

Climate Services For Risk Reduction in Africa

CS4RRA, 2023

Funders



Direction générale
de la recherche
et de l'innovation



Climate Services for Risk Reduction in Africa 2023 Webinar Forum with West Africa

- Improvement of early warning system and adaptation measures for disaster risk reduction, *Uni. Lomé, Lomé, Togo, September 2023*
- Excessive water management, *Uni. F.H.B., Abidjan, Ivory Coast, October 2023*
- Climate-smart agriculture and sustainable landscapes, *Uni. K.N., Kumasi, Ghana, November 2023*
- Climate impacts and resilience under present and future scenarios, *Uni. C.A.D., Dakar, Senegal, December 2023*

These multilateral webinars intend to :

- Address in West Africa both Research, Innovation & Capacity Building, with focus on coastal, urban and rural areas
- Identify priorities for joint vision and multilateral actions (South-South & North-South Cooperation)
- Feed a Stocktaking Conference in early 2024, including short-term actionable steps
- Contribute to African Union – European Union Innovation Agenda and CCSE Partnership

[more to come at cs4rra.wascal.org](https://www.cs4rra.wascal.org)

Partners



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
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WEBINAR 1

Improvement of early warning system and adaptation measures for disaster risk reduction

University of Lomé, Lomé, TOGO, September, 28, 2023

1. Overall concept

African countries are among the most vulnerable to climate change and are amidst those around the world facing many shared challenges which require sustainable solutions. West Africa has some of the highest urbanization rates in the world, particularly in coastal areas. Currently, one African in three lives in an urban area, and projections indicate that by 2035, one African in two will live in an urban area (source: United Nations). As a result, an increasing number of young men migrate, leaving women on the farm to face all the disadvantages and challenges of climate change. Destructive impacts of climate change like heat waves, droughts, floods and increasingly severe storms are the primary culprits behind decreased farming output and rising hunger in the continent. Rural people are facing serious long-term degradation of natural resources. Desertification, deforestation, high levels of crop and livestock diseases and pests, and unreliable and erratic rainfall make both agriculture and livestock risky enterprises. Agricultural and livestock productivity is low, leading to chronic poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition. Added to high demographic pressure, the occurrence of high-impact meteorological events in a context of climate change and variability, will cause considerable social, economic and environmental damage. In addition, low levels of preparedness and a lack of clearly defined response measures exacerbate the negative impacts associated with extreme weather and climate events. Most of these frequent and severe natural disasters are weather-related. Of these, droughts, epidemics and floods are responsible for 99% of all fatalities. Heavy rains, floods and landslides are becoming increasingly common along the Guinean coast. The impacts are often amplified by anthropogenic pressure, with populations settling in informal, non-acidified areas, which are often low-lying areas or former rivers that have dried up and flood rapidly in the event of heavy rains. Moreover, a recent increase in extreme rainfall and ensuing fluvial flood events have caused fatalities and they are the costliest natural disasters in most West African countries. Hence, the ongoing regional climate change in the Sahel is influencing environmental processes and human well-being in a multitude of ways depending on the landscape, societal, economic, and political structure, institutional framework, environmental enabling policies, actors' knowledge, and ability to respond or adapt to changing and challenging historically grown conditions. To strengthen climate resilience in West Africa, better climate knowledge and services, including better early warning procedures, are required at regional and local levels both for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change¹.

Following the examples of the recent European Climate Adaptation Conference and Climate Neutral Forum, it is proposed to organize:

- In 2023, a forum through a series of 4 in-depth webinars based on West-African hubs with African and European representatives on the area of Climate Services for Risk Reduction in West Africa and considering the three KIC (Knowledge, Innovation, and Capacity Development) angles.
- In 2024, a stocktaking conference based on West-African and European hubs to present results of the forum of webinars.

In this context, a regular cycle of four webinars and a stocktaking meeting are foreseen at the regional level. To this aim, it is proposed to co-design such events with West African partners from three complementary angles (quoted KIC below):

- *Knowledge of the regional climate system* at relevant scales for those working in the field within different sectors;
- *Innovation of climate services*, meeting the actual needs of sectors exposed to current and future

¹ See e.g. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212420918309373>

- climate change and aligned with the AU-EU innovation agenda;
- *Capacity building*, in particular for new African generations within the public and private sectors of the countries concerned.

