



# Activities under the ACP-EU NDRR Program

## UPDATE # 45

for October – December 2019

### A – PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The **Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) Fall 2019 Consultative Group (CG) Meeting** was held virtually on 14 November 2019. Participants previewed highlights from the 2018-2019 GFDRR Annual Report. The CG was an opportunity to (i) discuss the topic of resilient infrastructure, (ii) share updates on the dissemination of the World Bank/GFDRR flagship report entitled *Lifelines – The Resilient Infrastructure Opportunity*<sup>1</sup>, and (iii) initiate a discussion on the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. The CG Meeting then concluded on a discussion regarding options for the 2020 CG meeting, the term length for the next GFDRR co-chair, and on the 2020 *Understanding Risk (UR)* Forum to be held in Singapore on 18-22 May 2020<sup>2</sup>.

**New proposal** – One proposal in the Caribbean was approved for funding:

Window 2 – *Country-level proposal*

- **Haiti** – Integrating Gender and Behavioral Sensitive Approaches to Enhance Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Haiti. More details are provided in section B below.

### B – PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Uganda Risk Assessment and Resilience Action Plan

Uganda's overall framework for economic development, the National Development Plan, identified disaster management as one of the enabling sectors that need to be developed to achieve sustainable development. Since 2015, the ACP-EU NDRR Program has been supporting DRM in Uganda through the *Risk Assessment and Resilience Action Plan* project. This project has helped improve the understanding of national disaster risk in Uganda, build community resilience, mainstream multi-sectoral Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) considerations at the community level, and measure progress towards building resilience.

Several key activities were developed during the period under review, including (i) working with the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) to update its Emergency Preparedness and Response Framework; (ii) supporting and helping the KCCA complete an open street mapping project in Bwaisie; and (iii) organizing a meeting with stakeholders in the implementation of the Building Regulatory Capacity Assessment, which will provide a comprehensive review of Uganda's building regulatory framework. For more information, please see: [www.bit.ly/NDRRUganda](http://www.bit.ly/NDRRUganda)

#### Integrating Gender and Behavioral Sensitive Approaches to Enhance DRM in Haiti

Disasters often affect genders differently due to inequalities caused by socioeconomic conditions, cultural beliefs and traditional practices that put women and girls at a disadvantage. In Haiti, women are particularly vulnerable during the occurrence and in the aftermath of a disaster, as recovery efforts can be ill-suited to address women's needs and challenges. With this context, a new project supported by the ACP-EU NDRR Program will address the issue of gender inequalities in a DRM setting in Haiti.

The project will firstly conduct a gender gap analysis in DRM areas which will evaluate current gender approaches, identifying progress and gaps and developing indicators that will provide a baseline to carefully monitor progress on integrating gender in DRM. The analysis will also provide recommendations to tackle the

<sup>1</sup> The report is accessible at <https://www.gfdr.org/en/lifelines>

<sup>2</sup> More information can be found at <https://understandrisk.org/event/ur2020/>



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aggravation of gender inequalities that inevitably takes place during and after disasters and to promote civil society engagement, community resilience, women's leadership and climate change adaptation.

Secondly, the project will build on an existing study to improve disaster preparedness in the country and specifically (i) promote good behavior in shelters to increase safety and operating management procedures; (ii) redesign Early Warning System (EWS) messaging and testing visual protocols to illustrate threat types; (iii) strengthening campaigns that refers to localized experiences; and (iv) strengthen EWS curricula at schools. For more information, please see: <https://bit.ly/2RuqBWM>.

### Building Physical and Fiscal Resilience of the Dominican Republic to Ensure Shared Prosperity

Since 2016, the Program has supported the Government of the Dominican Republic thru a project aiming at increasing its capacity to build physical and fiscal resilience to disasters by (i) promoting DRR policies in key sectors; (ii) supporting the Ministry of Finance in developing technical and institutional capacities in disaster risk financing, and (iii) targeting DRM policies and investments towards promoting shared prosperity.

Additional funding to the project was granted in November 2019, to maximize the roll-out and use of a disaster loss-assessment tool developed under the project. With the additional funds, data collection will be improved through the development of technical recommendations on how to systematically collect and use newly-acquired data to quantify economic losses associated with disasters into disaster risk planning. The additional funds will also help develop a virtual library to act as a repository of DRM information, and support trainings and workshops on how to use these new tools.

