

# Project Summary

## Somalia and South Sudan

### Introduction

The purpose of this project was to reduce the impact of weather and climate shocks in Somalia and South Sudan through enhanced provision of weather and climate information services to priority sectors.

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### **Identification of Priority Users**

CARE in Somalia and UNEP in South Sudan conducted meetings and consultative workshops to map the stakeholder landscape in weather and climate information services (WCIS) and identify priority sectors, institutions and key actors. In Somalia, CARE engaged more than 40 users, producers, and intermediaries from over 20 government, NGOs, UN agencies, cooperatives, private sector and communities. This helped to set out the WCIS landscape through the identification of priority sectors, users and their needs. CARE-Somalia were also instrumental in the establishment of the Inter-ministerial Meteorological Working Group (IMMWG).

Similarly, in South Sudan, UNEP engaged more than 200 individuals drawn from relevant line ministries, UN Agencies, national and international NGOs, civil society, to identify WCIS needs, use, and delivery at national and sub-national levels.

### **Training for NMHS Personnel**

A range of training was conducted to enhance the production and communication of seasonal forecasts for both countries. The Met Office delivered substantial training in underpinning climate and prediction skills as well as in tailoring of seasonal predictions for user services in Somalia and South Sudan. These workshops covered foundational training in seasonal prediction, training on tools and facilities available at ICPAC for generating national-level forecasts, and tailoring forecasts for customized user services. In addition to the ICPAC detachments of Somali and South Sudanese, a total of 14 staff were trained: 7 from the South Sudan Meteorological Department (SSMD) and 7 from personnel in the climate units of 4 Somali Ministries (Agriculture, Civil Aviation, Water and Energy, Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management - Somalia has no centralised NMHS).

In collaboration with ICPAC, IRI also conducted multiple training activities to build the capacities of personnel from Somalia and South Sudan on IRI's Climate Data Tool (CDT) development and use of ENACTS maprooms and seasonal forecasting. Stakeholders in Somalia and South Sudan were also capacitated to understand, navigate and use ENACTS maprooms. With remote support by IRI, ICPAC has created ENACTS maprooms that incorporate an array of climate information and products on the past, present, and future, including application-specific products. User guides and manuals have also been developed to help with the exploitation of the Somalia and South Sudan maprooms.

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### **National Climate Outlook Forums**

The project gave a strong priority to implementation of the first National Climate Outlook Forums (NCOFs) in Somalia and South Sudan, bringing together climate producers, users, decision makers and other actors to increase understanding, interpretation, use and the uptake of weather

and climate information at a national level. To lay the foundation for the establishment of NCOFs, CARE, supported by ICPAC, Met Office and partners on the ground, led the development of the National Climate Outlook Forum Guides for both countries. The guides detail processes and mechanisms for structured NCOFs for production, delivery, and mainstreaming coproduced CIS to enhance community resilience. CARE and the climate taskforce seconded at ICPAC, with guidance from Met Office and ICPAC, implemented the first ever National Climate Outlook Forums for March-April May 2021 rainfall season in Somalia and South Sudan. To enhance delivery of CIS, CARE and ICPAC conducted two Seasonal Media Action Plan (S-MAP) workshops shortly after the NCOFs to train journalists from several media houses in each country. In South Sudan, a WhatsApp group created by SSMD (in previous UNEP-led activities) was used to share various climate products with media houses and the public at large.

### **Conclusion**

The project has been able to achieve a step-change in contributing to a reduction in the impact of weather and climate shocks of both countries through the provision and application of risk mitigation measures and management strategies resulting from the successful development of National Climate Outlooks Forum, and the partnerships which will support the dissemination of forecasts and advisories.

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