The overall goals are to:

- strengthen climate resilience in Africa in order to raise awareness about climate knowledge, identify key services for adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction;
- examine potential areas for cooperation in research on climate risk management, resilience and adaptation in West Africa and thus defragment the programme landscape in favour of common goals and common impact of funding;
- describe pathways and priorities for research, innovation and capacity development in the area of Climate Services for Risk Reduction that contribute to the new Innovation Agenda between African Union and European Union²;
- identify actionable and complementary steps to boost KIC via trilateral or multilateral joint calls or actions (South-South and South-North).

2. Objectives of multilateral hybrid webinars

The objectives of these multilateral hybrid webinars are to:

- Address particularly pressing issues in the area of Climate Services for Risk Reduction in West Africa focusing on Research, Innovation & Capacity Building, on coastal, urban and rural areas
- Identify priorities for joint vision and multilateral actions (South-South & North-South Cooperation)
- Feed a Stocktaking Conference in early 2024, including short-term actionable steps
- Contribute to African Union – European Union Innovation Agenda and climate change and sustainability education CCSE Partnership

3. 1st WEBINAR: improvement of early warning system and adaptation measures for disaster risk reduction in West Africa

This first webinar aims to focus on, **improvement of early warning system and adaptation measures for disaster risk reduction in the West African region and will be held at WASCAL, in the University of Lomé, Lomé, TOGO on September, 28, 2023.** It will cover the following topics:

- Increase knowledge of the hazard;
- Better forecasting it;
- Communicate the forecast;
- Develop adaptation and mitigation measures;
- Post-evaluate any measure in terms of socio-economic value.
- The "value chain" of early warning systems.
- Predictability of rainfall and temperature from weather forecasts to S2S time scales.
- Identify needs, what science can bring and migrate from science to policy advice.

Format and activities

This hybrid webinar (in-situ and virtual) will be for one day. Attendees will be able to participate either on-site (physically) or virtual. The webinar will be divided into i) opening ceremony; ii) plenary session, iii) two parallel round table sessions (panel discussion). The plenary session will be made up of one moderator and 2 keynote speakers. Each panel session will be made up of one moderator and 6 speakers.

² https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/ec_rtd_au-eu-innovation-agenda-final-version.pdf

Speakers and moderators

Institutions	Speakers	Meeting
WMO	To be defined <i>Remote</i>	Keynote speaker Plenary panel discussion
University of Lomé Togo, Former WASCAL, Red Cross Climate Center	Heou Maleki BADJANA <i>In Situ</i>	Keynote speaker Plenary panel discussion
Météo France	Philippe PEYRILLE <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 1
ACMAD	André KAMGA <i>In Situ</i>	Parallel session 1
AGRHYMET	Abdou ALI <i>In Situ</i>	Parallel session 1
Institute for Environment and Human Security, United Nations University, Bonn	Yvonne WALZ <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 1
West African Régional Specialized Meteorological Centre-RSMC/ANACIM)	Sadibou BA <i>In Situ</i>	Parallel session 1
ECMWF	Frederic VITART <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 1
University of Leeds	Douglas PARKER <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 1
Togo Red Cross	To be defined by the institution	Parallel session 2
Togo National Focal Point DRR	To be defined by the institution	Parallel session 2
Côte d'Ivoire National Focal Point DRR/ DLCC	Paul KAMAN <i>In Situ</i>	Parallel session 2
Niger National Focal Point DRR	Colonel-Major Boubacar BAKO <i>In Situ</i>	Parallel session 2
FAO Dakar	Luca PARODI <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 2
ECOWAS	Raoul KOUAME <i>Remote</i>	Parallel session 2
KIT	Andreas FINK	Plenary panel discussion Moderator
Red Cross Climate Center	Cheikh KANE	Parallel session 1 Moderator
IRD	Arona DIEDHIOU	Parallel session 2 Moderator
WASCAL	David ANAAFO	Reporter 1
WASCAL	Idrissou MOUHAMED	Reporter 2
WASCAL	Reporters & Kehinde OGUNJOBI	Plenary session Reporting & closing remarks

Targets and invitations to attend the webinar physically or online

The organizations, institutions and groups targeted specifically to attend this webinar are: researchers, WMO, Red Cross, decision-makers, NGOs, Representatives of higher and school education, WASCAL graduate schools, National Emergency management agency (NEMA), National Meteorology and Hydrological agencies, West African Health Organization, relevant ministries and departments (hydro, agriculture, health, etc.) and agencies for policy guidelines, CoC scientists, WASCAL GSP students, and Alumina.