### Solomon Islands - Honiara Flood Risk Study and Management Plan

As a Pacific island state, the Solomon Islands are especially vulnerable to natural hazards, particularly from earthquakes, tropical cyclones, and flooding. The capital city of Honiara was severely affected by flooding in 2014 which affected up to 80 percent of the city's population. This led to a displacement of residents to informal settlements on flood-prone land, increasing the number of people at risk.

Since 2017, the Program is supporting the Government of the Solomon Islands with a study to investigate urban flood risk and provide quality information on how flood risk can be better managed and reduced in the Greater Honiara area, thereby strengthening the city's disaster preparedness and resilience to weather extremes.

In October 2019, additional funding approved to the project will allow storing the study's findings in a portal so that data can be easily shared with the government's specialized agencies (e.g. land use planning, emergency management, and infrastructure development) and by communities affected by flood risk. Training will also be provided to these groups on how to use and interpret the study's outputs.

## C - KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

### Côte d'Ivoire: Understanding Risk West and Central Africa

The ACP-EU NDRR Program co-financed the *UR West and Central Africa* conference<sup>3</sup>, which was held from 20 to 22 November 2019 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The conference theme was *Human Capital and Innovation for a Resilient Society* and was attended by 600 participants from 42 countries, including representation from all 33 West and Central African countries. The event was preceded by the *West Africa Coastal Areas* (WACA) market place<sup>4</sup> and followed by the *2<sup>nd</sup> African State of the Map* conference<sup>5</sup>, which provided opportunities for attendees to engage in these other gatherings. This collaboration brought around nearly 150 young leaders and innovators from the region to the conference and created many positive connections between these communities.

<sup>3</sup> This event was also co-financed by the EU-funded Africa Disaster Risk Financing (ADRF) Initiative. The ADRF Initiative is part of the ACP-EU cooperation program *Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa*. For more information, please see <https://www.preventionweb.net/resilient-africa/>.

<sup>4</sup> More information can be found here: <https://www.wacaprogram.org/article/waca-marketplace-1>

<sup>5</sup> More information can be found here: <https://2019.stateofthemap.africa/>



**UR West and Central Africa High level plenary on youth and digital skills. Source: World Bank**

The event included 10 workshops, 10 ignite presentations, 4 plenaries, 20 technical sessions, 3 side events, 3 high level site visits and 2 social events. Approximately 130 speakers participated in the conference, of which 30 percent were women and 60 percent were from the West and Central Africa region. Some of the highlights of the sessions included:

- High-level site visit, organized in collaboration with the Ivorian Ministry of Sanitation to the new landfill and transfer stations, including sharing of experiences on Public-Private Partnership arrangements for solid waste management;
- High-level plenary on Youth and Digital Skills Towards a Resilient Society;
- Third Meeting of the Open Cities cohorts;

- Highly interactive Disaster Risk Financing plenary;
- Private-public-civil society exchanges on private capital mobilization for solid waste management session in Africa;
- Knowledge exchange and regional experience sharing on flood risk analysis and early warning systems in multiple sessions;
- Discussion on building public-private partnerships for hydromet services in Africa;
- Young entrepreneurs and leading international firms (e.g. Google, Facebook, Mapillary, etc.) exchange on innovation and technologies (e.g. remote sensing, drones, artificial intelligence, machine learning, 3D camera, etc.) for mapping, urban services and resilience in multiple sessions.

The full agenda and summary of the *UR West and Central Africa* conference can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/389oKNW>. A video was developed featuring footage from the event, including plenaries, side events, and interviews with participants and speakers. The video is available at <https://youtu.be/c5iJZfL5Epg>

## D – POST DISASTER RESPONSE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### Rapid Assessment and Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF) in Mali

Following devastating floods in May 2019 in Bamako, Mali, which affected several parts of the capital city, the the Government of Mali requested support to undertake a Rapid Assessment and DRF to foster effective recovery planning. Meetings were held with sectoral teams designated by the Ministries of affected sectors to share the findings and recommendations from the rapid assessment report, including for housing, water and sanitation, transport, education, health, environment and DRR, as well as with the Bamako municipal authorities. In addition, a workshop was organized on 25 September 2019 with stakeholders from the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection to discuss options for recovery. During this workshop, the government decided on the prioritization criteria for recovery programs and sectors, and confirmed the strategic direction set forth in the rapid assessment report and the institutional mechanism that would be co-lead by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection.

