



Hochschule für Angewandte
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SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA

**Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies
to Enhance Food Security in the African Continent**
Nairobi, Kenya, 16th-18th October 2017



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BACKGROUND

Drought ranks quite highly in terms of weather-related economic impacts, with annual losses nearing US\$ 90 billion per year. Apart from their direct economic impacts, droughts can threaten drinking water supplies and ecosystems, damage agriculture in a significant way, and contribute to increased food prices. In addition, crop failures, which are occurring more frequently as a result of extended droughts, pose a direct threat to the livelihood of millions of people across Africa. With the intensification of climate change, dry periods in most of Africa are expected to become longer and more frequent, bringing along much damage to agriculture systems, and negatively influencing the livelihood of hundreds of millions of people.

The above state of affairs illustrates the need for a better understanding of how climate change influences droughts in Africa, and for the identification of processes, methods and tools which may help the countries and the communities in the region to adapt. There is also a perceived need to showcase successful examples of how to cope with the social, economic and political problems posed by droughts in Africa, especially the ways of increasing the resilience of agriculture systems and of communities and traditional populations.

It is against this background that the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” is being organized by Strathmore University in Kenya, the Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and the International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP). The Symposium will be a truly interdisciplinary event, mobilizing aid workers, donors, scholars, social movements, practitioners and members of governmental and non-governmental agencies, undertaking research and/or executing projects focusing on drought prevention, management and resilience in Africa.

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” will focus on “**building resilience to climate change and droughts in Africa**”, meaning that it will serve the purpose of showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice to foster climate change adaptation among countries in the region, with a focus on droughts, which may be useful or implemented elsewhere.

AIMS

Consistent with the need for more cross-sectoral interactions among the various stakeholders working in the field of climate change adaptation in Africa, the aims of the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” are as follows:

- I. to provide research institutions, universities, NGOs, government agencies and enterprises from across Africa with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation, with a focus on droughts;

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II. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice across the region, showing how droughts can be better managed;

III. to discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how initiatives to handle droughts may be implemented in practice;

IV. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, the book **“Climate Change Adaptation and Droughts Resilience in Africa: “building resilience to climate change and droughts in Africa”** will be published, with all accepted papers. This will be a further volume of the award-winning book series “Climate Change Management” published by Springer, which since its creation in 2008 has become the world’s leading book series on climate change management. The decision of the editors as to which papers may be selected and undergo peer review for the book is final.

ORGANISERS

Co-Chairs

- Professor Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
- Professor Izael Da Silva, Strathmore University, Kenya

Scientific Committee

- Professor Alan C Brent, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Professor Boaventura Cuamba, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
- Dr. John Koku, Central University College, Ghana
- Professor Pantaleo Munishi, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Professor Justice Nyamangara, Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe
- Dr. Adebisi-Adelani Oluyemisi, National Horticultural Research Institute, Nigeria
- Professor Nicholas Oguge, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr Menas Wuta, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

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Scientific Support

- Svenja Scheday, International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)

Cooperating Organisations

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas. These are:

1. members of NGOs working with climate change;
2. researchers at universities and research centres;
3. farmers’ associations and organisations;
4. representatives from companies;
5. representatives from UN and national development and aid agencies working with climate change adaptation and funding/ executing projects on the ground;
6. members of social movements;
7. project officers and consultants;
8. other people interested in the topic.

The participation of doctoral students is warmly encouraged and supervisors/advisers are kindly requested to facilitate their participation. The sort of international exposure and the rich content of this Symposium, will be beneficial to their training and to their future careers.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for and the usefulness of integrated approaches towards climate change adaptation and drought resilience in Africa, and hence contribute to the further consolidation of this thematic area.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” will be organised in two main strands:

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Strand 1: the posters

Participating organisations will be able to put-up posters or stands describing their works and projects and to distribute the relevant information to the participants. The posters will be the backbone of the event and will allow close, one-to-one contacts between the participants and the exhibitors.

Strand 2: the presentations

A set of presentations, divided into three main themes will be organised, distributed over parallel sessions dealing with some of the issues of strategic value in the field of climate change adaptation. These are:

Session 1: Climate Change and Impacts on Droughts

Session 2: Adaptation and Resilience of Agriculture Systems to Droughts

Session 3: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Drought Prevention

The plenary and parallel sessions, as well as the social events, will provide participants with an outstanding opportunity to interact, network and learn about the latest ideas, projects and practices, mainstreaming drought adaptation in Africa.

