



Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program:

Result Area 2

2014-16 Activity Report

“African Regional Economic Communities have DRR coordination, planning and policy advisory capacities operational to support their respective member states and regional and sub-regional programs”



Implemented by:



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



WORLD BANK GROUP



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Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program

An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, funded by the European Union and managed by GFDRR

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Building Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities Program:

Result Area 2

2014-16 Activity Report

This report summarizes the activities and achievements under Result Area 2 of the **Building Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities Program**: African Regional Economic Communities have DRR coordination, planning and policy advisory capacities operational to support their respective member states and regional and sub-regional programs from August 2014 through June 2016.

Above: Workers drain a flooded thoroughfare after a night of severe thunderstorms in Kisumu, Kenya. Photo credit: Peter Kapuscinski / World Bank

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
AGRHYMET	Agro-meteorology, hydrology, meteorology (Regional Centre)
AfDB	African Development Bank
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AWG	Africa Working Group
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CILSS	Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (<i>Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel</i>)
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
DIPEM	Department of Physical, Economic and Monetary Integration
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EC	European Commission
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EU	European Union
EUMETSAT	European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
EWS	Early Warning System
GEM	Global Earthquake Modelling
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
GCCA	Global Climate Change Alliance
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
ICPAC	Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IDA	International Development Association
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
NDRR	Natural Disaster Risk Reduction (ACP-EU NDRR Program)
PoA	Programme of Action
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
REPARC	Parliamentarians Network for Disaster Resilience in Central Africa
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SFDRR	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
SRPRGC	Central Africa Regional Strategy for Risk Prevention, Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation
SPC	Secretariat of Pacific Community
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

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Village of Pomerini, Tanzania—
unidentified group recovers red
clay bricks still usable from a
collapsed house in the village.
Photo credit: © Francovlpatto |
Dreamstime.com

1. Introduction

The effects of demographic pressure, unplanned urbanization, biodiversity loss, land and eco-systems degradation, climate change and complex economic globalization trends may partially explain the increase and intensity of disasters worldwide.

It is a fact that natural hazards disproportionately affect lower-income countries and those who benefit least from wealth creation owing to economic globalization. In Africa, in particular, various forms of vulnerability have the potential to amplify minor hazard events into major disasters. Since 1970, Africa has experienced more than 2,000 disasters, with just under half taking place in the last decade.¹ The most common disasters in Africa consist of floods and droughts; however, other hazards such as cyclones, earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes and epidemics have serious implications in sustainable water supply, health, food security, agricultural productivity, livelihoods and fiscal risk management. These disrupt the normal functioning of states, economies and development efforts at large, seriously undermining their prospects of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

African governments and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), under the aegis of the African Union Commission (AUC), adopted the *Extended Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (PoA)* in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The PoA sets out strategic areas of intervention, offers policy guidance at regional level, as well as key activities, expected results, measurable indicators and mechanisms for coordination and support. Coordination of this framework is ensured by the AUC and RECs through the African Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWG DRR).² Moreover, four of these RECs have established Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) policies and/or strategies based on the priorities for action of both the HFA and the PoA: Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS) and Southern African Development Community (SADC). The RECs perform a twin role in supporting disaster and climate risk management. Several of them house the sub-regional institutions and capacity for early warning, emergency response and data sharing. They also serve as the coordinating entities for member states' individual efforts at disaster and climate risk management, which allows regional integration and economies of scale.

Despite this engagement at all levels, the prevention, mitigation of and preparedness to natural hazards is still an emerging issue in the policy agenda of many African governments.

¹ Striving Toward Disaster Resilient Development in Sub-Saharan Africa – Strategic Framework 2016-2020, World Bank.

² The Executive Council of the AU (January 2011 Summit), adopted the decision on the Report of the Second African Ministerial Conference on DRR, held on 16 April 2010 (EX.CL/Dec.607 (XVIII)). This included the reconstitution of the AWGDRR.



Mahe Island, Seychelles – Works to protect against river mouth sanding and coastal erosion.
Photo credit: GFDRR

As disasters have flow-on effects to entire countries and sub-regions, a fully integrated, all-sector approach, is needed to secure development gains in Africa based on accurate risk information and improved decision support systems. Development assistance must deliver the greatest direct benefits for cost and prevention as well as disaster management also enhance competitiveness and strengthen resilience to increasing global risks and shocks, in particular in times of economic crisis. Therefore, the **Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities Program** (in short “Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program”) proposes a complete cycle of disaster risk management (DRM) measures and capacity building through risk identification and assessment, risk reduction and preparedness, risk financing and resilient recovery and reconstruction. The purpose is to provide the analytical basis and accelerate the effective implementation of a comprehensive DRR framework for the African continent.

