

Concept Note

Regional Training on Applying IWRM Tools for Drought Risk Management

11th -13th July 2017, Kampala, Uganda

Introduction

Droughts are known to have the most far-reaching impacts of all natural disasters. They affect nations around the world with dramatic impacts on food security, social stability, environment and the economies at large. Currently, countries have in place only emergency and recovery strategies that regulate disaster response after droughts have taken place. However, droughts can be significantly reduced by risk-based drought management policies and practices.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region face severe water constraints and prolonged droughts. The droughts are a major threat in the IGAD region affecting people's livelihoods and economic opportunities. Moreover, the livelihood of most people in the IGAD region strongly depends on rain-fed agriculture, pastoralism and natural resources. In 2011, the worst drought in 60 years had significant effects in the eastern Africa. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), about 12 million people were desperately in need of food assistance across the Horn of Africa, as a result of the devastating drought. The capacity to adapt to climate related hazards such as droughts is low and requires to be developed to limit the negative impacts of droughts and address the regions socio-economic and developmental challenges effectively. The IGAD region faces a shortage of technology and skilled human resources due to limited knowledge and capacity to effectively predict future climate events. There is also inadequate existence of systematic processes for packaging, translating and disseminating climate information and warnings. Furthermore, the community level usage of climate information and responses to receive warnings is still a challenge.

The Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa (GWPEA) and Nile IWRM Net/Cap-Net are working in partnership with IGAD secretariat and the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre to capacitate key institutions in the IGAD region for sustainable management of water resources and increased water security. The institutions 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 in the IGAD region. Therefore, a regional training workshop has been organised to take place from 11th -13th July 2017, in Uganda with the aim of strengthening the capacity of water and climate professionals in the IGAD region on drought disaster risk management, IWRM approach and the need for timely responses to forecasted climate-related risks.

The training is organized in line with GWPEA's Integrated Drought Management Program in the Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) objectives and Cap-Net core theme of capacity development for sustainable management of water resources. Furthermore, the training is a follow up to the regional workshops that were organized in August 2014, June 2015 in Addis Ababa and 2016 in Nairobi. These workshops have capacitated key professionals in the Eastern Africa region in the water sector to manage water and drought stress.

Significance

The training will contribute to IGAD, GWPEA, CaPNet and other partners capacity development efforts in drought and water resource management in the region. Specifically, the training will contribute to:

- IDDRSI framework aimed at preventing, mitigating, and promoting adaptation to the adverse effects of drought.
- Capacity building for environment and natural resources management, a key component in the IGAD Environment and Natural Resources Strategy.
- Climate induced drought disaster risk and vulnerability reduction developed at the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre.

The training is coordinated by Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa (GWPEA) with support of partners: Nile IWRM Net/Cap-Net, IGAD secretariat and ICPAC. GWPEA was established in 2003 to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels in the eastern Africa region. GWPEA 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.

Objectives of the training

- To enhance knowledge and understanding of drought risk management frameworks
- To build capacity of participants to address challenges of climate change and variability on water resource and related disaster risks (drought/floods) 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/outcomes 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/flood) 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

Target Participants

The training course is designed for local and regional professionals, practitioners, academicians, private sector from various disciplines related to drought/water security management. Participants will be drawn from the IGAD member states (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda), IGAD Hycos (Rwanda and Burundi) and Egypt. Participants from outside the aforementioned countries who are interested to participate are also welcome. The training is targeting a total of 30 participants. Funding is available for 15 participants (foreign and host country participants). The remaining 15 spaces are open for self-sponsored participants. The self-

sponsored participants are expected to cover their accommodation and travel costs, and pay USD 500 to cover for course materials, field visits, lunch, refreshment and other related expenses.

The selection of participants will take into consideration gender as well as professional level in water/drought/disaster issues (senior, middle level and junior professionals).

Training Material

The course will take advantage of the training materials developed by ICPAC and Cap-Net. Cap-Net has developed a training manual for Drought Risk Management. This will be customised to fit into the IGAD regional conditions and used for training as well as learn lessons and best practices that can be operationalized in the targeted countries.

Location, Duration and Timing

The training will be held in Uganda. The duration of the training will be 3 days inclusive of a field trip to an innovative demonstration initiative in drought management/water security in Uganda. The training is proposed to take place from 11th-13th July 2017.

Course Coordination and Contacts

The course is coordinated by Global Water Partnership- Southern and Eastern Africa in partnership with IWRM Cap-Net.

For further enquiries about the training send an email to gerald.kairu@gwpea.org