



Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)

Activity Report 2019-2020

**August 2020
Geneva, Switzerland**

IDMP
Integrated Drought Management Programme

Contents

1.	Introduction and Executive Summary.....	1
2.	Activity Report 2019-2020	3
2.1	Partner engagement and Community of Practice on Drought	9
2.2	WMO/GWP IDMP Institutional developments.....	10
2.3	Collaboration with UNCCD Drought Initiative and FAO WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness	11
2.4	Work of the WMO Services Commission	13
2.5	Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS) and Global Drought Information System (GDIS).....	14
2.6	IDMP Publications and contributions	14
2.6.1	Knowledge resources on the three pillars of IDM	14
2.6.2	Framework publication on the benefits of action and costs of inaction	15
2.6.3	Review of practices and policy recommendations on Drought impact and vulnerability assessment.....	15
2.6.4	FAO White Paper on Drought Preparedness	15
2.6.5	Knowledge product on the 3 rd pillar of IDM: Drought Mitigation, Preparedness and Response	15
2.6.6	UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk – Special Issue on Drought	15
2.6.7	UNDP CapNet DRR manual	15
2.6.8	IDM framework document	16
2.6.9	IDMP brochure on water scarcity and drought	16
2.7	IDMP Regional Initiatives	16
2.7.1	IDMP Central and Eastern Europe (IDMP CEE)	16
2.7.2	IDMP Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA).....	18
2.7.3	IDMP West Africa (IDMP WAF)	20
2.7.4	Adaptation Fund: Volta Flood and Drought Management Project.....	22
2.7.5	South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS)	24
2.7.6	Activities in Central America	24
2.7.7	Activities in South America	25
2.8	International Drought Mitigation Research Centre	25
2.9	Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk	25
2.10	IDMP Website	27
2.11	Development and Implementation of the Communication Strategy	27
2.12	Engagement with International Processes and Events.....	29

2.13	Fundraising.....	30
2.14	Financial Support	30
3.	Workplan for the period 2020-21.....	30
3.1	Global Activities	30
3.2	Regional Activities 2020-21.....	31
3.2.1	IDMP Central and Eastern Europe	31
3.2.2	IDMP Horn of Africa	31
3.2.3	IDMP West Africa	31
3.2.4	Activities in Central America	32
3.2.5	Activities in South America	32
3.3	Publications planned for 2020/21.....	32
Annex 1	IDMP Operational Guidelines	33

The **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources. WMO has a membership of 191 countries and territories.

www.wmo.int

The **Global Water Partnership (GWP)** is an international network whose vision is for a water secure world. The GWP mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development. The GWP network is open to all organizations which recognize the principles of integrated water resources management endorsed by the network.

www.gwp.org

The **Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)** was launched by WMO and GWP at the High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies in March 2013. The IDMP works with a wide range of partners with the objective of supporting stakeholders at all levels by providing them with policy and management guidance through globally coordinated generation of scientific information and sharing best practices and knowledge for integrated drought management. The IDMP is a contribution to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), especially with regards to GFCS priority areas of disaster risk reduction, water, agriculture and food security. It especially seeks to support regions and countries to develop more proactive drought policies and better predictive mechanisms.

www.droughtmanagement.info

1. Introduction and Executive Summary

This document reports on activities undertaken by the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP), including its regional programmes, in the last two Quarters of 2019 and the first two Quarters of 2020. It also provides an overview of activities that are in the process of being implemented and planned as of August 2020 and provides an outlook of the 2020-21 work plan as an input to the discussions at the virtual IDMP Advisory and Management Committee meetings in August 2020.

The Integrated Drought Management Programme was launched at the High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policies in March 2013. The IDMP Technical Support Unit (TSU) based at WMO is headed by Mr Bob Stefanski, the Head of the WMO Applied Climate Services Division. Until March 2020, Mr Frederik Pischke was seconded to WMO as the GWP senior network specialist since July 2013 and was engaged in the IDMP, APFM and other assignments for GWP. GWP is currently in the process of recruiting a Water-Climate Extremes and Hydro-Climate Services Specialist for the IDMP TSU. Dr. Katrin Ehlert, a Junior Professional Officer in the Applied Climate Services Division at WMO has been a member of the IDMP TSU since March 2019. José Camacho, Scientific Officer in the WMO Applied Climate Services Division also supports the IDMP part time. In addition, Ms Jennifer Mungai supports the IDMP part-time on administrative issues.

The IDMP in Central and Eastern Europe (IDMP CEE) is managed by Ms Sabina Bokal, supported by the GWP CEE office in Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Mr Gerald Kairu manages the IDMP Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) at the GWP office for Eastern Africa in Entebbe, Uganda. Ms Félicité Vodounhessi manages the IDMP West Africa (IDMP WAF) at the GWP office for West Africa in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The IDMP builds on long-standing cooperation of WMO and GWP and is inspired by the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) that is developing and applying the concept of Integrated Flood Management and provides support through a HelpDesk with the involvement of a wide range of partners.

The IDMP and the APFM are both contributions to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The GFCS bridges the gap between climate information producers and the practical needs of policy makers, planners and other users, such as farmers. It aims to facilitate climate-smart decisions and the APFM and IDMP HelpDesks have been offered as mechanisms to support the GFCS in this endeavor.

The IDMP's objective is to support stakeholders at all levels by providing them with policy and management guidance through globally coordinated generation of scientific information and sharing best practices and knowledge for integrated drought management. The IDMP especially seeks to support regions and countries to develop more proactive drought policies and better predictive mechanisms. While the spatial scope is global, the results of the IDMP are aimed to be practical and policy relevant - tailored to specific regional and national needs and requirements.

One of the main areas of work has been on supporting the regional activities of the IDMP and develop an open and inclusive platform, which can foster synergies among partners and close gaps.

With this focus of the programme, several actions have been taken in the sixth year of operation of the IDMP, which are discussed in more detail in the report:

- The HelpDesk with its “Ask”, “Find” and “Connect” functions has seen its third year of operation. In total 172 requests have been recorded and largely completed by the IDMP TSU with support from partners with 42 received during the reporting period (see section 2.9).
- The IDMP TSU has launched the IDMP Virtual Exchange platform as a means to increase interaction with and between IDMP partners and 3 virtual exchanges have been carried out in 2020 (see section 2.1)
- Collaboration with several UNCCD drought-related activities and FAO WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness is moving forward with significant results to support countries in drought planning and raising the profile of integrated drought management (see section 2.3)
- Presentation of the IDMP at strategic events to promote the concept of integrated drought management and link it with the relevant political processes has been limited due to Covid-19. Attended events include UNFCCC COP 25 in Madrid, Spain and the 7th DRIN River Basin Stakeholder Conference held in Tirana, Albania from 29-30 January 2020 (see section 2.12)
- Several publications of resources and approaches on the three pillars of integrated drought management with IDMP participation have been published in 2019 (see section 2.6.1-4)
- The IDMP is developing several publications strengthening the understanding of integrated drought management and the Three Pillars of IDM and is currently contributing to the development of the UNDRR GAR SR Drought (section 2.6.5-9)
- Cooperation with and advice to the IDMP in Central and Eastern Europe that has been operational since early 2013 (see section 2.7.1), the IDMP in the Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) operational since September 2014 (see section 2.7.2) and West Africa (IDMP WAF) operational since January 2015 (see section 2.7.3)
- Support to drought activities in Central America (see sections 2.7.6) and South America (see sections 2.7.7) leading to funding for regional initiatives.
- The IDMP website is being periodically updated and improved to serve as the knowledge repository and display as well as interaction platform for the IDMP
- Resource mobilization efforts are underway, including annual contributions to the IDMP by NOAA and collaboration with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through WMO and GWP efforts. (see sections 2.7.4 and 2.13)

With the intent of keeping the Annual Report as succinct as possible, the reader is invited to refer to previous Annual Reports and decisions taken at previous meeting (available on the IDMP [Advisory and Management Committee meeting website](#)).

2. Activity Report 2019-2020

Recommendations	Link to regional / national initiatives / partners	Priority	Status as of August 2020
General recommendations			
Science-policy and science-practice interface (science and decision-making), ensuring that science is at the table when (policy and practice) decisions are made (more interactive format).	Purpose of projects is science to practice. Link to existing mechanisms/platforms: UNCCD SPI, UN DRR SPI, Bring in BACI, IUGG Science – Diplomacy, Link to professional societies, Link to EU Water Framework Directive	high	ongoing, participation in UNCCD SPI, UNDRR GAR SR Drought
Assess transboundary water management issues related to drought jointly with APFM	Volta project, DriDanube, Murray-Darling basin, FAO work on hydro-economic modelling for water allocation	medium	ongoing - HydroSOS/IDMP - meeting with UNECE in February 2020 with presentation of IDMP work
Link floods and droughts programmes in (strategic) marketing to apply for funding	Volta project, Mekong proposal, Lake Chad project	low	Volta Project: IDMP will engage in Capacity Building on Drought in 2021 (follow up with PM)
Explore “Drought Resilience” label from IDMP/intermediaries	What are other orgs that review (intermediaries)? Negotiate with them to include processes - Label results in support letter to project	low	further discussion needed
Put BACI framework into action	World Bank drought and flood policy engagement strategy	medium	pending due to Covid-19
Explore interaction with HELP – how can IDMP help, what would be contents of collaboration, how can movement into the same direction be ensured?		Medium to ensure alignment	pending, needs follow-up; GWP provided input to <i>Principles to Address Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction under the Covid-</i>

