

# Designing the scope of DFID's WISER programme

Department for International Development (DFID)

## Challenge

Availability and uptake of weather and climate information and services is still relatively low in Africa, representing a threat to social and economic development. DFID recognised the lack of any large-scale Africa-focussed initiatives to comprehensively address the barriers preventing an increasing uptake of weather and climate services. Growing consensus that the lack of a holistic approach lay behind the lack of progress led to DFID considering a new, innovative intervention; Weather and climate Information and SERvices for Africa (WISER).

## Solution

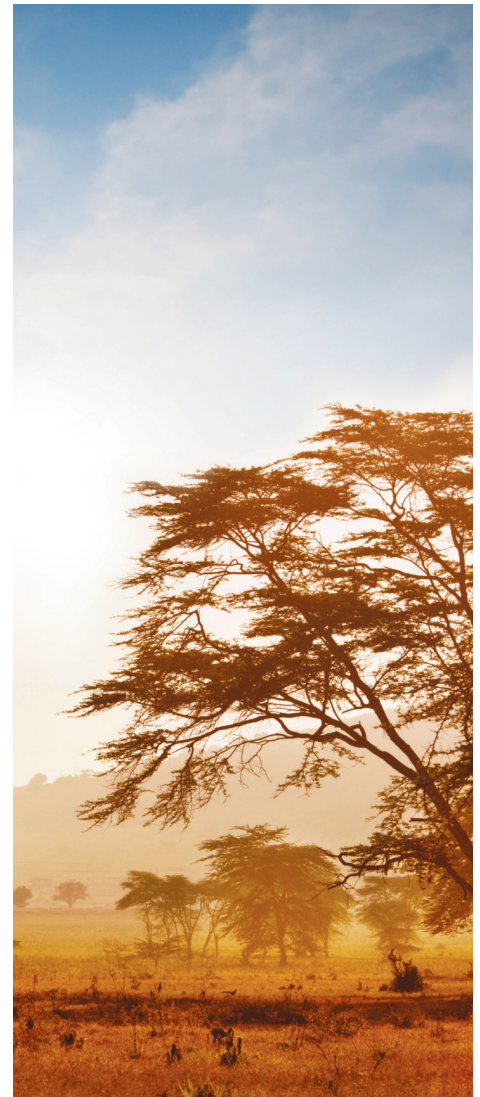
WISER aims to improve the quality, analysis, packaging, availability, dissemination and evaluation of climate information and services across Africa, and to support the uptake and use of this information in decision-making.

In November 2014, DFID asked a Met Office-led team to scope, analyse options and support the design of the WISER programme. The team included weather and climate experts from the UK and Africa, as well as representatives from the World Meteorological Organization and experts in climate communications and development.

After identifying thematic areas, a joint analysis of options for intervention was carried out by DFID and the scoping team. This led to the recommendation of a two-part initial programme to be carried out over a four-year period – a regional programme and a pan-African programme.

## Benefits

The implementation of the Phase 1 programme started in early 2016. The hypothesis for change is that an improved enabling environment and governance, combined with the co-production of climate information, will lead to the development of more reliable, tailored and accessible services. These will be based on better data, information and knowledge which will in turn lead to greater uptake and use to inform decision-making at community, regional and national levels. An increase in the use of weather and climate information in policy-making and planning will support sustainable development and increased resilience in Africa.



Supporting



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