2. About the Result Area 2 Program

Strengthening DRM Regional Coordination in Africa

The European Union (EU) and Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States established the Intra-ACP cooperation program ***Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa***³, financed under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), which has the overall objective of **strengthening the resilience of sub-Saharan African regions, countries and communities to the impacts of natural disasters**. These include the potential impacts of climate change to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development.

To achieve this objective, five Result Areas were identified, implemented by several partners, including the African Development Bank (AfDB), African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and the World Bank-managed Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). These are as follows:

R1: Extended Programme of Action for the implementation of the Africa regional strategy for DRR. Implemented by the AUC and the UNISDR;

R2: African Regional Economic Communities have DRR coordination, planning and policy advisory capacities operational to support their respective member states and regional and sub-regional programs. Implemented by GFDRR;

R3: Core capacities of the specialized national and regional climate centers are improved to meet the needs of DRM agencies and socio-economic sectors for effective use of weather and climate services and community-focused and real-time early warning systems. Implemented by the AfDB;

R4: African countries have improved knowledge of risks through, the compilation of historical disaster related data to inform the assessment and modelling of future risks. Implemented by the UNISDR;

R5: Multi-risk financing strategies are developed at regional, national and local levels to help African countries make informed decisions and to mitigate the socio-economic, fiscal and financial impacts of disasters. Implemented by GFDRR.

GFDRR is responsible for the implementation of R2 and R5. This report specifically focuses on R2 achievements.

³ More information on the Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program can be found at www.preventionweb.net/resilient-africa.

Result Area 2

Result Area 2, known as “Result 2” or more simply, “R2,” is one of two Result Areas managed by the World Bank/GFDRR (the second one being Result 5). The **specific objective** of Result 2 is to **strengthen and accelerate the effective implementation of an African comprehensive DRR and risk management framework at regional level**. It does this by:

1. Strengthening the coordination capacity of RECs; and
2. Assisting RECs in developing planning and policy advisory capacities to support their member states and regional/sub-regional programs on DRM.

This objective is achieved by providing targeted support to African RECs to strengthen their capacities for improved coordination, planning, policy advisory and knowledge dissemination to advance the regional DRM agenda and better support their respective member states in taking informed decisions in building resilience to disasters.

Activities under R2 support and align with the strategic approach articulated by AUC’s PoA, the RECs DRR strategies and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030⁴, and are implemented through an additional contribution to the ongoing ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program, an initiative of the ACP Group of States launched in 2011, also funded by the EU and managed by GFDRR. This additional contribution targets the four main RECs and their key partners such as African universities and research centers, river basin authorities or technical organizations. The four participating RECs are:

- The Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS) based in Libreville, Gabon (<http://www.ceeac-eccas.org>);
- The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) based in Abuja, Nigeria (<http://www.ecowas.int>);
- The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) based in Djibouti, Djibouti (<http://www.igad.int>); and
- The Southern African Development Community (SADC) based in Gaborone, Botswana (www.sadc.int).

Through a comprehensive regional engagement, participating RECs, African governments, decision makers and communities of practice will be able to leverage additional expertise, technical knowledge and best operational practices from a wide range of stakeholders. The R2 program also aims to provide an advocacy platform, improve cooperation and networking among global, regional, and national technical institutions; leverage additional stakeholder outreach and ultimately benefit national development plans and improve regional capacity for post disaster needs assessments and recovery frameworks.

⁴ And its predecessor at the time of launch, the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) 2005-2015.

Expected results

It is anticipated that the operational capacities of RECs will be strengthened in the areas of knowledge, planning, policy and coordination. Expected results are:

- R2-1: DRR strategies of RECs become operational according to their respective actions plans, building on the achievements of previous DRM initiatives;
- R2-2: Regional knowledge and understanding on DRM is enhanced with particular focus on strengthening national decision making capacities;
- R2-3: Cooperation and networking are improved among the RECs and global, regional, and national research institutions and technical centers to strengthen and integrate DRM into sustainable development;
- R2-4: Advice and technical assistance is provided to member states in developing national DRM policies, strategies and risk reduction programs;
- R2-5: Regional capacities are improved to support post disaster needs assessments and recovery/reconstruction planning.