			<i>19 pandemic</i> (link)
Articulate the avenues how partners can leverage the IDMP		high	ongoing - 3 Virtual Exchanges delivered, interaction increased, possible involvement of partners in online training course (FAO, tbc)
Explore way forward with GDIS in context of IDMP and Global Drought Observatory (GDO)		High	ongoing - GEO contacted, Participated in GDIS webinar
Explore improving characterization of IDMP partners building on http://www.droughtmanagement.info/ask/ask-partners/		high	continuous
Encourage IDMP partners to, where possible, assign key account manager for IDMP (include in TOR of a partners' staff)		high	done but continuous issue
Develop Impact Stories on the value and impact of IDMP		high	pending, needs further discussions
IDMP to help create effective project proposal partnerships		high	ongoing WMO working on AF, CREWS SE Asia proposals
Ensure links with partners activities are made on the appropriate sections of the website (http://www.droughtmanagement.info/pillars/)	UNESCO (LAC Drought Atlas), ADPC (Integrated Risk Assessment Gender aspects), JRC (links to impact reporter and other products), IMTA, AAF Canada, Deltares, CIIFEN, IRI Columbia University, DriDanube products	high	done
Continue to find synergies between regional programmes and global component / partner projects	WMO with IDMP regional programmes / GWP regional programmes (CAM, MED)	medium	ongoing - VE2 on regional activities

Continue dialogue with a view for suitable funding opportunities with finance/(re)insurance industry		medium	NOAA and GWP in discussions
Increase interaction with Regional Climate Centres, explore better Drought forecasting products and user requirements		high	WMO internal progress on RCC products
Better characterize the IDMP target audiences - Conduct user needs analysis	BoM to support	high	pending
Make a better connection with UN-Water Expert Group on Water and Climate Change		low	done, ongoing
Explore how to engage different industries in preparedness phase – pick most promising industry		low	pending
Explore developing a forum of actors / Community of Practice working on drought issues based on roster of players in the drought spectrum developed by IDMP in 2018		low	pending
Knowledge products			
Define and produce knowledge product on media interaction		medium	IDMP CEE media guidelines on website, ongoing
Refine how IDMP promotes looking at vulnerability – in context of raising expectations and understanding, where are the limits?		medium	pending VE topic
Support development of GAR2020 special report on drought	UN DRR, JRC, NOAA and share information with partners	high	ongoing - as requested by UNDRR
Publish a review publication on pillar 1 and 3 – led by partner under IDMP	IDMP pillar 1, IDMP with support of FAO pillar 3	high	in progress, supported by FAO, product ready Oct 2020

Map out story on how in Central America "Governance instruments for flood and drought risk reduction and increase of resilience are created and improved" (expected outcomes)		medium/high	done
Finalize publication on water scarcity and drought, also connect with work of FAO on SDG 6.4		high	second review round done. To be completed in 2020
1-2 Virtual meetings (webinar) per year focused on a certain drought management topic	IDMP partners	medium	1st - March 2020, 2nd June 2020, 3rd planned 19 August
Ask partners to feature IDM HelpDesk	CapNet	high	ongoing
Finalize Integrated Drought Management Framework Document (include learning from IDMP e.g. 10 step process)		high	To be done in 2020
Examine the usefulness of the 10 steps for countries, Use UNCCD Drought Initiative as case	IDMP CEE (testing 7steps approach for developing national action plans (example of Slovakia))	medium	pending, liaise with UNCCD
Use CAgM Drought Expert Team report for IDMP information products		high	pending
BACI: Economic argument for drivers and barriers to be developed		high	pending
BACI: Categorization/ Prioritization of methods of economic analysis		high	pending
Research			
Better understanding of groundwater use during drought	Explore link with groundwater governance of FAO	medium	pending, possible VE on Groundwater use
Research on better techniques for communication of drought management issues	IDMP with partners	medium	discussions with partners needed and ongoing discussions with FAO and CapNet on e-learning

Research on better techniques for capacity development on integrated drought management	with CapNet	high	manual done and see above
Explore how drought fits into a Multi-Hazard Early Warning System	CAGM Expert Team, Link to Warsaw Intl Mechanism L&D	medium	ongoing
Continue to explore the potential for a International Drought Mitigation Research Centre		medium	pending
Connect the high-level policy needs to research (possible International Drought Mitigation Research Centre)		medium	pending
Explore contributions from national programmes to research		medium	done
HelpDesk			
IDMP to participate in WMO Country Support Initiative and partners' country support initiatives		high	pending
Planned joint direct action in response to countries' requirements for drought management strategy formulation	FAO	high	ongoing
Explore how to better classify helpdesk requests		high	ongoing with WMO support
Develop mechanisms to better promote the HelpDesk to national users	CapNet, ADPC (certified training mechanism), IDMP regional programmes, GWP network; Contact UN-Water workshop participants	medium	banners done, otherwise ongoing
Translation of the HelpDesk/website in all UN languages		high	Pending due to limited resources
Capacity development			
Work with UNDP Cap-Net to revise drought management training manual	UNDP Cap-Net	medium	done

Recommendations (continuous work)	Link to regional / national initiatives / partners	Priority	Status
<p>Continue to engage to Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation communities for better visibility (inform with drought management knowledge) Connect to CTCN (UNFCCC Copenhagen) Connect to the Global Center of Excellence on Climate Adaptation (Netherlands, Japan, UNEP)</p>	-	medium	<p>Initial discussions with CTCN. Need to follow up with visit to offices at Copenhagen. Discussion with Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA) GWP ES reached out to Global Centre on Adaptation and initiated discussion</p>
<p>Explore cost recovery options (link to Business Model developed by APFM)</p>	-	medium	<p>Continued close liaison with APFM and WMO Office of Development Partnership and GWP Resource Mobilization and Partnerships team</p>
<p>Identify the appropriate communication channels with IDMP partners and IDMP target audiences</p>	-	medium	<p>Email exchanges continued, Virtual Exchange Platform</p>
<p>Ensure that knowledge products can be translated into actions</p>		medium	<p>Continuous engagement of partners. Requests for further information are processed through IDM HelpDesk</p>
<p>HelpDesk should have an advisory role on which indicator to use</p>		medium	<p>Total Nr. of requests: 172 Nr. of requests in 2019/20: 42 Nr. of requests related to indices in 2019/20: 28</p>

Maintain “Connect” function as is and continue conversation with partners on how to develop further		medium	Restructured website to show different activities, map update ongoing
Follow-up with IDMP partners not yet included in the Support Base Partners of the HelpDesk	ADPC	high	Continued to reach out to partners.
Connect with regional and national products/actors on all 3 pillars (IDMP website)	Include regional and national initiatives and projects (DriDanube, ...)	high	Overview of approaches published: http://www.droughtmanagement.info/pillars/

2.1 Partner engagement and Community of Practice on Drought

The IDMP currently has [35 partners organizations](#) out of which [14 organizations](#) completed the information required for Support Base Partners of the IDM HelpDesk.

In addition, a revised MoU was signed in June 2017 between WMO and FAO, which highlights many issues including strengthening further cooperation on drought activities especially in relation to the IDMP and FAO’s Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture. The joint action resulting from this MoU is updated in a yearly workplan between WMO and FAO.

GWP has become a partner of the NDC Partnership in 2018. In 2020, GWP is supporting Sudan, Somalia and the Dominican Republic in the context of the update their NDCs for the second round of submissions of NDCs. This support is being provided through the NDC Partnership Climate Action Enhancement Package. The IDMP will provide technical assistance and use this avenue to contribute to the countries’ NDCs.

Following the decision of the IDMP ACMC meeting in 2018 the IDMP TSU has explored developing a community of practice/forum of partners to strengthen the interaction of IDMP partners and other actors on issues of common interest on drought management. Updates have been sent regularly via email to IDMP partners and side discussions among partners held at events and conference to strengthen collaboration. Additionally, as a result of the 2019 IDMP ACMC meetings, the IDMP TSU has developed the IDMP Virtual Exchange Platform. This platform comprises a series of virtual meetings on the current status of IDMP and partner work and other drought-related topics of interest. So far, two virtual exchanges have been realized in March and June 2020. More information can be found on the [IDMP VE page](#).

The IDMP TSU is also actively engaging in efforts on building communities of practice within GWP and WMO.

2.2 WMO/GWP IDMP Institutional developments

The Eighteenth Session of World Meteorological Congress approved Resolution 7 which agreed to implement the WMO Constituent Bodies Reform (CBR). As a result of the Resolution, two new Commissions have been established: Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (Infrastructure Commission) and Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (Services Commission).

The 18th WMO Congress voted on the leadership of the two new commissions, electing Mr Michel JEAN (Canada), as President of the Infrastructure Commission and Mr Ian LISK (UK) as President of the Services Commission. Of relevance to IDMP, the former President of the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM), Dr Roger Stone (Australia) and former President of the Commission for Climatology (CCI), Dr Manola BRUNET INDIA (Spain) were elected as co-Vice-Presidents of the Services Commission. The former Vice-President of the Commission for Hydrology, Mr Silvano PECORA (Italy) was elected as co-Vice-President of the Infrastructure Commission.