Recommendations for future actions included preparing and implementing a national DRR policy integrating recovery and the four Sendai priorities. New financing initiatives were also proposed, such as establishing contingency funds and recovery funds with flexible arrangements, mobilizing additional sources of internal and external funding, and accelerating mobilization and disbursement procedures in case of disaster response and recovery. At the institutional level, suggestions included improvements to the Inter-ministerial Committee framework for disaster prevention and response; providing the national platform with an operating budget, and continuing to decentralize national platform bodies at the regional and national levels.

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[www.drrinacp.org](http://www.drrinacp.org)

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Participants during the PDNA and DRF training in Bamako, Mali in October 2019. Source: World Bank

**A training on PDNA and DRF approaches** took place in Bamako, Mali from 2 to 4 October 2019. The training was delivered to 38 participants representing different sectors including civil protection, health, education, transportation, water facilities, the environment, agriculture, statistical analysis, urban development, and civil society. The training's main objective was to familiarize the participants with PDNA and DRF methodologies and concepts such as the economic impact of disasters, how to design a DRF framework and recovery strategy, and the contingency planning process.

Participants recommended that an additional workshop be held four months after the first to review the PDNA and DRF content and ensure the mobilization of all relevant sectors for the effective implementation of Mali's Post-Disaster Recovery Framework.

## E - RESULT AREA 2 OF THE “BUILDING DISASTER RESILIENCE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA” (R2)

### Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

The **8th Central Africa Platform and the 4th Central Africa Ministerial Conference on DRR** were held from 30 September to 4 October 2019 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). These events gathered approximately 90 participants, including national DRR, Climate Change and Meteorology focal points, Government representatives, Parliamentarians from the Parliamentary Network for Disaster Resilience in Central Africa (*in French, Réseau des parlementaires pour la Résilience aux catastrophes* REPARC), Civil Society Organizations including Women's and Youth Groups, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Democratic Republic of Congo National Health representatives, the European Union Delegation and ECCAS representatives.

The 8th Central Africa Platform was an opportunity to review progress made in the implementation of the commitments taken during the 7th Central Africa DRR Platform in Burundi in January 2019. Also, specific sessions were organized focusing on targeted regional issues, including an update on the management of the Ebola crisis in the region, a discussion on disaster risk financing in the region, as well as REPARC's 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

In the presence of 4 ministers in charge of DRM (from DRC, Congo, Burundi and the Central African Republic) and ministerial representatives from the other member states, the 4<sup>th</sup> ministerial conference approved the recommendations of the 8<sup>th</sup> platform, which included (i) the elaboration of contingency plans for Rwanda and the DRC for the management of volcanic hazards; (ii) the establishment of a funding mechanism for each ECCAS member state for emergency response in the event of disasters (iii) the inclusion of the gender dynamic in DRR activities within all ECCAS member states, (iv) the integration of DRM in academic curricula and (v) the





reiterated importance of the role of the REPARC Network of DRR for the ECCAS region. In parallel with the events in Kinshasa, a **first consultation workshop for on the integration of gender in DRR in Central Africa** was held for ECCAS member states focal points. This activity was initiated in April 2019 with the support of a competitively recruited firm, Co-Water Sogema. The methodology and a draft summary of the study were presented by the firm with an overview of targets and timelines to complete the study.

### Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Experts and stakeholders from ECOWAS member states, regional organizations, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and development partners including the World Bank, met in Conakry, Guinea on 24-25 October 2019, to draft a **regional flood management strategy for West Africa**. A working group of 20 experts reviewed the first draft of this ambitious strategy that would eventually become a policy document guiding member states on flood mitigation, coordinating regional initiatives and effective response to floods in the region.

This working group was followed by the **13th regional meeting of the directors of national hydrological and meteorological (hydromet) services** from 30 October to 1 November 2019 in Monrovia, Liberia. During this annual meeting, which is a joint initiative of ECOWAS and the WMO, participants discussed issues of regional importance for a closer coordination of hydromet services, with a focus on quality management and data exchange in West Africa. The meeting covered the first draft of the report for the ECOWAS Hydromet Initiative as a regional initiative to promote investments for strengthening national hydromet services and early warning mechanisms. This initiative will be presented to the regional meeting in February 2020 in Dakar and launched at the second ECOWAS Hydromet Forum in April 2020. The meeting gathered 56 participants, including 5 women.