R2 Program Targets

Activities under R2 are monitored and evaluated against the following targets:

- The four African RECs will have operationalized their DRR strategies according to their respective actions plans, building on the achievements of previous DRM initiatives;
- The four African RECs will have developed capacity to advise and provide technical assistance to their member states in developing national DRM policies, strategies and risk reduction programs;
- The four RECs will have developed and/or improved their capacity to support their respective Member States undertaking post disaster needs assessments and recovery planning;
- At least eight sub-regional training events will have been organized under the leadership of the respective REC.

3. Highlights

Here are some of the REC's achievements thanks to the R2 Program Support:

ECCAS launched a high-level policy forum with the creation of the **Central Africa Parliamentarians Network for Natural Disasters Resilience** in October 2015 in Kinshasa, DR Congo. Following that, the Second **Central Africa Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Management**, also held in Kinshasa, prepared and released *The Kinshasa Declaration on the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Central Africa*. The Conference validated the **revised Plan of Action for the Central Africa DRR/CCA Regional Strategy updated with the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030**, making ECCAS the first REC to align its action plan to the SFDRR. Finally, ECCAS established a new DRR unit within the Directorate of Physical, Economic and Monetary Integration in April 2016.

ECOWAS consulted its member states and **regional stakeholders in November 2015 in Lome, Togo on the ECOWAS DRR Plan of Action 2015-2030** to align it with the SFDRR. Regional stakeholders, such as River Basin Organizations, and member states discussed the western African region's needs for a regional flood management strategy and the trans-boundary impacts of floods. Furthermore, the **grant agreement for the ECOWAS implemented grant was finalized** in June 2016, allowing ECOWAS to recruit a team of program officers focusing on (i) regional DRR policies; (ii) regional flood management strategies; and (iii) coordinating program implementation.

IGAD signed a Grant Agreement with the World Bank, launching the **IGAD R2- Building Disaster Resilience through Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation Project** on November 18, 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The signing ceremony was held during the *Understanding Risk and Finance in Africa Forum* which was organized in the framework of the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Initiative (Result area 5, managed by the World Bank/GFDRR).

SADC formulated a **comprehensive work program for 2016 and 2017** supporting the regional parliamentarian DRR network. It will focus on the coordination of the El Niño response in Southern Africa and bringing forward a regional support program on recovery planning.

As of June 2016, the R2 Program has **provided training and invited to a conference a total of 187 persons**, within which 27 were women and 33 were CSOs representatives.

4. Overview of activities

Activities under R2 are developed under the following building blocks:



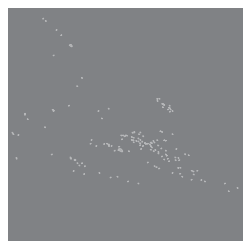
Capacity building

Enhancing capacities to provide risk identification and assessment information



Enhancing the dissemination of contributions of regional stakeholders in support of national early warning systems with a multi-hazard approach

Supporting the post-disaster response coordination and recovery planning capacity among RECs



Strengthening the knowledge base on disaster risk management

4.1 Program-wide Activities and Coordination with other Results Areas

Program-wide activities under R2 contribute to strengthening regular coordination among development partners and in particular with the other four Result Areas of the overall *Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program*.

Coordination at headquarters and the country/regional level with the European Commission, EU Delegations, and the ACP Secretariat was regularly undertaken. Furthermore, R2 sponsored the participation of RECs representatives in events such as the 3rd World Conference on DRR in Sendai in March 2015 and the African Working Groups on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWGDRR), held in July 2015 in Yaounde, Cameroon, and February 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Particular attention was given to the coordination among the different Result Areas of the Building Disaster Resilience Program through its Steering Committee meeting which took place in February 2016 in Addis Ababa, as well as a proactive coordination between GFDRR and the implementation partners of Result Areas 1 (AUC and UNISDR), 3 (AfDB), and 4 (UNISDR). Communication and sharing of experience has been strong throughout the starting phases of each Result Area.

Several R2 program-wide activities which took place during the reporting period are outlined below.