Several subsidiary bodies such as Standing Committees and Study Groups have been created and approved in 2020 as a result of the 18th WMO Congress Resolutions. The structure and composition of the Standing Committee on Services for Agriculture (SC-AGR) is currently being confirmed. The SC AGR will continue the work of the former Commission on Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM) and there will still exist a WMO Expert Team on Drought which will also liaise with other Standing Committees on Climate Services (SC-CLI), Hydrological Services (SC-HYD) and Services for Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services (SC-DRR). This Expert Team on Drought will continue to develop a Global Drought Indicator (GDI) as input into WMO activities such as the Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS) and into UNCCD processes.

The Eighteenth Congress established the Hydrological Assembly to provide advice to Congress on strategic decisions related to operational hydrological issues. Moreover, Congress also established the Hydrological Coordination Panel, with EC approving its Terms of Reference. This Panel will support and advise on the integrated delivery of WMO water-related activities and to undertake preparatory work for the Hydrological Assembly in relation to current and emerging scientific and technical water-related global challenges. In the first Hydrological Assembly, which was held during the Eighteenth Congress, the long-term ambitions 'Everyone is prepared for drought' and 'No one is surprised by a flood' highlighted the need for the IDMP and APFM and their communities of partners to strengthen operational hydrological services. Congress also established a Climate Coordination Panel.

In June 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between WMO and GWP to increase the organizations' long-standing partnership. It was signed on 6 June 2019 during the opening of the Hydrological Assembly held at the Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress.

The MoU has the objective to further strengthen collaboration on the joint initiative programmes on integrated drought (IDMP) and flood (APFM) management.

The new WMO/GWP MoU identifies four priority areas for strategic collaboration:

- Strengthen the management of hydro-climatic extremes through the joint programmes on drought (IDMP) and flood (APFM) management;

- Strengthen the capacity of countries to develop high priority bankable water and climate projects;
- Strengthen stakeholder engagement on developing water information and products at the regional and country level through on-going collaborations with other WMO programmes ([GFCS](#), [HydroSOS](#), [HydroHub](#), World Water Data Initiative (WWDI)).
- Joint programmes, project development, service delivery and joint resource mobilization such as the joint preparation and implementation of the flood and drought management project in the Volta Basin.

In July 2019, GWP also presented its new six-year strategy “[Mobilizing for a water secure world](#)”.

The High-Level Panel on Water (HLPW), through the Government of South Africa, commissioned GWP to develop a HLPW legacy water initiative for Africa. In response, the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) has been developed in collaboration with African Union and the African Development Bank (AfDB) Africa Water Facility. The APFM and IDMP have been approached to secure their technical expertise and respective communities for the implementation of the AIP ([link to AIP website](#)).

2.3 Collaboration with UNCCD Drought Initiative and FAO WASAG Working Group on Drought Preparedness

Based on the *Consultation Meeting: Strategic partnerships on drought preparedness* in April 2018 in Rome of FAO, UNCCD, WMO, GWP and the US National Drought Mitigation Centre to ensure that the UNCCD Drought Initiative, the FAO Water Scarcity in Agriculture working group work has progressed in a complimentary and synergistic way to support countries to advance towards a proactive and integrated approach to drought management. WMO and GWP are co-leads together with UNCCD and the University of Nebraska in the FAO Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) working group on Drought Preparedness. In collaboration with many partners of the IDMP, WASAG is moving forward with events, such as the World Water Week event “A big push for integrated drought resilience – can it include all?” on 27 August 2019 and the webinar on “Pandemics/Epidemics, Drought and Agriculture: Building back better” on 10 July 2020. A drought-related side event was planned by WASAG and partners and accepted by the conveners for the 2020 World Water Week but the event was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. There are discussions to organize other drought side events in 2021.

Following the Decision on the *Policy advocacy on drought* of the UNCCD COP13 in Ordos, China 6-16 September 2017, the implementation of a Drought Initiative (DI) for the biennium 2018-2019 (Decision [29/COP.13](#)) has advanced under the leadership of UNCCD with strong engagement of the IDMP alongside FAO, UNEP DHI and the NDMC in order to strengthen the capacity of countries to enhance drought preparedness and response to drought and to pursue a proactive approach on integrated drought management. The DI has two major work streams/outcomes with relevance for the IDMP:

- The IDMP provided guidance to 71 countries in developing national drought plans through the [IDMP National Drought Management Policy Guidelines](#), which were adapted for the initiative by UNCCD, received Help Desk requests from some of the countries, provided direct support to selected countries through the IDMP regional programmes (Ethiopia, Sudan, Burkina Faso, Benin, Niger, Serbia, Macedonia, and Moldova) and activated national facilitators for the second call in 2019. The IDMP TSU also reviewed and provided guidance to the the UNCCD Drought Initiative guidance publication on gender and drought and on the draft drought model national plan.

- UNCCD led the development of the [drought toolbox](#). The IDMP along with FAO, UNEP-DHI and the National Drought Mitigation Centre of the University of Nebraska actively contributed to the toolbox development with inputs of tools and expertise. The toolbox features the IDM HelpDesk with a view to highlight the complementarity in reach and purpose of the toolbox and the HelpDesk.

The UNCCD COP14 took place in Delhi, India on 7-13 September 2020. The IDMP together with a number of partners was actively engaged in several drought related events. The close partnership between UNCCD, FAO, WMO and GWP that was particularly strengthened in the two years between UNCCD COPs, was reflected throughout the COP through a jointly organized COP14 Drought Preparedness Day, publications launched, side events and reflected in the drought-related decisions Governments took during COP14.

Key decisions taken at the UNCCD COP14 with relevance for the IDMP included:

- The establishment of an **Intergovernmental Working group** (IWG) on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD, with a view to presenting its findings and recommendations to Parties for their consideration at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties ([Decision 23/COP.14](#));
- The work programme of the **Science-Policy Interface** (SPI) for the biennium 2020–2021 to include in its objectives the work on the provision of science-based evidence on the approaches for the assessment and monitoring of the resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems to drought, also considering the effect of climate change on drought risk ([Decision 18/COP.14](#)), and to cooperate with the IDMP on scientific issues related to drought;
- The establishment of a **monitoring framework for the UNCCD strategic objective on drought** was decided ([Decision 11/COP.14](#)). This resolution calls for the establishment of a global drought indicator that is aligned with the vision and road map for a Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS) framework and the Global Drought Indicator endorsed by the 18th World Meteorological Congress. The IDMP TSU had provided input to the UNCCD CST draft document in preparation of UNCCD COP14 (see also section 2.5).

The **UNCCD COP14 Drought Preparedness Day** on 11 September was co-organized by UNCCD, WMO, FAO and GWP, a reflection of the strong partnership and global standing on the drought topic. It was the best attended special day of COP14 with a live webcast and provided a rich opportunity to interact with Government focal points, funders and showcase the work, including the new GWP strategy, the IDMP and its HelpDesk, three publications either led or co-ed by the IDMP and the UNCCD drought toolbox that was co-developed by the IDMP, NDMC, FAO, the European Commission and UNEP DHI. An overview of the IDMP's contributions to the UNCCD COP14 can be found [here](#).

The following publications with participation of the IDMP were launched at the UNCCD COP14:

- World Bank, GWP, WMO, IDMP, 2019. Framework for the Assessment of Benefits of Action/Cost of Inaction (BACI) for Drought.
- UNCCD, FAO, GWP, WMO – IDMP, 2019. Drought Impact and Vulnerability Assessment, A Rapid Review of Practices and Policy Recommendations.
- FAO, UNCCD, WMO, GWP – IDMP, 2019. Proactive approaches to drought preparedness – Where are we now and where do we go from here?

The UNCCD IWG made progress since its establishment at COP-14. About 30 experts from across the world have agreed to participate in the IWG. The IWG was given the following terms of reference (Decision 23/COP-14) under item 11a:

“The terms of reference of the intergovernmental working group are to take stock of and review the existing policy, implementation and institutional coordination frameworks, including partnerships, on drought preparedness and response and to consider options for appropriate policy, advocacy and implementation measures at all levels for addressing drought effectively under the Convention, in the context of a wider holistic and integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and enhancing the resilience of communities and ecosystems;”

So far, there have been three virtual meetings of the IWG Coordinating Committee. The IWG decided to make four task groups that are organized around the three pillars of integrated drought management:

- Task Group 1 - Early Warning and Monitoring Systems (Pillar 1)
- Task Group 2 - Vulnerability and Impact Assessment (Pillar 2)
- Task Group 3 - Drought Risk Mitigation & Response Measures – Physical (Pillar 3)
- Task Group 4 - Drought Risk Mitigation & Response Measures – Policy (Pillar 3)

Several IDMP partners are involved. Mark Svoboda (NDMC) is the chair of Task Group 1 and Robert Stefanski (WMO) is the co-chair. The current work comprises the development of an interim report for the 19th Session of the UNCCD Committee to Review the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) by August 2020. It will then be translated for the CRIC which is currently scheduled to be held in November 2020 in Bonn, Germany. This interim report will then be updated and developed into a report for COP-15 which is scheduled for late 2021.

Based on the decision of UNCCD COP13, WMO was appointed as an observer to the SPI of the UNCCD along with FAO and other UN organizations. Following the decision of the UNCCD COP14 regarding the objectives of the SPI, a technical report on drought resilience will be developed during the 2020-2021 biennium with the help of consultants. The preliminary title of this report will be “Multiscale Approaches for Assessment and Monitoring-the Resilience of Vulnerable Populations and Ecosystems to Drought”. The final output of the SPI work on drought during the 2018-19 biennium, a report with the title “Enhancing the role of land-based interventions in drought mitigation and risk management” can be downloaded from the UNCCD website ([link](#)).

