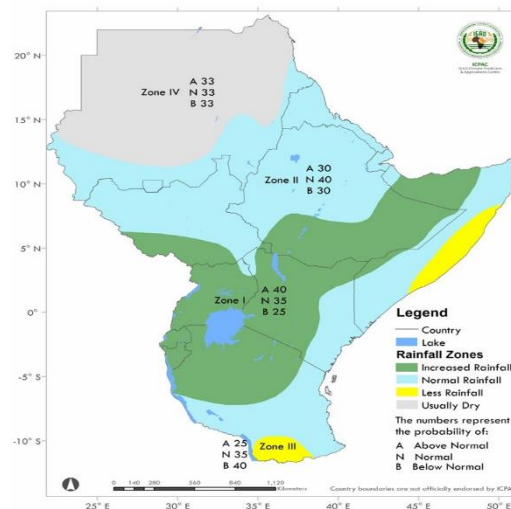


GHACOF 51 report

Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum

Introduction

GHACOF 51 was held on 11 - 12 February 2019 at the Imperial Golf View Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and partners to develop a regional consensus climate outlook for the March to May 2019 season over the GHA region. The GHA region comprises Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.



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Participants

Participants at the event included:

- National meteorological services
- Regional climate centres
- Sector representatives e.g. agriculture & food security, disaster risk management, media
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

WISER delivery and Fund Management teams were represented by the Met office. These included: Adam Curtis, Rebecca McCoy, Kirsty Richards, John Mungai, Dr Richard Graham and Andrew Colman (supporting ICPAC in the development/ generation of consensus forecast).

Overview of the event

Hon Songa Lawrence, Chairperson, Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change (PFCC), the Parliament of Uganda, officially opened the forum. The following also made remarks at the opening; Dr. Guleid Artan, Director IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC); Dr Justus Kabyemera, African Development Bank (AfDB) Representative; Dr. Festus Luboyera, Executive Director Uganda National Meteorological Authority; and Mr. John Mungai, WISER Coordinator, East Africa.

The forum reviewed the state of the global and regional climate systems and their implications on the March to May 2019 seasonal rainfall over the region. Among the principal factors taken into account were the observed and predicted sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the global oceans. Users from agriculture and food security, livestock, water resources, disaster risk management, health, conflict early warning, non-governmental organisations and development partners discussed the potential implications of the consensus climate outlook, and developed mitigation strategies for their respective countries and sectors. The consensus climate outlook for March – May 2019 is as shown above.

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WISER sessions

WISER national project in Uganda

The WISER programme was represented at the partnership session where the WISER national project for Uganda took centre stage. Ms. Jane Nakiranda of World Vision introduced the national WISER project for Uganda to the regional audience. She explained the outputs so far and indicated the impact the project was having on the relationships between producers and users of climate information in Uganda. She indicated that the Climate Outlook for Oct – Dec 2018 had been translated into 35 local languages and climate champions had been trained to disseminate the information. This resulted in enhanced use of CIS in Uganda. She indicated that similar activities would continue for the MAM 2019 season and this would enhance resilience of the people to climate variability.

WISER W2-SIP project

A feedback questionnaire was administered by CARE at GHACOF51 to evaluate the deliverables of W2-SIP. The questionnaire was based on the log frame. W2-SIP will be reporting on the results in their Quarterly report, but initial reports are encouraging. CARE also facilitated validation and opportunities for scoping and actor mapping at GHACOF51.

WISER TRANSFORM project

Transform conducted a dialogue on co-production during GHACOF51. Some of the topics discussed include perceptions of co-production, the value of co-production and barriers to use of co-production. The session was extremely interactive and useful to the participants across the CIS spectrum.

ACPC

In a post GHACOF 51 event held on 14th – 15th February, members of the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Institutional Collaboration Platform (ICP) unanimously adopted the CR4D five-year strategic plan. The participants further

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resolved to implement the strategy that emphasises three climate research priority areas of science, practice and policy, strategies to enhance uptake of climate research outcomes at policy level and resource mobilisation.

The 2018-2022 strategic plan further focuses on four structural goals aimed at improving research capacity in Africa as an ingredient for achieving sustainable development. The four goals are co-designed multi-disciplinary research for improving climate forecasting skills and reliability across temporal and spatial spaces, improved information service delivery, including information from observing systems, developed scientific and institutional capacity and provision of climate services and user interface platforms.

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