A **three-day coordination meeting** was organized in Brussels, Belgium on September 23-26, 2014 to start developing work plans of the respective RECs, exchange information on state-of-the-art DRM at the sub-regional level, and consult on related preparatory activities. The objectives of the workshop were to: (i) jointly advance the REC work programs for Result 2; (ii) discuss implementation modalities; and (iii) explore synergies and effective coordination among stakeholders implementing the other Result Areas of the Building

Visit to ECHO's Emergency Response Coordination Center at the European Commission.

Source: GFDRR, September 2015.



Disaster Resilience Program and other ACP-EU DRR programs focused on Sub-Saharan Africa. The workshop was attended by delegates from ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC, the European Commission, the ACP Secretariat. On the second day delegates from the EU Delegation to the African Union, the African Union Commission, the UNISDR-Africa, and EUMETSAT (European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites) also joined the discussions, laying the foundation for close coordination among partners and stakeholders implementing the other Results Areas of the Program. It also provided the opportunity for information sharing among RECs. Moreover, it offered the opportunity for the RECs to better understand the main EU climate change adaptation (CCA) program (Global Climate Change Alliance-GCCA) and to be introduced to the EU Emergency Response Coordination Centre.

An **Intra-ACP DRM knowledge exchange event** was organized with delegates from Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)⁵, Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC)⁶, ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC on their regional DRR initiatives, in the margins of the 3rd World Conference for DRR held in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015. Seizing the opportunity of their presence in Japan, a dedicated African RECs meeting took place in Tokyo to share an update on the four work plans and provide information on the visibility and communication requirements under R2.



Left: ACP DRR focal points meeting in the margins of the 3rd WCDRR held in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015. Source: GFDRR



Right: African RECs meeting in Tokyo to exchange on work plans, in March 2015. Source: GFDRR

The **Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program** was formally launched at the margins of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in **Addis Ababa on July 14, 2015**. The Technical Coordination Committee of implementing partners held its first meeting in Yaounde, Cameroon on July 20, the eve of the **7th Session of the AWG DRR** led by the AUC hosted on July 21-23 by the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization Government of Cameroon with support from ECCAS and UNISDR. These events provided an opportunity to strengthen coordination among program partners, the EU and other relevant DRR stakeholders in Africa.

⁵ Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
⁶ Secretariat of Pacific Community

In the margins of the **Africa Understanding Risk and Finance (URF) Conference** in Addis Ababa (November 17-20, 2015) organized under Result Area 5, two meetings took place with the four RECs: (i) the signature event for **IGAD's Grant Agreement** under the R2 project by the Executive Secretary of IGAD, World Bank Senior Director and in the presence of the EU delegation to the African Union (see Annex 1); and (ii) an **African RECs meeting** to share respective project progress and for GFDRR to present a proposed knowledge-sharing tool hosted on the EU Capacity for Development (CAP4DEV) platform. The forum, known as the **ACP-EU DRR Regional Knowledge Exchange**, was formally announced in June 2016 and is now operational. It includes a web space and discussion forum tailored to the six sub-regional ACP regional organizations, including all African RECs as well as CDEMA (Caribbean region) and SPC (Pacific region).

The **First Steering Committee of the Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program** took place in Addis Ababa on February 18, 2016 to review progress of activities under the different Result Areas, define reporting mechanisms (including M&E), facilitate coordination, coherence and consistency of work plans and approve the Program's visibility and communication strategy. It was followed by the **8th Session of the AWGDRR** on February 16-17, 2016 and was attended by the RECs, the AUC, various governments and partners. R2 Program partners, also members of the AWG, presented the R2 Program including the 2016 Work Plan, and updated partners on planned activities, which contributed to strengthening coordination.

Participants at the Africa Working Group meeting in February 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Source: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.





4.2 ECCAS–Economic Community of Central African States

www.ceeac-eccas.org

Background

The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), based in Libreville, Gabon, is mandated to promote regional cooperation and integration of eleven Central African member states (MS),⁷ covering a population of around 174 million inhabitants. It also has the mandate to lead the general political dialogue on DRR and climate change in those countries. Nonetheless the various conflicts in the region in past years resulted in ECCAS mainly focusing on regional collaboration for peace and stability in the region, which remains a major challenge.