Webinar 1 detailed agenda

Time	Meeting	Themes	Speakers/Champions	Attendance for speakers
9H00-9H30	Plenary	Welcome & Opening ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome address by the vice chancellor of the University of Lomé BMBF or Ambassador of Germany in Togo MESRI or Ambassador of France in Togo Opening speech by the Ministry of High Education and Research in Togo 	In Situ & Remote
9H30-10H30	Plenary panel discussion	<p>Moderator : Andreas Fink (KIT)</p> <p>Reporters: David ANAAFO (WASCAL CoC Ouaga.) & Idrissou MOUHAMED (WASCAL GSP Lomé)</p>	<p>Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adaptation and mitigation measures; ➤ Post-evaluation of measures in terms of socio-economic value <p>Two keynote speakers</p> <p>To be defined (WMO)</p>	Remote

			<p>Heou Maleki BADJANA (University of Lomé Togo, Former WASCAL, Red Cross Climate Centre)</p>	In Situ
10h30-11h00 COFFEE BREAK				
11H00-13H00	<p>Parallel Session 1</p> <p>Reporter: David ANAAFO (WASCAL CoC Ouaga.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase knowledge of the hazard; ➤ Better forecasting it; ➤ Communicate the forecast; ➤ Predictability of rainfall and temperature from weather forecasts to S2S time scales. <p>Moderator : Cheikh KANE (Red Cross Climate Centre)</p> <p>Philippe PEYRILLE (Météo France)</p> <p>André KAMGA (ACMAD)</p> <p>Abdou ALI (AGRHYMET)</p> <p>Yvonne WALZ (Institute for Environment and Human Security, United Nations University)</p> <p>Sadibou BA (West Africa Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre-RSMC) (ANACIM, Senegal)</p> <p>Frederic VITART (ECMWF)</p> <p>Douglas PARKER (University of Leeds)</p>	<p>Remote</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>Remote</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>Remote</p> <p>Remote</p>	

11H00-13H00	<p>Parallel session 2</p> <p>Reporter Idrissou MOUHAMED (WASCAL GSP Lomé)</p>	<p>Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The "value chain" of early warning systems. ➤ Identify needs, what science can bring and migrate from science to policy advice. <p>Moderator : Arona DIEDHIOU (IRD)</p> <p>To be defined by the institution (Togo Red Cross)</p> <p>To be defined by the institution (Togo National Focal Point DRR)</p> <p>Paul KAMAN (Côte d'Ivoire National Focal Point DRR/ DLCC)</p> <p>Colonel-major Boubacar BAKO (Niger National Focal Point DRR)</p> <p>Luca PARODI (FAO, Dakar)</p> <p>Raoul KOUAME (ECOWAS)</p>	<p>In Situ</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>In Situ</p> <p>Remote</p> <p>Remote</p>
13H00-14H00 LUNCH BREAK			
14H00-15H00	2 Parallel sessions continue and finalizing report		In Situ & Remote
15H00-15H30	Plenary Reporting of parallel sessions and conclusions	<p>Reporters David ANAAFO (WASCAL CoC Ouaga.) Idrissou MOUHAMED (WASCAL GSP Lomé)</p> <p>Closing remarks Kehinde OGUNJOBI (WASCAL Executive Director)</p>	

4. The local Organizing Committee

The Local Organizing Committee is in charge of the organisation and operationalization of the webinar in Lomé, Togo. This committee comprises, WASCAL Togo, University of Lomé, ANPC, ANAMET, Red Cross Togo, GIZ with the support of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Ministry of security and civil protection, Ministry of the environment and Forest Resources, Ministry of Water and Village Hydraulics, Ministry of Maritime Economy, Fisheries and Coastal Protection. IRD and KIT are supporting institutions for this committee.