

IDMP OUTPUTS

The major output from IDMP will be a coherent global framework for drought management, prediction and monitoring by networking new and existing programmes and activities worldwide. The framework will be accompanied by a set of guidelines and tools, including a Drought HelpDesk for the development of sound and appropriate drought policies and management plans by countries and regions, as well as the improved use of drought prediction services. Capacity building and training will be an important aspect of IDMP. IDMP seeks coordination with other relevant international initiatives with the aim of avoiding duplication of efforts, increasing efficiencies in resource use and building on synergies.



STRUCTURE OF IDMP

An international Management Committee and an Advisory Committee steers and guides the overall implementation of the IDMP. Membership of these committees will comprise representatives of collaborating partners and technical experts. A Technical Support Unit (TSU), based in Geneva, Switzerland, assists in the technical implementation of the IDMP. Following the proven process of the Associated Programme for Flood Management (APFM), sharing the experiences of GWP's Regional Water Partnerships and providing the scientific basis for managing weather, climate and water extremes through WMO, regional and national drought programmes and projects will be developed.

WMO

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), founded in 1950, is a specialized agency of the United Nations for weather, climate, and water. WMO assists Member countries in developing drought monitoring and early warning systems and contributes to understanding the impacts of climate variability/change on agriculture. It also promotes capacity building in the application of meteorological and climatological data and products in assessing the impacts of climate variability/change. www.wmo.int

GWP

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is an international network open to all organizations working for better water security. Created in 1996 to foster the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach, the GWP network comprises 13 Regional and 84 Country Water Partnerships, and a total of over 2,800 Partner organizations in 164 countries. www.gwp.org

CONTACT

For more information on the Integrated Drought Management Programme please contact:

Robert Stefanski
Chief, Agricultural Meteorology Division,
Climate & Water Department
World Meteorological Organization
Phone: +41 22 730 8305
Fax: +41 22 730 8042
Email: rstefanski@wmo.int

Frederik Pischke
Senior Programme Officer
Global Water Partnership (GWP)
Phone: +41 22 730 8316
Email: frederik.pischke@gwp.org

www.droughtmanagement.info

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World
Meteorological
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Weather • Climate • Water

Integrated Drought Management Programme

*Building drought resilience to
support global poverty reduction*



WHY INTEGRATED DROUGHT MANAGEMENT?

Whether due to natural climate variability or climate change, the likelihood of extreme weather conditions is increasing. In terms of precipitation the impacts include more frequent and severe floods and droughts, which affect the lives of millions of people and cause great economic losses. Building resilience to these events and helping countries to become more water secure requires an integrated approach to water resources management.

With respect to droughts there is a particularly urgent need to develop better management strategies based on scientific knowledge, and also to ensure broader social and economic responses to manage the risks of droughts. Drought early warning information systems are inadequate in most regions. Traditionally, response to drought throughout the world has been through a reactive, crisis management approach. This approach has been noted to be costly, often untimely, poorly



coordinated, and reduces the effectiveness of resources and assistance provided. Consequently, the economic, social and environmental impacts of droughts have increased significantly worldwide. National and regional policies and the management of drought need to become much more proactive in order to face the increasing challenge.

Integrated Drought Management (IDM) is a critical component of disaster risk reduction programmes, climate adaptation strategies and national water resources policies, bringing together the needs of the different stakeholders affected by droughts. In order to address drought issues more effectively, WMO and GWP have jointly launched the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP). Together with our partners, the IDMP aims to provide preventive and demand-driven support mechanisms for the communities, countries and regions affected by drought.

IDMP OBJECTIVES

The wider scope of IDMP is: to build climate resilience, reduce economic and social losses, and alleviate poverty in drought-affected regions of the world through an integrated approach to drought management, which cuts across sectoral, disciplinary, and institutional jurisdictions and is responsive to specific regional and national needs and requirements.

The central objective of IDMP is:

To support stakeholders at all levels by providing policy and management guidance and by sharing scientific information, knowledge and best practices for Integrated Drought Management.

The IDMP will contribute to the global and local coherence of drought-related efforts of existing organizations and agencies with regard to:

- Better scientific understanding for drought management;
- An improved knowledge base, with better access to information, knowledge products and services;
- Drought risk assessment, monitoring, prediction and early warning;
- Policy and planning for drought preparedness and mitigation across sectors; and
- Drought risk reduction and drought response.

IDMP APPROACH

The overarching approach proposed for the IDMP centres around four key principles:

1. To shift the focus from reactive to proactive measures through drought mitigation, vulnerability reduction and preparedness;
2. To integrate the vertical planning and decision making processes at regional, national and community levels into a multi-stakeholder approach including key sectors, especially agriculture and energy;
3. To promote the evolution of the drought knowledge base and to establish a mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing services to stakeholders across sectors at all levels;
4. To build capacity of various stakeholders at different levels.

BENEFICIARIES OF IDMP

While people in drought prone areas, especially those most vulnerable, are the ultimate beneficiaries of the IDMP, on the planning and implementation level the following groups of beneficiaries are addressed:

- Government organizations, agencies and financial institutions responsible for the development and implementation of national drought policies;
- Institutions responsible for the development and management of water resources, land and agriculture, and those responsible for developing disaster preparedness plans and taking preventive actions, at the national and regional levels;
- Government and non-governmental organizations and agencies responsible for the implementation of drought response activities at various levels; and
- Local, national and regional institutions involved in awareness building, research and education.