Further discussions are needed with regarding the co-branding of UNCCD activities as part of IDMP. COVID-19 has delayed these considerations.

2.4 Work of the WMO Services Commission

As part of the WMO CBR, the WMO [Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services & Applications](#) (Services Commission) has been established following the decision of the Eighteenth Session of World Meteorological Congress (see section 2.2).

The Standing Committee on Services for Agriculture (SC-AGR) continues the work of the former Commission of Agricultural Meteorology and provides scientific and technological guidance to WMO

Members in the sectors of agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries, not only for food production but also for agricultural meteorological risk governance in terms of agro-ecosystem resilience and sustainability, especially with higher priorities on climate services and capacity development.

In the course of 2020, the new structure and objectives of the SC AGR have been established. The Services' Commissions SC-AGR Expert Team on Drought's overall objective is to enhance the understanding of global drought impacts; and enhance the preparedness, resilience, policy development, and effective user-engagement practices associated with drought management. The membership of this Expert Team will be confirmed in August / September 2020. More specifically, the Expert Team works on:

- Enhancing the capability in use of drought-monitoring systems, outlooks, impacts, as well as increasing understanding of agricultural yield losses due to drought in WMO regions;
- Improving the communication of the definitions of drought, drought triggers, the various components of the lifecycle of drought;
- Developing standards on a Global Drought Indicator.

The SC-AGR Expert Team on Drought is working in close collaboration with the IDMP and several members of the SC-AGR Expert Team on Drought are also IDMP partners.

2.5 Global Multi-Hazard Alert System (GMAS) and Global Drought Information System (GDIS)

At the 18th Meteorological Congress in June 2019, the following resolutions were approved: Resolution 16 (CG-18) - Guide(s) on the Support of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to their National Multi-hazard Early Warning Procedures, Coordination Mechanisms, Systems and Services and Resolution 17 (CG-18) - Ensuring Integration of Drought Risk Management in WMO activities ([pages 77 to 79 of Cg-18 report](#)). The Resolution 17 decided to develop a Global Drought Indicator (GDI) as input into WMO activities such as the proposed Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS), Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS), and cataloguing of high impact events and that information on the outcomes of these efforts be provided to UNCCD in support of relevant UNCCD decisions. This Resolution is linked to UNCCD CST draft decision described in section 2.3 above. With regards to the Global Drought Information System (GDIS), discussions are ongoing with WMO, NIDIS, GEO and the US National Centers for Environment Information (NCEI) on the status and future of this initiative and the updating of the [GDIS website](#).

2.6 IDMP Publications and contributions

2.6.1 Knowledge resources on the three pillars of IDM

Following the recommendation of the IDMP ACMC meetings the IDMP continues to update information on practical applications of integrated drought management structured by the three pillars as part of the resources made available in the HelpDesk. Partners are encouraged to submit any of their tools or products they wish to highlight. <https://www.droughtmanagement.info/pillars/>

2.6.2 Framework publication on the benefits of action and costs of inaction

A joint World Bank – IDMP publication entitled “[Framework for the Assessment of Benefits of Action/Cost of Inaction \(BACI\) for Drought Preparedness](#)” has been published in Q3 of 2019. Preceding this publication, the IDMP actively engaged in a [workstream](#) on this topic.

2.6.3 Review of practices and policy recommendations on Drought impact and vulnerability assessment

On the occasion of the UNCCD COP14 Drought Preparedness Day (11 September 2019), the publication “[Drought Impact and Vulnerability Assessment, A Rapid Review of Practices and Policy Recommendations](#)” was released. The IDMP TSU actively contributed to the development of this publication that was jointly supported by UNCCD, FAO, GWP and WMO.

2.6.4 FAO White Paper on Drought Preparedness

Also during the UNCCD COP14 Drought Preparedness Day, the FAO White Paper “[Proactive approaches to drought preparedness – Where are we now and where do we go from here?](#)” was launched. This publication was developed under the lead of FAO with contribution from UNCCD, WMO, GWP, IDMP and WASAG.

2.6.5 Knowledge product on the 3rd pillar of IDM: Drought Mitigation, Preparedness and Response

The IDMP with financial and technical support from FAO is developing a knowledge product on the 3rd pillar of IDM. This publication will advance information and guidance on drought risk mitigation, preparedness and response and complement existing publications on the 1st and 2nd pillar of IDM. Dr. Caroline King Okumu of CEH has been engaged as expert consultant to lead this process and an expert review panel is being established to create a broad knowledge base for this publication. This review panel will consist of IDMP partners and other experts. The knowledge product is planned to be finished by the end of 2020.

2.6.6 UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk – Special Issue on Drought

As announced during the 2019 IDMP annual meetings, UNDRR is leading the development of a Global Assessment Report Special Issue on Drought (GAR SR Drought) and work has commenced in March 2020. The report will feature three sections dealing with the way our understanding of the drought phenomenon and its complexity have changed, a section hosting case studies and a section looking out on what proactive drought management takes. The IDMP TSU has taken part in several lead author meetings and has provided input on the development of drought policies and plans. Additionally, the lead author group counts several IDMP partners strongly involved in the development of the report. Currently, the zero-order draft is being developed. The GAR SR Drought is planned to be published in the summer of 2021.

2.6.7 UNDP CapNet DRR manual

In the course of 2019, the IDMP TSU engaged in the revision of the UNDP manual entitled “Drought Risk Reduction in Integrated Water Management”. The new version of this manual is now in the final stages of editing and will be published soon. The revised draft version of the manual has already served to guide the development of several capacity building events on drought risk management. IDMP partners will be informed about the manual’s release and are encouraged to contact the IDMP TSU for further information on this.

2.6.8 IDM framework document

The development of a framework paper to serve as the intellectual framework of the concept **of integrated drought management, the Three Pillar approach**. It is a synthesis of existing publications around the topic to succinctly define the concept and approaches to integrated drought management focusing on the three pillars of integrated drought management. The final review of this draft document has been completed and the framework paper will be published after final editing later in 2020.

2.6.9 IDMP brochure on water scarcity and drought

Following the recommendation of the IDMP Advisory and Management Committees in 2017 a first draft of a publication on the **concepts of Water Scarcity and Drought** with cases has been developed. The second review round will be finished by August 2020 and the preparation of the final draft document will follow soon after.

2.7 IDMP Regional Initiatives

The IDMP regional project managers for the IDMP CEE, IDMP HOA and IDMP WAF together with the TSU are having regular skype teleconference to share experiences, learn and plan jointly. In June 2020, the IDMP Virtual Exchange was dedicated to regional initiatives.

The following provides a brief summary of the activities carried out by the IDMP regional initiatives during the reporting period.

2.7.1 IDMP Central and Eastern Europe (IDMP CEE)

Finalization of DriDanube project

Drought Risk in the Danube Region (DriDanube) project has finished in September 2019.

Main achievements of the project are:

- **Drought Watch**: an open interactive web application that offers an insight into the development of drought conditions across the entire Danube region. It was designed for national authorities and drought experts, but also for other end-users such as farmers or water managers, to help them make appropriate decisions that lead to the application of relevant short-term measures.
- **National Reporting Networks**: an operational way of drought impact assessment which helps to deliver early awareness of drought damage in place. They consist of engaged individuals on the field, mostly farmers and technicians with knowledge in agriculture and forestry, who weekly report their observations on the state of soil, vegetation or even loss of yield on their specific location, throughout the season or the year.
- **Unified drought risk assessment**: informative drought risk maps, prepared with a harmonized approach for 10 Danube countries which thus enable comparative information on level of risk for occurrence of drought – to recognize the areas prone to rainfall deficit and the areas where significant drought hazard and/or considerable crop losses are expected.

You can check all the outputs of the project [here](#).

Danube Drought Strategy

DriDanube project partners developed a [Danube Drought Strategy](#) which aims to build the capacity of the Danube region to overcome common deficiencies in coping with drought, and thus help switch from reactive to proactive drought management approach. Danube Drought Strategy is a proposal of a new framework for improved drought management in the Danube region. The main goal is to build the capacity of the Danube region to overcome common deficiencies in coping with drought, and thus help switch from reactive to proactive drought management approach. The key point of the strategy is to identify the common steps that were used to launch the proactive drought management. With this information, the involved stakeholders will have clear guidance in decision-making processes and can improve drought emergency responses.

You can read more about it [here](#).

Integrated Drought Management Training for Drin basin countries

Two days online training (10-11 March 2020) on Integrated Drought Management was organized for the participants from four Drin basin countries (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia) with the goal to enhance the capacity for integrated, proactive approach to drought planning, adaptation and management. Training was prepared and implemented by [GWP Central And Eastern Europe](#) in cooperation with the [Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe](#) (DMCSEE).

Training was focusing on the needs and challenges for drought management in the Drin river basin, supported by the three pillars of the IDMP. Main outcomes of the training were: a) Increased knowledge and understanding of drought risk management frameworks; b) greater awareness about effective drought risk management and responses; c) knowledge on existing network and practices in wider region (Central and Eastern Europe / Southeastern Europe); d) awareness of the institutional mechanism mobilization and participation in drought disaster management; e) knowledge on basic steps/foundation for their future drought management policies/plans.

You can read more about it [here](#).

