ii) Up-scaling for pilot with 5-10 countries and (iii) Enabling Global coverage

Work package 2: “Vulnerability assessment” (module 2) and “Risk Mitigation” (module 3) (UNCCD, with contribution from FAO, UNEP-DHI/WMO/GWP)

- (i) Developing a concept for risk assessment
- (ii) developing the database of tools and options, with a structured taxonomy & decision support tree

Work package 3: Design, communications and portal development (UNCCD):

Activities (UNCCD): (i) (Hire web development company) to do initial design (ii) Buy development and implementation of “virtual Assistant” (iii) Technical implementation in Drupal (part of UNCCD systems) and (iv) Junior consultancy/Intern to help with the development of introductory and guiding content (3 months)

- Design company; Virtual assistant (chatbot) configuration; Virtual assistant (chatbot) configuration; Website implementation and hosting

Work package 4: Training, capacity building and up-scaling (All)

- Development of training materials and conducting the training

II. The Drought Toolbox

Planning and timeline

Development of portal August-December 2018

First Pilots in January 2019

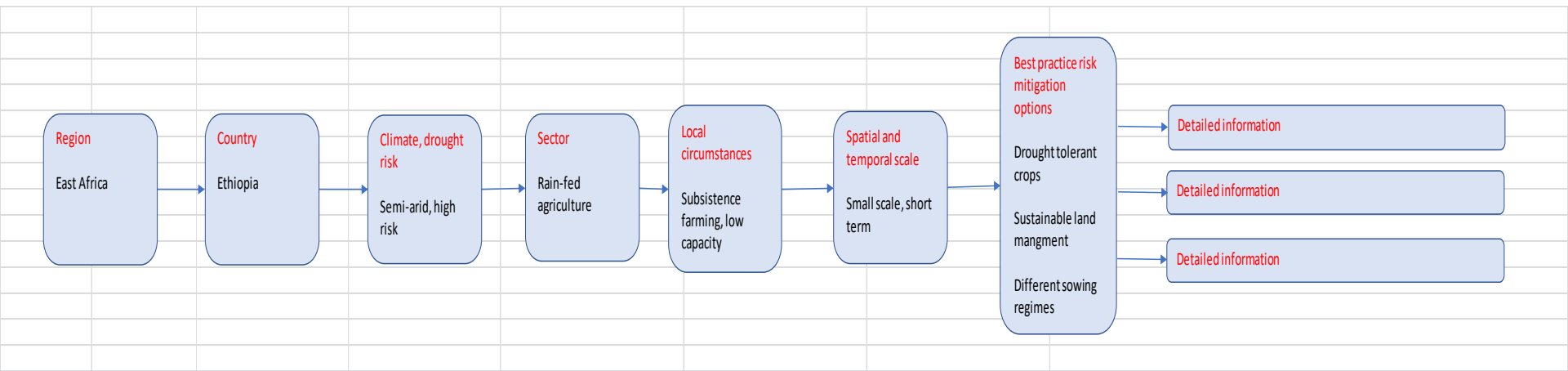
Full roll-out in October 2019 @ COP 14

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Decision Tree

Region	Country	Climate and drought risk conditions at user location		Agriculture/Economy Sector	Local economic, policy, demographic circumstances	Spatial and temporal scale	Best practice risk mitigation options (not exhaustive)	Detailed Information*
Africa	Afghanistan	Boreal	Low	Rain-fed agriculture	Size of operation	Local, small-scale, farm-scale	Drought tolerant crops	Description
East Asia		Tropical	Medium	Irrigated agriculture	Financial capacity	Watershed/landscape scale	Sustainable land management (e.g. no-tillage cropping; soil carbon; biodiversity conservation)	Advantages
West Asia	Zimbabwe	Sub-tropical	High	Forestry	Public/donor funds available	National scale	Different sowing regimes	Disadvantages
LAC		Temperate	Very high	Livestock			Diversify land uses	Costs
East Europe				Water supply		Short term results (< 1 year)	Land restoration and rehabilitation	Benefits
West Europe		Arid		Environment		Medium term results (1-3 years)	Water productivity understanding and capacity building (e.g. FAO's WaPOR)	Information sources
Pacific North America		Semi-arid		Transportation		Long term results (> 3 years)	Efficient irrigation systems (e.g. drippers)	Scientific publications
		Sub-humid		Public health			Water rationing	Why best practice?
		Humid		Tourism and recreation			Water markets	Evidence of success
							Improved feed monitoring and early warning (e.g. FAO's GLEAM and PLEWS systems)	
		Warm/low		Energy			Destocking	
				Livelihoods				
		Cool/high		Education			Supplementary feed	*Sourced from scientific and grey literature
								and knowledge and capacity building programmes
		Cold/boreal		Emergency response			Herd relocation	of partners and other organisations such as
				Economic productivity			Use special reserve areas	FAO, WMO, GWP, NDMC, UNDP

Decision Tree



THANK YOU



FAO-led Global Framework for Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

Vision: a world whose food systems are secure and resilient to increasing water scarcity in a changing climate.