ECOWAS and the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) jointly worked with the AGRHYMET Regional Center on designing training programs and policy briefs for flood management from 14 to 18 November in Niamey, Niger.



(Left) Opening of the 13th meeting of the directors of national hydrological and meteorological services in Monrovia. (Right) Expert meeting on ECOWAS flood management strategy in Conakry. Source: World Bank

As part of the support provided to member states, ECOWAS organized a **training on emergency preparedness and response in Cotonou, Benin** on 20-22 November 2019. The training focused on strengthening the operational capacity of various actors for prevention, preparedness and response to emergencies and helped with the update of the national contingency plans. The training was attended by 50 participants, including 7 women.



Opening of the disaster preparedness training in Cotonou, Benin. Source: World Bank



### Southern African Development Community (SADC)

Building on the climate and weather projections highlighted by the **23<sup>rd</sup> South African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-23)**, the SADC Secretariat conducted the **2019/2020 Pre-season Disaster Preparedness, Response and Early Actions Planning Workshop** in Maputo, Mozambique, from November 12 to 14, 2019.

**SARCOF-23** was an opportunity to ensure all SADC member states were weather-ready and climate-smart throughout the creation and dissemination of the consensus regional rainfall outlook for the upcoming season of 2019/20. This was conducted in a two-phased process, the Climate Expert Meeting (pre-SARCOF) on 19-27 August 2019 and SARCOF-23 on 28-30 August 2019, both held in Luanda, Angola. The meeting provided climate information vital for socio-economic sectors such as agriculture, health, water infrastructure, transportation and energy, which are all key to SADC industrialization strategic goals and investments.

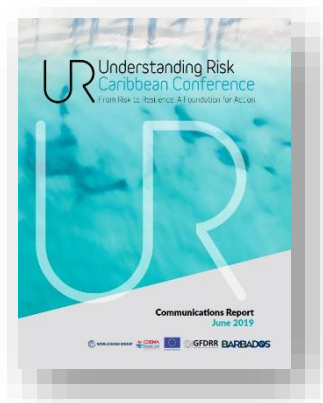
The **workshop on SADC Disaster Preparedness, Response and Early Warning Actions Planning** was held in advance of the 2019-2020 lean season and flood/cyclone season on 12-14 November 2019 in Maputo, Mozambique. A series of interactive presentations and discussions were held to promote knowledge, information, and experience sharing. Member states shared tools, actions, strategic and impact-driven actions as lessons to develop contingency scenarios and planning for drought, floods, and epidemics (affecting crops, livestock, and people). Participants were also able to discuss coordination and monitoring for tracking seasonal developments at regional and national levels, as well as review draft multi-sectoral and multi-hazard contingency plans.

## F – RECENTLY PUBLISHED

### Proceedings and blog post on the Understanding Risk Caribbean Conference

On 27 to 31 May 2019, the Government of Barbados, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and the EU, in partnership with the World Bank/GFDRR organized the *Understanding Risk Caribbean Conference*. The conference gathered over 500 delegates from more than 20 Caribbean countries and was co-financed by the ACP-EU NDRR Program. The Proceedings of the conference can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2G43bCe>.

In addition, a blog post was also published, which mentions the conference and the ACP-EU NDRR program, and can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/38m8Yza>.



### Understanding Risk West and Central Africa video

A video was developed featuring footage from the Understanding Risk event in Abidjan which was co-funded by the ACP-EU NDRR Program (see Section C), including plenaries, side events, and interviews with participants and speakers. The video is available at <https://youtu.be/c5iJZfL5Epg>



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### Africa Disaster Risk Financing (ADRF) Activity Report 2018-2019

The report gives an overview of the ADRF Initiative's achievements. Some of the period's highlights include completed national risk profiles for 8 countries, continued operation of the **Open Cities Africa** regional knowledge sharing initiative and supporting the organization of the RIFT 2018- Regional Seismic Risk and Resilience Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya. The report can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/38m7PYq>