How to communicate drought

In December 2019 the guide on [How to communicate Drought](#) was officially published. The Guide which aims to enhance the communication between water / droughts professionals and media expert about the issue of drought. It will be of value to both water professionals and journalists. For media professionals, the Guide sets out what people really need to know about drought, the steps that professionals are taking to reduce the impacts of drought, and how people can benefit from engaging in reducing the risks. For water professionals the Guide offers experiences of working with the media to communicate drought in ways that increase public interest and engagement. For both, selected case studies demonstrate the many facets of drought and how professionals and the media can work together for the public benefit. The Guide concludes with some principles and good practices to help improve communications between water professionals, the media, and the public.

You can read more about it [here](#).

Revision of the EU policy instruments, related to drought and water scarcity mitigation

[Revision of the EU policy instruments](#) and their potential to contribute to EU droughts and water scarcity policies prepared as a collaboration of Integrated Drought Management Programme in CEE and [EU Strategy for the Danube Region](#) (Priority Area Environmental Risks) experts.

[The revision of the policy instruments](#) was done as one of the follow up steps of the [Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans](#), which introduced a seven-step approach to develop a plan in the context of the EU Water Framework Directive. It aims to identify other selected EU policies in various fields that might support management of droughts.

You can read more about it [here](#).

The publication was launched on the UNCCD day to emphasize the need to combat desertification and drought worldwide. Furthermore, it was supported by a small social media campaign, consisting of interview cards with quotes from participants of the project.

Drought as one of the ICPDR 3rd RBMP Significant Water Management Issues

In accordance with the requirements of the 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive, all EU Member States have to prepare the 3rd River Basin Management Plan until 22 December 2021. In this context, the document on [Significant Water Management Issues for the Danube basin](#) for the 3rd RBMP has been prepared by ICPDR. Also based on the outcome of the IDMP CEE and DriDanube project and through our long cooperation with ICPDR, drought was included as one of the SWMI at the end.

Finalization of the FramWat project

3-year long project funded by Interreg Central Europe has finished on 30 June.

[“Framework for improving water balance and nutrient mitigation by applying small water retention measures”](#) project was aiming to establish a common regional framework for flood, drought, and pollution mitigation by increasing the buffer capacity of the landscape with the use of Natural (Small) Water Retention Measures (N(S)WRM) approach in a systematic way. Project partners were developing methods which translate existing knowledge about N(S)WRM into river basin management practice. There were three main aspects this project was focused on: identification of potential locations, effectiveness of the N(S)WRM as well as policy integration, and economic instruments. The latest was led by GWP CEE. In June 2020 partners held a [final \(online\) conference](#) where the main outcomes (although some of the outputs still need to be finalized over the summer) were presented to the stakeholders.

You can read more about the project [here](#).

2.7.2 IDMP Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA)

The HoA is a region affected by severe water constraints and prolonged droughts. Anomalies in seasonal rainfall and temperature are a common occurrence. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has made predictions that indicate an increasing frequency and intensity of droughts in the region. Furthermore, over exploitation of natural resources is at the centre stage caused by majorly poverty and

an increasing population estimated at a rate of 3% per annum (Babikir *et al*, 2015¹, IGAD 2016²). Droughts have intensified the interaction of pastoralists with farmers as they seek for pastures and water for their livestock. This has resulted into recurrent conflicts over resources, especially water and pastures. Therefore, management of these challenges is a priority for the affected stakeholders to stay peaceful and yet resilient to drought impacts. To this end, more effort has been directed towards fundraising to deflect the pressure brought about by drought.

2019/2020 Activity Report

a) Resource mobilization

During the 2019/2020 period, the HoA region was successful in mobilizing resources for two projects to support some of the key interventions in the region. The projects include, *Strengthening Drought Resilience for Small Holder Farmers and Pastoralists in the IGAD Region* (DRESS-EA) targeting four countries i.e. Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda (details see [link](#)) and the *Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership's Climate Action Enhancement Package* (CAEP) that is in its initial stages of implementation in Sudan and Somalia. Overall, the DRESS-EA project will focus on increasing the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoralists to climate change risks mainly those related to drought, through the establishment of appropriate early warning systems and implementation of drought adaptation actions, while the NDC CAEP project will be supporting Sudan in mapping groups most vulnerable to climate risks and introducing targeted resilience-building measures (A783). In Somalia, the project will establish an adaptation baseline. Other project concepts have been submitted and are awaiting decisions, for example, the project entitled *Enhancing Resilience of Communities and Fragile Ecosystems to Climate Change in Katonga Catchment, Uganda* has been submitted to the Adaptation Fund. This project presents innovative replicable drought related adaptation solutions that will support communities to become resilient to adverse impacts of climate change, mainly those resulting from droughts.

a) Participation and contribution to strategic events in the region

These include IGAD Forum and Steering committee in Nairobi, a forum to share and exchange views on developmental regional aspects such as water solutions (SDGs), climate resilience and transboundary cooperation. Further the forum enabled to elaborate the IDMP activities and linkages with IGAD programmatic issues, particularly with IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI). Secondly, interactions with the Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources in Uganda, where, the policy makers were updated and sensitized on potential drought interventions that can enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in the country and the HoA region as whole.

¹ Babikir, O., Muchina, S., Sebsibe, A., Bika, A., Kwai, A., Agosa, C., &Wakhusama, S. (2015). Agricultural Systems in IGAD Region – A Socio-Economic Review.

² IGAD regional Strategy 2016

2.7.3 IDMP West Africa (IDMP WAF)

1. Main activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts

IDMP WAF GOAL 1: CATALYSE CHANGE

Work Package 1: Drought negative effects are managed in West Africa through the regional initiatives and cooperation/Act.2: Reinforce regional collaboration among pertinent Institutions on drought management/Put in place a regional West African platform on Drought management

Support to the elaboration of National Drought Plans under UNCCD Drought Initiative: UNCCD, WMO, FAO and GWP have agreed on a framework to collaborate in supporting the UNCCD Drought Initiative. This includes technical and programmatic support, leveraging the knowledge and expertise the WMO/GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (<https://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-West-Africa/WE-ACT/News--Events/GWP-WA-supports-national-drought-plans-development-in-Benin-Burkina-Faso-and-Niger/>). After the 3 workshops organized by GWP-WAF in collaboration with the Country Water Partnerships, the UNCCD national focal points and the national consultants, the National Drought Plans have been finalized. NDPs from Niger and Benin are available.

Work Package 2: Improvement of drought management through national and regional plan/strategies reviewed/Act. 2: Elaboration (with AGRHYMET+ GWP-WA TC) of West African regional guidelines for national sector plan

Insurance quality of regional guide on IDM: GWP-WA Technical Committee is ensuring the quality to finalize the document. In order to best meet the expected content for a technical guide on GIS, its quality assurance was entrusted to a member of the technical committee of GWPAO. Ongoing activity

Work Package 5: New innovative solutions found for Drought Management in the focus sub-area (water resources, agriculture, and desertification)

Synergies with other drought activities implemented by GWP-WAF:

***TonFuturTonClimat* initiative financed by Quebec's Green fund and GWPO**

- The lessons learnt from the implementation of the pilot projects in the countries are being using to coach the CWP of Burkina Faso, Benin and the NGO "Eau Vive Internationale" for the implementation of "*TonFuturTonClimat* (TFTC)". *TonFuturTonClimat* is an initiative that aims to integrate young people in the decision-making process of action related to climate change adaptation and resilience in three countries of West Africa namely Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo (<https://www.gwp.org/fr/GWP-Afrique-Ouest/GWP-in-Action/thematiques/tonfuturtonclimat/>)

Project "Integrating flood and drought management and early warning systems for climate change adaptation in the Volta Basin" (See also 2.7.4)

- **Assessment of national capacities and needs for flood and drought forecasting and warning systems in the Volta Basin**

It is the first activity of the project and aims at analyzing the capacities and needs of national structures for flood and drought forecasting and warning systems in order to develop integrated, adapted, sustainable and Volta basin-wide solutions in support of building resilience to climate change at local, national and regional levels.

Within this framework, GWP-WA has been involved in the preparation, participation and reporting of the mission to exchange with national structures on capacities and needs for flood and drought forecasting and warning systems in the Volta Basin.

The national structures met are, among others: the Departments in charge of water resources, the Departments in charge of meteorology, the Countries Water Partnerships, the Departments in charge of civil protection, the Research Institutes on water and climate change, the institutes in charge of geography, the National Designated Authorities of the Adaptation Fund, etc.

Discussions focused on i) the institutional framework, infrastructure, tools and capacities related to hydrological and meteorological forecasting and warning; ii) the main areas of higher flood and drought risk in the country (mainly in the Volta Basin region), the socio-economic impacts of floods and droughts on the population, as well as the hydro-meteorological services already available in the country ; iii) the available data that can facilitate the elaboration of climate risk maps in the Volta Basin; iv) programmes, projects or initiatives (completed, under implementation or in preparation) related to flood and drought forecasting and warning; and v) the contributions of national structures in the design and implementation of a flood and drought forecasting system to be developed for the transboundary region of the Volta Basin.

- **Mapping of flood and drought vulnerability and related adaptive capacities at the community level in sixty (60) sites in the Volta Basin:** One of the planned activities of the project is to "map" vulnerability and capacity at the community level in the countries of the Volta Basin. The objective is to identify the multidimensional factors of vulnerability and risk (social, economic, ecological, cultural, political and infrastructural determinants of vulnerability) in areas of the Volta Basin exposed to hydro meteorological hazards such as floods and drought, particularly in 60 sites of the Volta Basin (Burkina Faso-15, Ghana-15, Mali-7, Togo-7, Benin-8 and Côte d'Ivoire-8), in the 10 pilot areas previously identified.