Mission: to support measurable, significant and sustainable progress on improving and adapting agricultural systems in conditions of increasing water scarcity and a changing climate, using the combined expertise and resources of the Partners.

Objectives: to urgently address the following important and relevant work areas at international and country levels:

- Advocating for political prioritization.

- Cooperating on work programmes.

- Sharing and disseminating knowledge and experience.

- Developing new or improved solutions.

- Promoting sustainable and integrated water resources management.

- Building capacity of Partners and countries and other Stakeholders.

- Contributing to consistent monitoring systems.

Partners: States, international organizations, civil society organisations, academia, private sector entities and trade associations.

WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

Strategic objective: To mitigate the impacts of droughts by enhancing the resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems.

Members UNCCD (Daniel Tsegai); WMO (Robert Stefanski); FAO (Eduardo Mansur, Patricia M. Moreno);
GWP (Frederik Pischke); National Drought Mitigation Center (Mark Svoboda);
International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) (Rachael Mc Donalds)
Italian Coordination Groups (*Raffaella Zucaro*); UNESCO (*Amani Abou*); Bruno Barbie (CIRAD)

WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

Main outcome 1: Improved understanding of drought preparedness by bringing together the various global drought preparedness efforts.

Outcome indicators	Target(s)	Main deliverables
1.1 Capitalize on UNCCD-led Drought Initiative: Countries use the WG guidance and technical advice concerning drought preparedness	1.1.1. Promote comprehensive risk based national drought plans that benefits all segments of society 1.1.2. Guidance on setting-up a national drought plan and a toolbox for technical and policy options for addressing drought 1.1.3. Support countries (approx.. 40) develop a national drought plan	- Model national drought plan developed - Drought toolbox on effective technical and policy options developed - The development of a national drought plan in 43 countries - Hands on training during CRIC in Guyana (Jan 2019) conducted
1.2 Capitalize on IDMP	1.2.1	??
1.3 Capitalize on ICBA, UNESCO, CIRAD Initiatives	1.3.1	??
1.4 Project on UN-Water Initiative (USD 30,000 leftover funds)	1.4.1 Commission a study on “Drought impact assessment methods”	-Policy support (COP decision) -Publication

WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

Main outcome 2: Build partnerships , establish joint activities and mapping that go beyond the WG

Outcome indicators	Target(s)	Main deliverables
2.1 Working Group is established; Logframe and Work Plan are drafted	2.1.1. At least three partner organizations are involved in the WG; TOR is prepared and Work plan is agreed upon by ISC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment and/or continuation of partnerships with WMO, GWP, FAO, University of Nebraska (NDMC) and UNEP - Cooperation with the above-mentioned partners for exchanging of the organizations' substantial work on drought, disseminate advice and guidance through the Knowledge Hub and UNCCD communication channels - A publication of the main outcomes of activities of the WG.
2.2 Sharing knowledge and experiences	2.2.1 Mapping of Drought related activities by the organizations 2.2.2. Capacity development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication on the mapping exercise - Session at the African Drylands Week (19-23 November in Morocco) - Session at Stockholm WWW 2019 - Session at UNCCD COP 19 - Session at WWF in Washington in January 2019

WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

Activity	Lead	Year 1 (2018)		Year 2 (2019)				Comments
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Output 1: Implementation of UNCCD-led Drought Initiative								
Activity 1.1: Development of Drought Tool Box	UNCCD	X	X	X				
Activity 1.2: Development of national drought plans for more than 40 countries	UNCCD	X	X					
Activity 1.3: Training at CRIC meeting in January 2019	All WG members			X				
Output 2: Implementation of selected joint activities under IDMP								
Activity 2.1:	WMO/GWP	X	X					-
Activity 2.2:			X	X				
Activity 2.3:				X	X			
Output 3: Implementation of selected joint activities under ICBA								
Activity 3.1	ICBA	X						
Output 4: Impact assessment methodology study								
Activity 4.1: Publication	UNCCD &WMO with partners	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Output 5: Capacity Buidling								Stockholm World Water Week + UNCCD COP and other high-levelconferences
Activity 5.1: Session at the African Drylands Week (19-23 November in Morocco)	UNCCD with partners							
Activity 5.2: Session at Stockholm WWW 2019	All WG members							
Activity 5.3: Session at UNCCD COP 19	UNCCD with partners							
Activity 5.4: Session at WWF in Washington in January 2019	All WG members							

WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

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