



WISER newsletter - January 2019



Welcome!

Welcome to the second issue of our WISER newsletter. We hope you will find this interesting and that it will keep you informed of the work the WISER programme is undertaking. If any colleagues would also be interested in receiving this newsletter, do ask them to subscribe by [emailing us](#).

You can also keep up to date by viewing the Met Office and ACPC web pages, joining our LinkedIn group and following our Twitter hashtag [#UKaidWISER](#).

WISER East Africa



Weather Wise formative research

BBC Media Action and NECJOGHA (Network of Climate Journalists of the Greater Horn of Africa) are working together on the WISER [Weather Wise](#) project, which aims to improve access and knowledge of climate and weather information amongst target audiences living in Northern Kenya, around the Lake Victoria shores of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, and the coastal strip of Kenya.

BBC Media Action have undertaken a formative research study into the users of weather and climate information, in order to better understand the needs of those users and the challenges they face accessing weather and climate information. Their report includes a number of audience profiles and an overview of the information gathered, and you can view the report [here](#).



DC perspectives: Looking beyond programme approaches on Weather and Climate Information Services

In November, USAID, the WMO and the World Bank convened practitioners at the [Moving Climate Information Services Forward](#) workshop to assess the tools and learnings of a two year programme supported by USAID to build capacity of national meteorological and hydrological services across Sub Saharan Africa.

DARAJA Project Director, Mark Harvey, presented WISER guiding principles and emerging project learnings that are featured in a Resurgence blog piece [here](#).

WISER PEEC



Climate Research for Development (CR4D) call for research proposals



Gender engagement in CIS

Over the next year, CR4D will support 15 climate research projects on priority topics identified by the CR4D scientific advisory committee (SAC), with the aim of strengthening the utilisation of climate change research outcomes in development planning. The research will cover foundational climate science, impacts, information and research translation and engagement with policy and decision-making communities. The goal will be to produce research outputs that inform policy in climate sensitive sectors to better prepare Africa to deal with the impacts of climate change.

A call for research proposals was launched in January 2019 and aims to attract submissions from PhD holders who are seasoned in climate science research and are based in an African institution. Up to £1.5m is earmarked for the winning 15 research proposals.

Information on how to apply can be found [here](#).

In implementing the WISER interventions on CIS, ACPC noted the limited engagement of women in the production, uptake and use of CIS. Given existing gender inequalities, climate change ultimately places a greater burden on women than it does on men.

Gender inequalities exacerbate vulnerabilities to climate shocks and determine ways in which men and women experience, cope and are impacted by climate change. Failure to address gender perspectives is also likely to affect achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically goals 5 and 13.

In recognition of these challenges, ACPC, in collaboration with the [ECA's African Centre for Gender](#) and [ABANTU for Development](#), organised a two-day consultative workshop in December 2018 in Accra, Ghana. The event was attended by gender and climate change experts drawn from all sub-regions in Africa who deliberated on the foregoing issues and came up with a set of recommendations.

Some recommendations were to identify champions among women for involvement in CIS, use of religious or community leaders to disseminate CIS and promotion of women in media to cover climate change issues.



Regional Climate Centers best practices

In 2018, ACPC convened a series of workshops to identify best practices applied by Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) in Africa to produce consensus seasonal forecasts, organise Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs), undertake dissemination and seek feedback from end user communities. The events led to establishment of a knowledge exchange partnership among RCCs, and culminated in a write-shop that gathered and assessed contributions from all RCCs, resulting in a best practices document for reference by RCCs and NMHSs to guide the organisation of RCOFs.

Other WISER news



Upcoming events

The 51st GHACOF takes place in Uganda next month, and WISER will be represented, so do keep an eye out for sessions relating to the WISER programme if you are attending.

We will also be taking part in the AMCOMET regional conference in February in Cairo, with the Met Office and ACPC involved in two side events. As well as providing an overview of the WISER programme to date at one session, we will also be using a side event to explore how ACPC's work on strategic plans during phase one of WISER led to the development of the phase two East Africa projects.

We look forward to seeing many of you at these events next month.



CDKN feature

The WISER programme featured on the CDKN website in December with an article from Bill Leathes, the WISER Technical Lead at the Met Office.

The feature looked back at some of the impact of phase one of the WISER East Africa programme, from increasing agricultural yields in Kenya to warning of severe weather in Tanzania. Read the full feature [here](#).

WISER knowledge and learning

The WISER knowledge management strategy has been developed to ensure that knowledge from the programme benefits other weather and climate projects and programmes.



WISER knowledge and learning

A large amount of knowledge has already been developed during phase one of the programme, and this is shared on the [Met Office](#) and [ACPC](#) webpages. Do take a look to see whether any of this information is relevant to your own work and keep checking back for new information.

The Weather and Climate Information Services for Africa (WISER) programme

Delivering transformational change in the quality, accessibility and use of weather and climate information services for sustainable development in Africa

WISER East Africa

WISER Policy & Enabling Environment Component (PEEC)

Focused on creating an enabling environment and stimulating demand for climate information service

Aimed at improving the quality and relevance of weather and climate information, and supporting its uptake and use across the East Africa region.

Fund Manager:



uptake and investments at the highest level of policy making.

Fund manager:



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