



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Online administered training

INTEGRATED DROUGHT MANAGEMENT



DROUGHT AND LAND MANAGEMENT UNDER THE UNCCD DROUGHT INITIATIVE CONTEXT

Background

Droughts are among the most expensive weather-related disasters in the world, severely impacting ecosystems, agriculture and human well-being, putting under stress even the most developed countries. Drought is also widely recognized as a major driver of insecurity and migration. Sustainable land and water management offer opportunities to reduce the impacts of drought events and enhance livelihoods' resilience when they occur.

Drought and land and water management are intricately linked in a nexus through social/human systems and ecosystem services, thus, drought impacts are further exacerbated by the effects of climate change. While improved understanding of the relationship between land and water management and drought mitigation is urgently needed in order to improve the targeting and monitoring of interventions and policies, the international community outlined the scientific evidence for understanding the strong linkages between land use and drought and how management of both is connected through water use.

Training goals and objectives

The online administered training will illustrate the most advanced policy and management frameworks and tools to increase knowledge on the available good practices for addressing drought, agricultural and rural development, and water shortage and promote a paradigm shift from reactive to proactive approaches to drought preparedness. In addition, the cases presented will represent valuable and scalable experiences to kick-start a renewed focus on drought in relation to climate change and encourage better links between political decision-making, technology development, financing, and engagement of civil society and private sector.

The training aims at enhancing the capacities of participants from a variety of national institutions of Mali, Niger and Libya on several topics:

- Overview on Integrated Drought Management (IDM) and the three pillars approach;
- Pillar 1 – Early warning and monitoring systems;
- Pillar 2 – Vulnerability and impact assessment;
- Pillar 3 – Mitigation, preparedness and response.

Approach

In accordance with above-mentioned objectives, a 2-day administered e-training has been designed. The main tools used are live and recorded presentations by international experts on several topics related to drought management, pool questions and quizzes to be answered by the trainees through pop-up windows on the e-learning platform (Adobe Connect). Each session begins with a learning module in the form of a virtual class to introduce the subject provided by the trainer, followed by interactive questions and practical sessions to facilitate the interaction and open discussion with trainees. The theoretical contents presented are further illustrated through video materials. The training will be carried out in two languages, English and French, with the support of live interpretation.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT AND THE UNCCD DROUGHT INITIATIVE (I)

30 MAR

10.00-10.10	Introduction		Stefania Giusti (FAO)
10.10-10.15	Opening remarks	Video	Maher Salman (FAO)
10.15-10.20	Drought and agriculture	FAO Video	

Session 1. Integrated drought management overview

10.20-10.40	Drought risk management: the three pillars	Presentation	Valentin Aich (IDMP)
10.40-10.50	The FAO Drought portal	Video tutorial	
10.50-11.10	The UNCCD Drought Initiative and beyond	Presentation	Daniel Tsegai (UNCCD)
11.10-11.30	The UNCCD Drought toolbox	Presentation & tutorial	Jeroen Van Dalen (UNCCD)
11.30-11.40	Q&A session		
11.40-12.00	Break		

Session 2. Pillar 1: early warning and monitoring systems

12.00-12.20	Drought monitoring and early warning: overview and WMO tools	Presentation	Katrin Ehlert, Robert Stefansky (WMO)
12.20-12.40	FAO Agriculture Stress Index System (ASIS)	Presentation & Tutorial	Oscar Rojas (FAO)
12.40-12.50	AfriScout: a Life-changing App for pastoralists in Africa (Satellite-Assisted Pastoral Resource Management – SAPARM)	Video	
12.50-13.00	Q&A session		
13.00-14.00	Lunch break		
14.00-14.30	UNEP-DHI Portal – Drought monitoring and early warning	Presentation & Tutorial	Bertrand Richaud (UNEP-DHI)
14.30-14.40	Q&A session		