At ECCAS, the DRM and CCA unit is anchored in the Department of Physical, Economic and Monetary Integration (DIPEM). DRR is one of the twelve strategic areas of the ECCAS General Policy on environment and natural resources management. Important achievements with regard to DRM have been reached on policy or strategic frameworks: a General Policy adopted in 2007 addressing three strategic priorities: (i) the assessment and early warning for the management of natural and manmade disasters; (ii) the fight against climate change; and (iii) the fight against desertification, drought and land degradation; a regional strategy *Central Africa Regional Strategy for Risk Prevention, Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation (SRPRGC)*, adopted on June 2012 by the Ministers in charge of DRR; and a framework for action for the DRR regional strategy implementation.

Nonetheless, remaining key regional challenges are still to be addressed, such as: identification of regional and national hazards and vulnerabilities and risk assessments; development and harmonization of DRM legal frameworks; improvement of DRR and climate change integration into sectoral policies; and reinforcing capacities on post-disaster needs assessments.

Update on activities

The ECCAS R2 program is implemented around **three key components**: (i) building regional knowledge on hazards, vulnerabilities and risks through the mapping of trans-boundary hazards; (ii) reinforcing regional and national capacities on DRR and CCA; and (iii) strengthening the policy dialogue and legislation on DRR and CCA. A fourth component reinforces the overall technical and managerial capacity of ECCAS and facilitates program implementation.

⁷ Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe.

The support to ECCAS started through a technical assistance project⁸ to conduct comprehensive analytical reviews of the national policies and the institutional set up governing hazards, vulnerabilities and risks in its member states and better understand the institutional framework supporting national early warning mechanisms. A **regional database was established** with information for eight of the eleven member states based on national and regional consultations conducted in Cameroon, Chad, DR Congo and Gabon. This will be further developed and improved over the coming months, including inputting key data on three missing countries: Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Rwanda.

The **ECCAS R2 Program** focus on reinforcing the national capacities on key concepts of DRR and policies with regard to risk identification, preparedness and disaster response and on promoting national coordination mechanisms. The project facilitates among others the high-level policy dialogue on DRR in Central Africa with parliamentarians and decision makers. **Highlights of this engagement are outlined in the sections below, with major events taking place in Kinshasa, DR Congo.**



Workshop on DRR/CCA in Kinshasa, DR Congo, in August 2015. Source: World Bank.

A **national workshop** was held in August 2015, to **establish a coordination mechanism on DRR/CCA, review existing policy, and identify existing expertise**. The workshop has also provided an opportunity to present the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 and the roadmap for the revision of the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for DRR (decided during the 7th Session of the AWGDRR in Yaounde in July 2015). The EU Delegation to the DR Congo was invited to the workshop attended by 50 participants from sectorial ministries, civil society, and the private sector.

The ultimate goal for the near future is to have an **operational national platform on DRR/CCA in the DR Congo**.

The **Central Africa Parliamentarians Network for Natural Disasters Resilience (REPARC)** was launched in October 2015, with six representatives of National Assemblies (Burundi, Chad, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, DR Congo and Central Africa Republic). The statutes and rules of procedure were adopted, the first draft of parliamentary guidelines of resilience was set up, and the biennale road map was adopted.

Following the above, the **Fourth Central Africa DRM Regional platform** took place, which included approximately 60 participants from nine member states, NGOs and development partners. The platform's participants validated the **Action Plan for the Central Africa DRR/CCA Regional Strategy** updated with the Sendai Framework for DRR targets and priorities.

The **Second Central Africa Ministerial Conference for DRM**, attended by six Ministers and representatives from Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, DR Congo, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe, approved the updated ECCAS regional Action Plan on DRR and CCA in October 2015. This conference prepared and released *The Kinshasa Declaration on the implementation*

⁸ The Development of Risk Reduction Measures, Preparedness and Response to Disaster Risk in Central Africa Project, funded by the ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program managed by GFDRR.



First meeting of the Central Africa Parliamentarians Network for natural disasters resilience.
 Source: World Bank, October 2015

of the Sendai Framework in Central Africa (see annex) and paved the way for the creation of the REPARC. In addition to this high level event in Kinshasa, the project supported the translation, editing and dissemination of the revised regional DRR/CCA strategy.

The ECCAS high-level policy dialogue was also pursued with the participation of the ECCAS DRM/CCA Unit at various international events, such as the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (CoP) 21 in Paris in December 2015.

