

**Dear ECHO Partners in Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region, Dear Sir or Dear Madam**

The Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), with the support of the Finnish Red Cross, would like to invite your organisation to participate in the

**“ECHO and partners Regional Workshop on Disaster Preparedness in Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean (SA IO)”**

**Date: November 27-29, 2019**

**Place: Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo, Johannesburg, South Africa**

The European Union, and its Members States, is among the major global humanitarian donors having provided humanitarian assistance since 1992 in over 110 countries. In the SA IO Region, the European Union – through ECHO – mobilizes humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction (DRR) / disaster preparedness (DP) interventions through European non-governmental organizations, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, the United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations. Currently ECHO-funded DP projects and operations are being implemented in Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi, Lesotho and Zimbabwe.

The SA IO region is highly vulnerable to various hazards ranging from floods, cyclones, droughts and epidemics resulting in loss of lives and livelihood assets, economic losses and population displacement. Threats facing the region are interlinked, including the annual flood and cyclone season, and localised droughts. Disasters represent a major source of risk for the most vulnerable populations and can potentially undermine development gains. Hydro-meteorological hazards, in particular floods, cyclones and droughts, represent serious threats to lives and to food and livelihood security. In the last two years cyclical and worsening climate phenomena have stretched Disaster Risk Management (DRM) systems, coping capacities and increased vulnerability.

Through its support, ECHO aims at contributing to increased preparedness of the most vulnerable populations, while also enhancing preparedness and response capacities of national disaster management systems. In order to build synergies between interventions in the region, and gather input for its operational partners, the various Disaster Management Authorities and academia, ECHO intend to organize yearly regional coordination meetings. In 2019, this workshop will follow the themes of Disaster Risk Reduction following ECHO's regional strategic approach and funding priorities.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP**

The objective of the workshop is to discuss how ECHO and its partners can contribute to improving Disaster Preparedness in the Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region

The workshop will:

- Review experiences and lessons learned from major response operations in the SA IO region in 2019, and particularly those linked to recent Cyclones in the region.
- Review the achievements and gaps related to disaster preparedness (DP) in the SA IO region;
- Recommend and adapt specific activities and approaches within the strategy of ECHO and its partners for Disaster Preparedness (DP) in the region.

Please note that this workshop will focus on Disaster Preparedness related to **Rapid Onset Natural Disasters**.

## **TARGET GROUP**

- ECHO partners
- Disaster Management Authorities and SADC DRR Unit.
- Academic institutions dealing with Disaster Preparedness

From the following countries: Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Other participants from the following countries will also be welcome, despite ECHO not operating with DP funds. These includes: Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa.

The target group for the workshop is strategic and programmatic leadership and technical positions.





European Union  
Civil Protection and  
Humanitarian Aid

## PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

We kindly ask your organisation's representatives to register their attendance by completing the online registration form by the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 the latest: [https://www.lyyti.in/Registration\\_ECHO\\_Regional\\_Workshop](https://www.lyyti.in/Registration_ECHO_Regional_Workshop)

As there is a limit to the number of participants, we would appreciate if your organisation could register as soon as possible. We sincerely apologize if not all interested organizations can be hosted.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Workshop Venue

Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo

73 Gladiator Street - Rhodesfield Johannesburg - Gauteng

Tel: +27 (0)11 393 8000

<https://www.premierhotels.co.za/hotels/gauteng/johannesburg/or-tambo-airport/>

Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo is offering our invited guests Bed and Breakfast at a rate of ZAR 1,350 per night. <sup>1</sup>

### ATTENTION:

Note that each participant is responsible for booking his/her own accommodation.

If you desire to stay in the Premier Hotel O.R Tambo, quote the title of the workshop when booking.

It is not mandatory to use this hotel for accommodation.

### Arrival/Departure

- Registration will open at 08.00 on Wednesday November 27<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will run from 08.30 to 18.00. Participants are expected to be present throughout the workshop and for all sessions. The workshop will end on Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 13.30.
- Participant coming from other countries, are encouraged to arrive on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, if possible, to be present at the beginning of the workshop.
- ECHO FPA partners will be invited to participate in an afternoon session on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> on the 2020 HIP ending at 16.00.

### Travel arrangements

There is no fee to participate in the workshop.

Your organisation will be responsible for **organizing and covering travel costs to and from the venue, accommodation and per diem and any other necessary expenses** in accordance with your organization's procedures.