Data collection work is currently in progress.

IDMP WAF GOAL 2: GENERATE AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Work Package 7: The results of IDMP WAF are well shared in the region and the selected countries / Awareness on drought are improved

IDMP WAF GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

Work Package 8: Regional/ countries level partnerships' competencies enhanced/Act. 2: Key stakeholders' engagement and strengthening the network

Youth involvement / GWPWA Regional Programme on Youth Employability GWP to partner for synergy and impact:

GWP-WAF in collaboration with its partners IUCN, VBA, Eau Vive Internationale and IRC has started coaching young professionals through its regional programme for the employability of young people in jobs related to water security and climate resilience. The programme is being implemented through the Integrated Drought Management Project in West Africa (IDMP-WA), #TonFuturTonClimat initiative, the Nexus & Food and Nutritional Security Programme and the Water Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP). Three young professionals carried out the evaluation of the TFTC project. This evaluation

revealed, among other things, that small-scale community actions carried out by youth associations in Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo make it possible to set in motion a dynamic for the development of initiatives to preserve the ecosystem on a larger scale at the level of producers throughout the targeted communes.

Participation in meetings

Participation to the Advisory Committee (AC) and Management Committee (MC) meetings of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) held at the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Offices in Stockholm, Sweden on 24-25 August 2019: The IDMP WAF project manager gave an overview of IDMP Western Africa from July 2018 to June 2019 (http://www.droughtmanagement.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/IDMP_ACMC_Report_2018.pdf)

Act. 2: Fundraising

- Submission of Technical and Financial Proposal to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, call for proposals on *“Creating lands of opportunities: transforming livelihoods through landscape restoration in the Sahel”* (Sahel Opportunities Project)”. GWP WA has been shortlisted and submitted with CWP of Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger
 - ✓ Step 1 in February 2020: successful
 - ✓ Step 2 in April 2020: Unsuccessful
- A concept note document on "Strengthening the Climate Resilience of Women Farmers and Young Farmers to Improve Agricultural Productivity in Rural Communities in West Africa" has been elaborated. Preliminary discussions are still ongoing with CILSS to bring the project forward by the [World Coalition on Water in the Sahel](#).

Negotiations are ongoing for a MoU with the Regional Office for Central and West Africa of IUCN to position IDMP WAF on some projects' activities implemented by the PREE ACO (Partenariat Régional sur l'Eau et l'Environnement en Afrique Centrale et Occidentale- Regional Partnership on Water and Environment in Central and West Africa) project.

2.7.4 Adaptation Fund: Volta Flood and Drought Management Project

The APFM TSU continued the implementation of the VFDM project activities together with other Executing Partners (Volta Basin Authority and Global Water Partnership-West Africa) and External Implementing Partners (CIMA, Italian Department of Civil Protection, CERFE, IUCN) and active participation and engagement of the National Services. However, due to the on-going global covid-19 situation, many of the activities planned (involving travel) in the first year of the project were postponed to the last quarter of the year 2020 or will be conducted virtually in agreement with the National services. Also, in case travel restriction continues, many of the activities such as National workshops, local risk mapping in 60 sites etc. will be carried out by the other Executing Partners or local consultants.

The APFM TSU submitted the first project progress report (PPR) to the Adaptation Fund Secretariat during the first week of July 2020 highlighting the achievements, challenges and risks encountered during the implementation. Once the PPR report is approved by the Adaptation Fund Board, the funds for second year activities will be made available to the Implementing Partner (WMO) of the project.

The table below describes the VFDM activities completed, on-going and planned until June 2021. Activities refer to the [project document](#).

Activities carried out between July 2019-June 2020	Activities postponed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic	Activities planned between July 2020-June 2021
MoU, Implementing Agreement and Letter of Agreement with the project executing Partners (VBA and GWP-WA) and External Implementing Partners (CIMA, Italian Civil Protection, CERFE, IUCN) Special Service Agreement with Independent Consultants	National workshops to present the National consultation reports and discuss the recommendations and draft an action plan for developing floods and drought risk maps and EWS (Activity 1.1.1.4)	Development of risk maps and EWS (VOLTALRAM) for floods and drought at the basin level
National Consultation meetings with the Six countries agencies and the VBA	Pilot test sites to test the methodology and guidelines for conducting local risk mapping	Capacity of stakeholders to use Floods and Drought risk maps are enhanced
National Consultation report including current capabilities, needs, recommendations etc.	Pilot sites visit to the Sourou Valley (Burkina Faso) and the Volta Delta (Ghana) for assessing red list indicators for ecosystem services	Climate Scenarios and impact on various sectors (Urban, Agricultural, Water resources etc.) are developed
Preparation and consultation with the local researchers for the local risk mapping activities in the 60 pilot sites of the Volta Basin (Activity 1.1.3)	Country missions to assess IT network and databases availabilities, need and current capabilities (1.1.2.2) and development of the Centralized databases (1.1.2.3)	Development of Long-term risk management framework or strategies
Preparation and consultation with the National stakeholders on the activities on environmental and ecosystem services (Activity 1.2.3.1-1.2.3.7)	Development of risk maps for floods and drought at the basin level	Review of existing policies, plans and guidelines on flood and drought management and climate change adaptation (NAPA, NAP etc.)
Preparation work for developing Training Curriculum and carrying out e-learning and face-to-face capacity development sessions.	Climate Scenarios and impact on various sectors (Urban, Agricultural, Water resources etc.)	Development of Training Curriculum and carrying out e-learning and face-to-face capacity development sessions.
Design and Development of the VOLTALRAM EWS (on-going till the end of the project)	Long term risk management strategies	Finalize pilot sites for testing the applicability and effectiveness during the monsoon and dry seasons

Consultation and Integration with other completed, on-going and planned projects to ensure synergies or complementarities (on-going).		
Finalization of the Training Manual for mainstreaming gender in E2E-EWS-FF and IFM		
Development of the Project Progress Report (PPR)-I and submission to the Adaptation Fund Secretariat		

The involvement of the IDMP in the Volta Flood and Drought Management project will comprise involvement in e-learning and capacity development activities and assistance in developing long term drought risk management strategies for the basin countries. The IDMP will further support the identification of global drought monitoring products available freely for the Volta Basin countries which will then be incorporated into the VOLTALARM early warning system.

2.7.5 South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS)

The SADMS continues to be online: <http://dms.iwmi.org>

Discussions with IWMI are ongoing on how to adapt the regional SADMS to the needs of national decision makers and GWP South Asia and IWMI are exploring funding opportunities.

2.7.6 Activities in Central America

Drought management activities have been developed by GWP Central America with support from the IDMP and with close involvement of the regional WMO office in Costa Rica since 2013 (further information [here](#)).

Based in parts on this work, the Euroclima+ project “Increasing capacities for risk reduction on droughts and floods and promotion of resilience in Central America” received a commitment for EUR 2.2M of funding and was launched on 2 July 2019, in San Salvador. This project has started the implementation jointly by the regional integration system (SICA) entities, including the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD/lead institution), the Coordination Centre for Disaster Prevention in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC/co-executor) and the Regional Committee on Hydraulic Resources (CRRH/co-executor). GWP Central America with technical assistance of the IDMP will be participating in the preparation of drought policies, pilot projects on RWH and capacity building activities of the Project, among other activities.

The objective of the project is “to increase the effectiveness of disaster risk management, with a regional and inclusive approach for the benefit of the Central American population” and is meant to be implemented in 2 years in Central America, starting in July 2019 and finalizing in 2021.

In the context of this project, three workshops of 5 days each in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua have been carried out in June and July 2020 with active participation of the IDMP TSU. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, these workshops were facilitated in a virtual format. The workshops were organized around the three Pillars of IDM, also sourcing from IDMP materials.

2.7.7 Activities in South America

The South American Drought Information System (SISSA) for the Southern South America was planning to conduct a workshop in May 2020 but due to the COVID-19 situation, a face-to-face workshop is scheduled for April 2021 and a virtual workshop scheduled for November 2020. This project is funded from the Inter-American Development Bank and is the result of the [Workshop on Developing a Drought Monitoring, Early Warning and Mitigation System for South America](#) held in August 2017.

The funding for the European Union's EUROCLIMA+ has been received. The project focuses on the provision of drought information and assessment of impacts on three important sectors: agriculture, energy, and waterway transportation for southern South America.

EUROCLIMA+ is also funding two other drought-related projects in South America: (1) [a project with CIIFEN to strengthen the regional and national drought and floods information and management systems in the Andean countries \(Western South America\)](#) for 1.5 million Euro for 3 years, and (2) a proposal submitted jointly by SENAMHI Bolivia and SENAMHI Peru to work on droughts in the Altiplano. All three projects will complement one another and they all will work together towards the common ultimate goal of supporting, developing, and implementing SISSA for the entire South American region.

2.8 International Drought Mitigation Research Centre

Discussions are ongoing with regards to International Drought Mitigation Research Centre (IDMRC). The COVID-19 situation has slowed development of this activity.