A three-day retreat in March 2016 with ECCAS experts took place with the support of the World Bank in Pointe Denis, Gabon, to build the **logical framework** of the ECCAS R2 Program and discuss a common vision for its implementation. Discussions during the retreat facilitated the revision of the statutes of the **ECCAS DRR/CCA** unit, which was subsequently formally established as a **distinct unit** under the Department of Physical, Economic and Monetary Integration in April 2016.

The newly created ECCAS DRR/CCA Unit participated in the *Small Islands States Resilience Initiative (SISRI) Workshop* and the *2016 Understanding Risk Forum* “Building evidence for action” in Venice, Italy, on May 16-20, 2016. This enabled the unit to build knowledge of the different DRM facets including resilience technology, El Niño & La Niña, climate change and decision-making, risks analysis in support of multilateral action, risks models for disaster impact prediction and to exchange and share lessons with participants from other regions.



4.3 ECOWAS–Economic Community of West African States

www.ecowas.int

Background

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), based in Abuja, Nigeria, is mandated to promote regional cooperation and integration of 15 West African member states (MS)⁹, covering a population of around 320 million inhabitants. It also has the mandate and convening power to lead the general political dialogue on DRR and humanitarian affairs in those countries. At ECOWAS, the DRR program is housed at the Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs under the overall guidance of the Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender.

In 2007, the ECOWAS heads of states adopted the regional policy for DRR with a plan of action covering the years 2010-15. ECOWAS has since stepped up efforts on strengthening knowledge on risk identification, sharing data and information between member states, providing guidance to national platforms. It also established an emergency humanitarian relief mechanism which was used in 2009 and 2010.

Update on activities

The **ECOWAS R2 Program** is developed around **four components**: (i) Strengthen DRM policies and institutions at national and regional level; (ii) strengthen regional flood management capacity; (iii) enhance regional post disaster recovery planning; and (iv) capacity strengthening and coordination.

The first year encompassed several activities implemented by the World Bank on behalf of ECOWAS, as outlined below.

ECOWAS was supported to review the 2009-14 DRR Plan of Action and formulate the new DRR Plan of Action for 2015-30 in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-30. A **regional consultation workshop** was held in Lomé, Togo in November 2015, which brought together 55 stakeholders from the region including representatives from hydrology, meteorology, DRM organizations, universities, regional technical centers, river basin organizations and development partners. The objective was to **review the DRR Plan of Action** and consult widely with member states about the objectives of the ECOWAS R2 Program. With the support of ECOWAS gender expert team, the DRR Plan of Action was addressed in such a way that its primary actions and indicators are gender informed and reflect the priorities of the ECOWAS Gender Policy. The ECOWAS DRR Plan of Action 2015-30 is expected to be formally adopted in October 2016.

ECOWAS is also currently **drafting a regional strategy and dedicated Plan of Action on flood management in West Africa**. As part of this effort, a **background paper on the trans-boundary impacts of floods in West Africa** was updated and will provide the analytical basis for this

⁹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo.

regional flood management strategy. A **regional consultation workshop** on the priorities of the strategy was conducted back-to-back in November 2015 in Lomé, Togo, involving among others the river basin organizations and ECOWAS regional water resources center to lay out the main elements of such a strategy. During the workshop in Lomé and a visit of technical specialists from ECOWAS to Brussels, Belgium (April 2016), the ECOWAS and World Bank teams discussed with the European Commission the challenges of maintaining and implementing the European Flood Directive, including possible lessons learnt for ECOWAS. A technical committee with scientists from the Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) / Agro-meteorology, hydrology, meteorology (AGRHYMET, Regional Centre), University of Lomé and ECOWAS is guiding the process.



Regional Consultation on the ECOWAS DRR Plan of Action 2015-2030; Photo shown from a presentation at JT Togle

A **regional training course on conducting post-disaster needs assessments and recovery planning** for delegates from ECOWAS member states was organized with UNDP and GFDRR in March 2016 in Abuja, Nigeria. The training course was the first activity in a series of events aimed at **strengthening the regional capacity for recovery planning** and establishing a regional manual, training material and roster of recovery experts. For the second half of 2016 a follow up regional training and launch of the regional guidance note on recovery planning is planned.