SCHEDULE

Session 3. Pillar 2: vulnerability and impact assessment

14.40-15.00	Drought vulnerability and impact assessment. A rapid review of practices and policy recommendations	<i>Presentation</i>	Caroline King-Okumu (UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology CEH)
15.00-15.15	Case study: initiatives for objective assessment and mitigation of drought in India	<i>Presentation</i>	Rajendra Prasad Pandey (National Committee on Climate Change, India)
15.15-15.25	Sustainable water management can reduce the impact of droughts	<i>FAO video</i>	
15.25-15.40	Drought mitigation national plan in Mexico: PRONACOSE	<i>Presentation</i>	Rene Lobato Sanchez (National Water Commission of Mexico – CONAGUA)
15.40-15.50	Q&A session		
15.50-16.00	Day wrap-up		

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT AND THE UNCCD DROUGHT INITIATIVE (II)

31 MAR

Session 1. Pillar 3: mitigation, preparedness and response

10.00-10.20	Rapid review of risk mitigation measures	<i>Presentation</i>	Maher Salman (FAO)
10.20-10.30	Introduction to case studies		Caroline King-Okumu (CEH)
10.30-10.45	Sustainable land management to buffer drought in southern Tunisia	<i>Presentation</i>	Mongi Benzaied (Institute des Regions Arides de Medenine IRA)
10.45-10.55	Conservation agriculture – Islands of hope	<i>FAO Video</i>	
10.55-11.10	Case study: fog nets	<i>Presentation</i>	Elena Bresci and Giulio Castelli (University of Florence, Italy)
11.10-11.20	Q&A session		
11.20-11.30	Break		
11.30-11.50	From risk mitigation to transformative change	<i>Presentation</i>	Caroline King-Okumu (CEH)
11.50-12.00	Introduction to case studies	<i>Presentation</i>	Caroline King-Okumu (CEH)
12.00-12.15	Case study: sustainable value chains for drought-smart non-timber forest products in the groundnut basin of Senegal/West Africa	<i>Presentation</i>	Diaminatou Sanogo (Centre National de Recherches Forestières ISRA, Senegal)

SCHEDULE

12.15-12.30	Case study: nature-based drought management solutions in the Andean highlands	<i>Presentation</i>	Beatriz Ramirez Correal (Centro de Estudios Ambientales de la Orinoquia Asociación de Becarios de Casanare Yopal, Colombia)
12.30-12.45	Q&A session		
12.45-14.00	Lunch break		
14.00-14.20	Sustainably reducing residual drought risks and emergencies	<i>Presentation</i>	Jonathan Evans (UKCEH)
14.20-14.30	Introduction to case studies	<i>Presentation</i>	Jonathan Evans (UKCEH)
14.30-14.45	The case of the Sahel: early warning, adaptation, mitigation and resilience to drought	<i>Presentation</i>	Issa Garba, Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)
14.45-14.55	Community contingency funds: saving as a means of resilience	<i>Video</i>	
14.55-15.10	Drought risk mitigation in eastern Africa: a humanistic approach	<i>Presentation</i>	Ahmed Amdihun (Climate Prediction and Applications Centre of IGAD)
15.10-15.20	Q&A session		
15.20-15.30	Day wrap-up		



The Building Forward Better Initiative

Conflict and fragility are at the core of some of the biggest challenges today – they are able to hinder development progress and reverse any development gains. Environmental factors are rarely, if ever, the sole cause of conflicts and vulnerability. However, the exploitation of natural resources and related environmental stresses can be implicated in all phases of the conflict cycle from contributing to the outbreak and perpetuation of violence to undermining prospects for peace.

A fundamental problem in fragile contexts is the loss of human capital. Without the contribution of knowledgeable professionals, the re-building process becomes even more complicated. Local capacities should be at the base of any re-building planning and investments, as they provide access to local knowledge and information and can guarantee the sustainability of the program in the long-term.

Indeed, effective institutions are central to address both the “capacity deficit” and “legitimacy deficit” faced in fragile contexts. Recognizing the importance to invest in human capital, the “Building Forward Better” Initiative of FAO promotes a blended training methodology, composed of administered and self-administered online and face-to-face training, addressing a series of topics in the domain of natural resources management.

The Initiative aims to reduce the knowledge gap and strengthen national institutions to enhance agricultural productivity, improve food security and, ultimately, contribute to peaceful societies for sustainable development

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