2.9 Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk

The IDMP meeting in September 2017 has launched the Integrated Drought Management HelpDesk. The HelpDesk consists of a "Find" section (to find resources in the library and access tools and guidelines), a "Connect" section (to link to IDMP initiatives) and an "Ask" section (to request advice and technical support). The "Ask" section was the final section that completed the HelpDesk. A draft profile of all partners for the catalogue of services of the HelpDesk was developed by the IDMP TSU and each Support Base Partner's profile has been uploaded to the IDMP website. Fourteen IDMP Support Base Partners (see section 2.1) have reviewed the profile and concluded the discussion on the modalities of engagement with the HelpDesk to date. Follow-up has been sent to others. In addition to the "Ask" function of the IDMP HelpDesk, stakeholders can also submit questions via the comment function in the [online Drought Indicator tool](#).

In total 42 requests have been received through the HelpDesk from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 with a total of 172 requests since the inception of the HelpDesk in 2017. Close to all requests have been completed by the IDMP Technical Support Unit with IDMP partner engagement and the IDMP regional offices. For 2019/20, out of these 42 requests, 28 requests were questions related to indicators and indices referring to the IDMP publication, *Handbook of Drought Indicators and Indices* (

Figure 1a). As shown in

Figure 1b, the majority of requests were related to rapid guidance on drought indices, while smaller proportions were requests for technical assistance (workshops, strategy, drought policy) and capacity building. Most requests did not contain information on the stakeholder’s country or region (Figure 2a). However, between the requests that contained this information, the largest proportion came from WMO Regions I and II (Africa and Asia). Figure 2b illustrates that about one quarter of the requests for IDMP assistance came from Universities, while only a small number of requests was placed by governments in the 2019/20 reporting period.

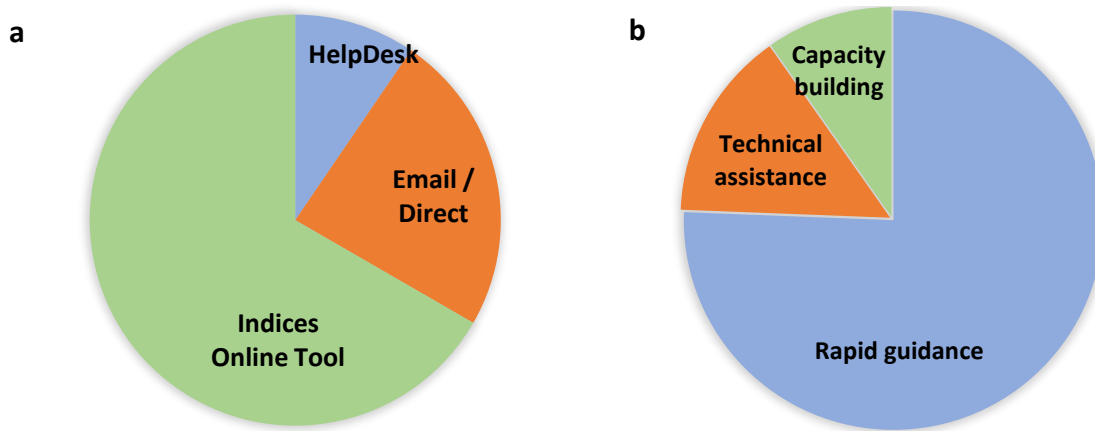


Figure 1 a) Source of IDMP assistance requests (HelpDesk, Email/Direct, Indices online tool), b) Type of requests posed. In total 42 requests were submitted for the 2019/2020 reporting period.

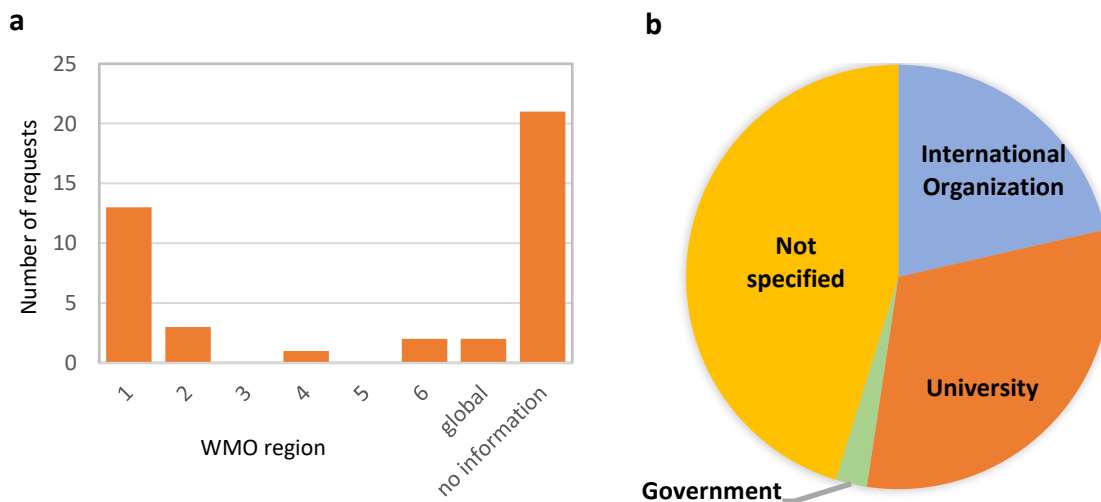


Figure 2 For the 2019/20 reporting period: a) WMO regions from which IDMP assistance was requested (1 - Africa, 2 - Asia, 3 - South America, 4 - North and Central America and Caribbean, 5 - South-West Pacific, 6 – Europe); b) Organizational origin of requests for IDMP assistance. A total of 42 requests for IDMP assistance were placed in the 2019/2020 reporting period.

2.10 IDMP Website

The IDMP website is being maintained by the IDMP TSU with WMO and GWP support. Pages are updated to include the latest development on regional activities, publications, and documents. The most recent addition to the website has been a page about the [IDMP Virtual Exchange Platform](#). The IDMP TSU is also exploring ways to translate the website content into the six UN languages.

The section “Advisory and Management Committee Meetings”, provides an overview of the meetings of the management group and their main recommendations since its establishment in 2013, with the last addition of last year’s 2019 IDMP annual meetings. A “Partners” page presents the programme’s partner organizations, with links to their websites.

The pages of the IDMP regional initiatives are continuously being expanded. The website also contains a map that provides an overview of the various activities of the IDMP and a space to explain the status of each of the activities. This map is currently being redone and updated.

To date the library of drought-related publications contains 319 drought-related publications. Publications can be easily added to the library by the IDMP Technical Support Unit and IDMP partners are invited to suggest additional and new publications that should be included. Following the recommendation of the IDMP Advisory Committee, a particular focus over the last year has been the addition of further resources and tools in the Three Pillar section of the website.

Please visit the IDMP website to find out more: <http://www.droughtmanagement.info/>

2.11 Development and Implementation of the Communication Strategy

In order to disseminate information about IDMP’s activities and outcomes, different methods of communication have been used. The IDMP website and social media channels are the primary methods of engaging with audiences and generating sustainable growth.

IDMP website

Figure 3 shows the recorded number of website visits per day for the last four reporting years (1st July – 30th June). The distribution of visits over the year is relatively even, with a decline for the end of year / holiday period. Since 2016, the website has seen a continuous increase in visits. While the total number of visits was 20 277 in the period 2016-2017, it increased to 21 792 and 31 833 views for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, respectively. In the 2019-2020 reporting period, a total of 41 184 users visited the IDMP website according to Google Analytics. For the 2019-2020 reporting period, an **increase in website visits is noticeable from September 2019, which coincides with the UNCCD COP14 in Delhi** and suggests a relation to the IDMP’s active engagement in this event. Figure 4 depicts the rate of increase in website visits for the 2016-2019 period: while between 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 there was an increase in visits of 8 %, the number of visits increased 46 % from 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

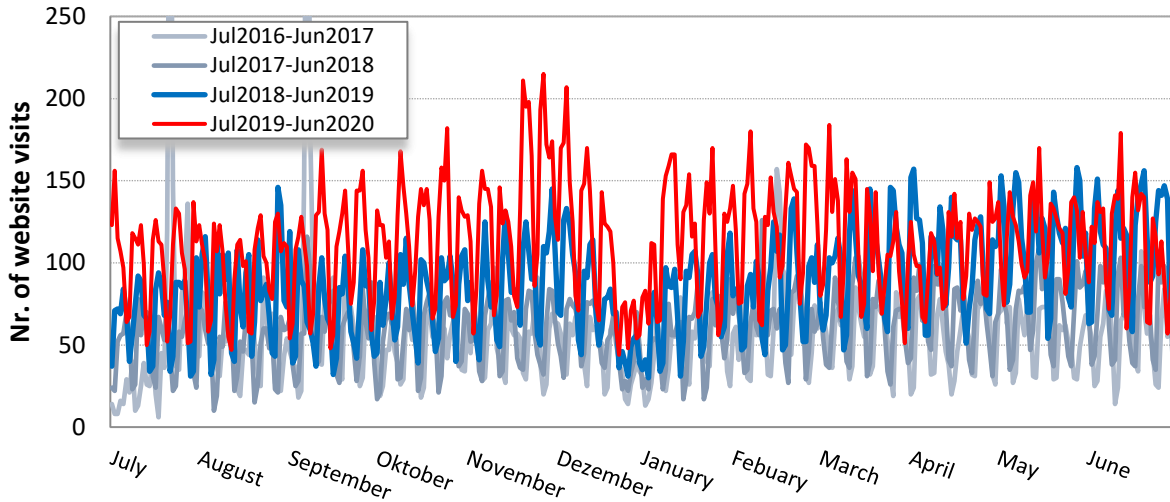


Figure 3 Number of website visits throughout the reporting period (July - June) from 2016-2020 (Source: Google Analytics, viewed on 29.07.2019).