In June 2016, the Grant Agreement between ECOWAS and the World Bank was prepared to allow direct implementation of activities by ECOWAS¹⁰. This will substantially strengthen the technical and managerial capacity of ECOWAS' DRR unit. Activities include the review of procurement and financial management capacity, establishing of a results monitoring framework and formulation of the terms of reference for the program consultants to be involved in the implementation of the project.

Going forward, ECOWAS has launched the recruitment of several positions to reinforce its capacity, including flood management and DRR policy specialists, and is working on establishing the project coordination unit at ECOWAS.

¹⁰ The Grant Agreement signature was scheduled to take place in July 2016.



4.4 IGAD–Intergovernmental Authority on Development (East Africa)

www.igad.int

Background

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), based in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, is mandated to promote regional cooperation, development and drought control of eight East African Member States (MS)¹¹ covering a population of around 250 million inhabitants. Its mandate is to lead the general political dialogue on food security, environmental protection, peace and humanitarian affairs in those countries. At IGAD the DRM unit (two officers including a UNISDR Technical Assistant) is housed in the Peace and Security Division under the Humanitarian Affairs section.

Over the years, the IGAD Secretariat, with active participation and involvement of its member states, relevant regional and international organizations and agencies, elaborated a disaster management strategy and compiled a comprehensive DRM Program. The IGAD Council of Ministers endorsed this DRM Program for the IGAD Region in 2004 and entrusted the Secretariat with its implementation. IGAD Member States with the support from the Secretariat and partners, have made encouraging progress towards the implementation of this regional DRM program by putting in place appropriate policies, plans, institutional frameworks and capacities among other mechanisms. Despite such progress, many gaps and challenges that impede the realization of DRM still remain. In this regard, there is a need for a comprehensive policy on DRM that is proactive, harmonizes policies and activities, opens initiatives for regional collaboration, takes initiative in integrating DRM and CCA measures, and strengthens institutional capacities.

Update on activities

The **IGAD R2 Program** includes **four key components** that they are directly implementing: (i) IGAD's DRM and CCA Strategy is expected to be reviewed and adapted by DRM and climate services institutions in the Member States; (ii) the IGAD Disaster Response Fund will be strengthened and fully operational; (ii) capacity on monitoring and disaster assessments will be strengthened; and (iv) a framework/strategy for mainstreaming DRM in school curricula will be developed.

The first year supported the preparation and appraisal of the recipient-executed grant and strengthened IGAD's technical capacity to lead and implement this comprehensive program. The IGAD R2 Program supported the recruitment of a number of senior experts and support staff for the IGAD Secretariat. It further supported enhanced policy level coordination: networking, participating in DRM related regional, ACP and international fora, conferences, and meetings.

The **Grant Agreement** for the IGAD R2 Program **was signed on November 18, 2015** by the Executive Secretary of IGAD, World Bank Senior Director and in the presence of the EU delegation to the African Union. Initial activities will comprise flood management, drought

¹¹ Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda.



The natural salty rivers of Assal Lake in Djibouti.

Photo credit: © Sébastien Bonaimé | Dreamstime.com

resilient agriculture, and disaster preparedness and finance, to be coordinated through a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) based at the Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) in Nairobi, Kenya. Preparatory activities related to procurement and staffing of the PIU are underway.

As part of the policy engagement, representatives from the IGAD DRR unit participated at a Symposium of the Sub-Saharan Africa Hazard and Risk Assessment on 30 June 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, organized by the Global Earthquake Modelling (GEM) Foundation. At the event, IGAD presented an overview of its DRM Program and the initiatives it has taken to identify and prioritize hazards in the region.



4.5 SADC–Southern African Development Community

www.sadc.int

Background

The Southern African Development Community (SADC), based in Gaborone, Botswana is mandated to promote regional cooperation, development and drought control of 15 Southern African Member States¹² covering a population of around 260 million inhabitants. Its goal is to alleviate poverty, support socio-economic development and peace and security through cooperation and regional integration.

Over the years, the SADC Secretariat, with active participation and involvement of its Member States, relevant regional and international organizations and agencies elaborated a disaster management strategy and compiled a comprehensive DRM Program endorsed by SADC Summit Heads of State and Government in 2008 and SADC Council in 2009. The DRR unit became operational in November 2009 and is responsible for coordinating regional preparedness and response programs for trans-boundary hazards and disasters and is working very closely with the Climate Services Center. The DRR Unit's program endeavors to ensure the realization of the paradigm shift from disaster management to risk management by incorporating it in all national development programs and strategies.