TIME-TABLE

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHTS RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**” will be held on 16th-18th October 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. Nairobi is one of Africa’s major cities, and has many international connections. The schedule is as follows:

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16 th OCTOBER 2017 (Monday)	17 th OCTOBER 2017 (Tuesday)
<p>Afternoon (16:00):</p> <p>Registration and set-up of posters</p> <p>Evening: free</p>	<p>All day: Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Evening: Reception and networking</p>
18 th OCTOBER 2017 (Wednesday) (morning)	18 th OCTOBER 2017 (Wednesday) (afternoon)
<p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p>	<p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Round-table with key experts & Conclusions with the hand over of the Awards for the best papers</p>

In order to ensure an efficient use of the time, delegates are kindly asked to organise their travel in a way that allows them to arrive in Nairobi in the course of 16th October 2017, and travel back on or after the 19th October 2017, so they can fully take part in the Symposium.



DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30th March 2017

Deadline for submission of papers: 30th June 2017

Deadline for the submission of revised papers: 30th July 2017

Deadline for registrations: 30th August 2017

Since the conference book is expected to be launched shortly after the event, the deadlines need to be followed.

FEES AND CHARGES

A discounted fee of Euro 250 /US\$ 290 (professionals) or Euro 125/US\$ 140 (for students) plus 19% VAT, will be charged to those who register until **30th June 2017** (early bird registration). After that, delegates will need to pay the full fee of Euro 300/ US\$ 270 and Euro 150/ US\$ 140 respectively (plus 19% VAT). The fee includes lunches and coffee breaks on 17th/18th October, as well as the evening reception on 17th October 2017. Furthermore, the fee includes a **on-line copy of the book “Climate Change Adaptation and Droughts Resilience in Africa: “building resilience to climate change and droughts in Africa”** to be made available to those authors whose papers have been peer-reviewed and accepted.

Organisations or individuals not able to pay this fee should contact the Secretariat so that it may be reduced in special cases. Interested people and organisations are encouraged to register by completing the application form provided. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs** of any kind. They are however happy to issue letters of invitation to support delegates to request funding for their participation.

REGISTRATION AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registrations are now open and are possible until the 30th August 2017. Regrettably, logistical limitations mean that registrations after the deadline will not be possible. Since the space for displays and the time for presentations is limited, **delegates are advised to register as soon as possible**. The organisers will notify any interested delegate or organisation in case there are any limitations with time for presentations or space for displays. Registered delegates will then receive further details on the payment of the fees and updated information on the preparations for the event. The decision as to which papers will be accepted for presentation will be taken by the Chairpersons, following consultation with the organising committee. Participants registering to the event will do so under the condition that they will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs (e.g. visa fees) related to their trip to Kenya. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind**. Letters of invitation to enter Kenya can only be sent to bona fide, registered delegates, who have paid their

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fees and need a document to show their employers. For cancellations of registrations up to 30 days before the event, a 50% refund may be made. For cancellations afterwards, no refunds will be possible. Registrations are now open and may be made on-line at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftz-als/veranstaltungen/drought2017.html>

CONTACT POINTS FOR SCIENTIFIC INPUTS AND STRATEGIC COOPERATION

All questions related to scientific inputs and strategic partnerships, as well as the book, should be sent to:

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
Professor of Environment and Technology
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
E-mail: info@iccip.net

and/ or

Izael Da Silva, Strathmore University - Strathmore Energy Research Centre, Kenya
E-mail: idasilva@strathmore.edu

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION AND CONTACT POINT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

All questions related to abstracts and registrations should be sent to:

Svenja Scheday
International Climate Change Information Programme
E-mail: svenja.scheday@haw-hamburg.de



HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

An abstract should be up to 200 words, it should describe the rationale and aims of the paper, and some of its results. General descriptions of broad contexts should be avoided. The full contact details about the author(s) need to be provided. Abstracts should be written in the third person and not in the first or second one (e.g. I, me, or my paper). Please see below a sample abstract. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted, will receive further details about how to submit their full papers, and further logistical information.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

(PLEASE SEND YOUR ABSTRACT EXACTLY WITH THE FORMAT BELOW TO:

Svenja Scheday
International Climate Change Information Programme
E-mail: svenja.scheday@haw-hamburg.de

Promoting Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries: breaking misconceptions and addressing information needs

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
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Abstract

The impacts of climate change to natural ecosystems, infra-structure and livelihood, means that the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies in developing countries has become a pressing issue. Among other factors, the undertaking of adaptation strategies is made difficult by the general lack of awareness and spread misconceptions about the real impacts of climate change which, in turn, slow down the execution of the adaptation initiatives needed, and which may ameliorate them.

This paper presents an analysis about the misconceptions related to the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies, and describes the most widespread ones, as well as their implications. A special emphasis is given to the problems and barriers caused by misinformation, which – in turn- prevent the promotion of adaptation initiatives at local level. Finally, some concrete steps which may be taken in order to break the misconceptions and foster a more systematic view of adaptation strategies, are outlined. Experiences gathered in this paper will be useful to people and organisations interested in the different levels of responses given to climate changes threats, and on some of the tools which may be used to encourage specific action to adapt to changing climate conditions.