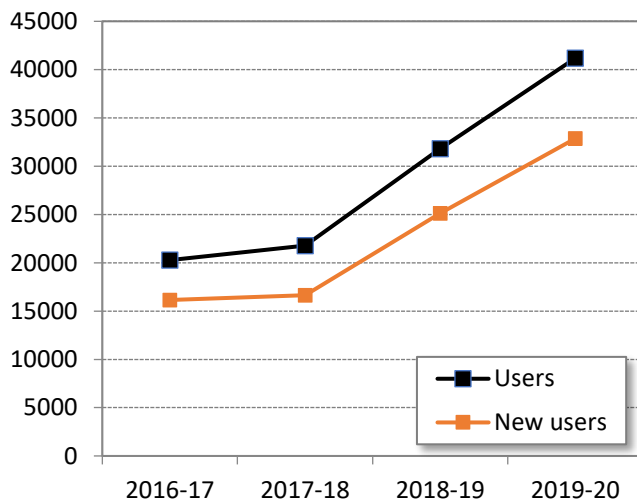


Figure 4 Total amount of website visits by users and new users in the reporting periods 2016-2020.

Throughout the last three years, the percentage of new visitors as compared to total visits has been constant at a high level, between 76 – 80 %, showing no trends. The bounce rate however, a measure for users navigating away from the website after viewing only one site, has been steadily increasing over the last four years at a relatively high level of 73.0-78.5 %, while the average time spent on the website has decreased from 0:1:52 in 2017-18 to 0:1:39 in 2019-20 (Table 1). These numbers indicate that while total numbers of visitors are increasing, the time spent on the website is decreasing.

Table 1 Website statistics for the IDMP website (www.droughtmanagement.info) for the last four reporting periods 2016-2020.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Bounce rate [%]	73.0	74.6	78.5	78.3
Average time on website [min]	1.42	1.52	1.32	1.39
Pages per session	1.74	1.72	1.54	1.53
Number of Sessions per user	1.43	1.45	1.38	1.36

The landing page gets most of the views. When people do engage with the website, the most visited pages are about the standardized precipitation index, the indices overview and the mitigation, preparedness and response pillar, followed by different indices (TCI, VCI, RAI, PDSI, SAVI, VHI). Website visitors primarily come from the United States and India, followed by Ethiopia, Germany and China.

IDMP social media

The IDMP is continuing its strategy of publicizing activities and projects in the joint APFM-IDMP Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. This has created a tool to drive traffic to both websites. In 2020, the Water Youth Network has assigned two focal points within their disaster risk reduction team, who are supporting the APFM on communication and outreach activities both internally among Support Base Partners and externally. The IDMP benefits from this liaison through the joint Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts.

Information material

The IDMP TSU has developed, with the help of a consultant and GWP financial support, two new roll-up posters for use at conferences and other events. While one of the posters highlights the IDMP HelpDesk, the other poster contains key messages about the IDMP. The new banners were designed to carry the visual identity developed for the IDMP flyer and will be used in upcoming events.

International Events

Members of the TSU took part to various international conferences, where they gave presentations introducing the IDMP. These are further detailed below in section 2.12. Please refer to section 2.7.1, for events attended by the IDMP CEE, section 2.7.2 for IDMP HOA and section 2.7.3 for IDMP WAF.

2.12 Engagement with International Processes and Events

- The engagement with the various **UNCCD** activities and the **FAO WASAG Working Group** on Drought Preparedness are described in section 2.3 above.
- The IDMP TSU attended the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP25)** event held between 2 and 15 December 2019 in Madrid and presented the IDMP tools and publications to participants. The COP provided opportunity to network with other participants working in the field of climate change adaptation.
- TSU IDMP staff participated in the **7th DRIN River Basin Stakeholder Conference** held in Tirana, Albania from 29-30 January 2020. A presentation was made on the IDMP and there was a discussion on how drought management issues could be incorporated into the activities of the DRIN River Basin. In addition, representatives from the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services from the region also participated in this conference. There are several active projects for

the DRIN River Basin which are supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The countries and territories involved in these projects include Albania, Kosovo, Northern Macedonia and Montenegro. [Click here for more information.](#)

In 2020 many events have been cancelled or postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2.13 Fundraising

Work continues to identify funding raising opportunities for the IDMP. In 2018, there were discussions with the APFM and IDMP TSU on the funding landscape which established a donor database. The aim was to support the APFM and IDMP's quest for resource mobilization as part of a new APFM and IDMP business model.

NOAA is working to provide some financial support to IDMP TSU through the GWP administrative processes. This should be finalized in August/September 2020.

The IDMP is engaging with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through WMO's work with them on developing the climate rationale for GCF projects. This is an ongoing process and the IDMP TSU is waiting for the next phase of the work to start in 2020.

2.14 Financial Support

The expenditure report of the IDMP for the year 2020 will be provided to the Management Committee of the IDMP at the meeting.

3. Workplan for the period 2020-21

3.1 Global Activities

The IDMP will continue to work towards a coherent approach to Integrated Drought Management and a strong joint push towards a proactive, risk-informed management of droughts.

In addition to the recommendations received during the 2020 IDMP annual meetings, the following activities that are mostly already ongoing will also shape the 2020/21 IDMP work plan:

- The IDMP's input to several upcoming capacity building activities has been requested. In light of the current Covid-19 pandemic, the IDMP will work on developing and delivering online learning courses and events in collaboration with several IDMP partners. These activities can build on the UNDP CapNet Drought Risk Reduction manual recently revised by the IDMP TSU.
- In 2020, WMO has started an exercise on identifying relevant products to be included into the portfolio of the WMO Regional Climate Centers (RCCs). The IDMP TSU is actively engaged in WMO activities on identifying climate products relevant to users in the context of drought monitoring and forecasting.
- The "Benefits of Action and Costs of Inaction" workstream will be continued in collaboration with the World Bank in several planned workshops. These activities are pending due to Covid-19.

3.2 Regional Activities 2020-21

3.2.1 IDMP Central and Eastern Europe

The following points summarize the IDMP CEE planned activities for 2020/21, depending on available funding:

- Search for funding to organize live/online trainings based on the manual on [How to Communicate Drought](#)
- Organize a high-level meeting (e.g. in Brussels) with EU Strategy for the Danube Region as a follow up of the [Revision of the EU policy instruments, related to drought and water scarcity mitigation](#)
- Establish cooperation and start-up with IDMP in CACENA Region:
 - One project proposal for Armenia was already submitted for the knowledge transfer and capacity building on IDMP for Visegrad Fund (results known by the end of August; potential start of the project in October 2020)
 - Discussions (and one not successful project proposal prepared) with Kirgizstan on CC adaptation (with focus on drought management)
 - Interest from Georgia (one unsuccessful project proposal)
- Follow up with the Drin Basin countries after the Capacity Building training we have organized in March 2020
- Develop a follow-up (DriDanube) proposal with partners (DMCSEE, ICPDR, EUSDR) which could be submitted to Visegrad Fund (deadline October 2020), Green Deal Call (Out in October 2020).

Continue cooperation with: DMCSEE, ICPDR, EUSDR, Sava Commission, etc.

3.2.2 IDMP Horn of Africa

The main activities to be undertaken are:

1. Development and enhancement of a Regional Drought Early Warning System
2. Strengthening capacity of stakeholders to manage drought risks due to Climate Change effects
3. Knowledge management and awareness creation in drought related activities
4. Mapping groups most vulnerable to climate risks and introducing targeted resilience -building measures in Sudan
5. Establish adaptation baseline in Somalia

3.2.3 IDMP West Africa

IDMP WAF will continue to contribute to global programme and the GWP new 2020-2025 Strategy by building its action on the 3 pillars of IDMP. Specifically, some GWP-WAF actions will be supported through the 3 pillars of IDMP:

✓ **Monitoring and EWS:**

- Youth “TonFuturTonClimat” project will work closely with Meteorological services of Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo for agriculture planning activities and synergies will be made with actions on EWS through GWP-AO initiatives.
- Capitalization and synergies will be made with actions on EWS through GWP-AO initiatives as Volta Project, TonFuturTonClimat, ...

✓ **Vulnerability and Impact assessment:**

- Support to West Africa countries selected for the elaboration and the validation of National Drought Management Plans
- Promotion of the training manual on Drought risk reduction in integrated water resources management with West Africa academic institutions.

✓ ***Drought mitigation, preparedness and response:***

- IDMP WAF will be supporting the Volta Project through actions to mitigate drought impacts and prepare to respond to drought emergencies

3.2.4 Activities in Central America

In the context of the Euroclima + project “Increasing capacities for risk reduction on droughts and floods and promotion of resilience in Central America” led by the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (see section 2.7.6), GWP Central America will support the development of national drought policies for Central American countries. The IDMP TSU will be actively engaged in those processes. This work will build on the IDM national trainings delivered in June and July 2020.

3.2.5 Activities in South America

There will a virtual meeting of the SISSA project in November 2020 and a face-to-face meeting in Uruguay is tentatively scheduled for April 2021.

3.3 Publications planned for 2020/21

Please refer to sections 2.6.5-2.6.9 for publications that are currently being developed. We are expecting all mentioned draft documents to be published in the 2020/21 reporting period.

Annex 1 IDMP Operational Guidelines ([available here](#))