Update on activities

The **SADC R2 Program** focuses on: (i) increasing the capacity of its region to respond to flood risk; (ii) building the institutional capacity of DRM in its member states; and (iii) enhancing a better access to knowledge and international experience to advance the DRM southern regional agenda.

With the retirement in 2015 of the officer responsible for DRR at SADC and the re-organization of SADC's DRR unit, the program planning and implementation was initially constrained and held back. In March 2016, SADC reconfirmed its interest and willingness to implement the R2 Program through a combination of activities executed by both SADC directly and by the World Bank. Following this confirmation, SADC prepared its work plan for 2016-18 with a start date of July 2016. In line with the SADC R2 Program outline above, activities support a regional training on conducting post disaster needs assessments in Southern Africa; support the monitoring of the SADC El Niño response; and prepare a regional, high level forum on DRR with the SADC parliamentary forum.

At the same time, preparatory actions have been initiated to conclude the preliminary documentation and assessments for the readiness of SADC for undertaking activities directly.

¹² Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. Governance

Program Team

The R2 Program implementation is supported by the GFDRR Brussels Secretariat in close collaboration with the World Bank Africa DRM regional team through an additional EU contribution of €20 million to the ongoing *ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction* (NDRR) Single Donor Trust Fund (SDTF) in its regional/sub-regional component (Window 1)¹³, with a focus on sub-Saharan Africa. The R2 program thus follows the same governance procedure, as well as the same monitoring and evaluation process.

Steering Committee

The **ACP-EU NDRR Program** is overseen by a Steering Committee (SC) chaired by the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission, and composed of representatives from the European Commission, the ACP Secretariat and the WB/GFDRR. It meets at least twice a year with the purpose of reviewing progress and achievements and guiding the GFDRR Secretariat on program implementation, in particular on setting priorities in the allocation of the funds. ***This role is also extended to activities under R2, which follow the same reporting line.***

Furthermore, the team also reports on R2 activities at the SC of the **Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities Program** chaired by the Africa Union Commission and in which the RECs are also full-fledged members, along with R1-3-4-5 implementing partners.

¹³ Visit www.drrinacp.org for more information.

6. Annex

Communication and Visibility Outputs

VIDEO

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)—The **Grant Agreement (GA)** signature event for the IGAD R2 Program took place on November 18, 2015 in the margins of the URF Conference. The GA was formally signed by the Executive Secretary of IGAD, World Bank Senior Director and in the presence of the EU delegation to the African Union.

The video of the signing ceremony can be found here: goo.gl/YVl7H7. The main activities to be supported through the R2 IGAD Program will comprise of flood management, drought resilient agriculture, and disaster preparedness and finance. This will be channeled through a Project Implementation Unit based at the Climate Prediction and Application Centre in Nairobi, Kenya.

Representatives of the EU Delegation to the African Union, IGAD and World Bank at the Grant Agreement signing ceremony.
Source: World Bank, November 2015.





Above: A small business owner. Ghana. Photo credit: © Arne Hoel / The World Bank



About the Global Facility For Disaster Reduction and Recovery

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerabilities to natural hazards and adapt to climate change. Working with over 400 local, national, regional, and international partners, GFDRR provides grant financing, technical assistance, training and knowledge sharing activities to mainstream disaster and climate risk management in policies and strategies. Managed by the World Bank (www.worldbank.org), GFDRR is supported by 34 countries and ten international organizations.

The World Bank's Africa Disaster Risk Management Program

The World Bank Africa Disaster Risk Management Program (AFR DRM) Program is committed to support countries and communities in Sub-Saharan Africa build climate and disaster resilience for sustainable development. It is currently served by 58 focal points spread over 48 countries, and has a portfolio of \$5.4 billion, which is about 10% of the World Bank's overall Africa portfolio. This includes a core DRM investment portfolio of over \$1 billion and \$50 million in technical assistance grants to over 28 countries. Through its investment and technical assistance operations, the AFR DRM team strives to develop effective synergies with other initiatives such as the different Result Areas of the ACP-EU Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program and other ACP-EU initiatives.

Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program – Result Area 2



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