### ECHO will not cover any costs of the participants.

A separate message will soon be sent to partners currently funded by ECHO about their participation and the participation of the Disaster Management Authorities from their respective countries.

### VISA

Please ensure that your participants obtain a visa to South Africa, if needed. We can support this with a letter of invitation for the workshop if required. Please also ensure that the participants have appropriate medical and travel insurance.

Kindly address any messages/questions that you might have about the Workshop to the Finnish Red Cross using the following address: [SAIO.ECHO.workshop@finrc.fi](mailto:SAIO.ECHO.workshop@finrc.fi)

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<sup>1</sup> Price may fluctuate – ECHO and the Finnish Red Cross will not be responsible for any changes.



*Draft Programme – (a revised one will be sent later).*

**ECHO and Partners Regional Workshop on Disaster Preparedness in Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean (SA IO)**

- Date: 27-29 Nov 2019
- Location: Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo Airport

**Objective of the Workshop**

How ECHO and its partners can contribute to improve DP in the SA IO region

The workshop will

- Review experiences and lessons-learnt from major response operations in the SA IO region in 2019, and particularly those linked to recent Cyclones in the region.
- Review the achievements and gaps related to disaster preparedness (DP) in the SA IO region;
- Recommend and adapt specific activities and approaches within the strategy of ECHO and its partners for Disaster Preparedness in the region.

Wednesday, 27 November 2019	Thursday, 28 November 2019	Friday, 29 November 2019
08:00-08:30: <b>Arrival and Registration</b>	08:30-09:00 <b>Recap and Q&amp;A</b>	08:30-09:00 <b>Recap and Q&amp;A</b>
08:30-09:00: <b>Opening and Welcoming Words</b> <b>Objective setting with short presentation from ECHO</b> <i>EU/ECHO &amp; SADC</i>	09:00-12:30 <b>WORLD CAFÉ</b> <i>-(smaller groups with facilitators – will send some example on how to do it)</i> Thematic Sessions – 1. Contingency plan 2. EWS / EA 3. Contingency measures • Contingency funds • FbEA • Flexibility measures • Crisis Modifier, 4. DP in Education in Emergencies, 5. Innovation in DP 6. Shock Responsive Social Protection 7. Cash Preparedness 8. DP for health	09:00-10:30 <b>Consolidation of Good Practices and Recommendations based on the day two discussion</b>
09:00-10:30: <b>The Wider Context: Presentation on Risk Situation in SAIO; and Plenary Discussion</b> <i>Research Institutes / panel discussion</i>		10:30 <b>Update on upcoming events/trainings of common interest</b> <i>ECHO Partners</i>
10:30-10:45: <b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>		11:30-12:30 <b>Learnings and Future Plans: Closing Remarks</b> <i>UN, IFRC, NGO, ECHO</i>
10:45-12:15: <b>Achievements, Gaps and Plans: Presentation on Disaster Risk Management Framework in SAIO</b> <i>SADC</i>		12:30-12:45 <b>Workshop Evaluation</b> <i>Finnish Red Cross</i>
12:15-13:30: <b>Lunch</b>	11:00-11:15 <b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>	<b>Closing of the workshop</b>
13:30-15:00: (incl. break) <b>Experiences and Lessons Learnt from Cyclones Idai / Kenneth / Enawo / Dineo: Presentations and Panel Discussion</b> <i>OCHA, IFRC, NGO, GOV</i>	11:15-12:15 <b>Continuation WORLD CAFÉ (small groups with facilitators)</b>	12:45-13:30 <b>Lunch / Departure for some</b>
15:00 to 18:00 – <b>MARKET PLACE of the Good and Improvable practices</b>	12:15-13:30 <b>Lunch</b>	<b>Afternoon from 14:00 to 16:00</b> <i>Presentation of the 2020 HIP</i> <i>ECHO partners and ECHO team only</i>
Participants presenting their own stand/abstracts.  <i>ECHO will send to its partners instruction</i>	13:30-15:45 <b>Continuation WORLD CAFÉ</b>	
	15:45-16:40 <b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>	
	16:00 – 18:00 <b>Presentations on conclusions from Thematic Sessions and Plenary Discussion on conclusions from Thematic Sessions</b> <i>ECHO Partners</i>	

