



**NETWORK OF CLIMATE JOURNALISTS OF THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA
TANZANIA CLIMATE CAFÉ REPORT**



1.0 Introduction

Under the Weather Wiser project, The Network of Climate Journalists of the Greater Horn of Africa (NECJOGHA) organized a national climate café in Tanzania on 19th July 2019 at the Landmark Hotel- Ubungu Dar Salaam. The overall aim of the climate café was to provide a platform for different stakeholders to have vibrant exchange of climate information as an early warning and decision making tool.

The cafe brought together various stakeholders in climate related sectors including climate scientists, the media, climate related sector experts including academia, farmers, fishermen, livestock keepers as end users of weather and climate information and energy sector experts for exchange of information. The cafe was attended by 70 participants.

Various issues which aim at bridging the gap between Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) and end users of weather and climate information were discussed. At the end, participants learnt a lot about the importance of weather and climate information as an important planning tool.



Figure: Participants during the climate cafe

2. 0 Organization and opening of the workshop

The cafe was organized by Network of Climate Journalists of the Greater Horn of Africa (NECJOGHA), Tanzania's Chapter. The cafe was coordinated by Mr. Mbaraka Islam, a member of the NECJOGHA and a climate champion in Tanzania. He gave the background to the national café and challenged everyone to realize the importance and prioritization of weather and climate information.

3. 0 Presentations

During the café, Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) representative (Wilberforce Kikwasi) made a presentation on their mandate as generators/source of climate information in the country. Wilberforce utilized the floor by assigning real life example to make a clear cut connection with climate science, taking a human body as replication of the entire process. The cafe addressed and discussed various issues of creating a bridge between Tanzania Meteorological Agency and end users of weather and climate information. At the end, participants learnt a lot about the importance of weather and climate information and the relevance of climate and weather information to vital sectors.



Figure 2: Wilberforce Kikwasi, a Senior Meteorologist from TMA, making his presentation.

Ms Monica Mutoni, TMA Communications Officer explained the relevance of climate and weather information to the vital sectors such as water, agriculture, mining, transport and sports thus affecting participants in one way or another,.



Figure 3: Monica Mutoni, A Communications Officer from TMA.

The café gave ample time for the participants to engage in direct discussions on how best they can cooperate in disseminating climate information. Journalists interfaced with climate information producers providing an opportunity for coproduction of weather and climate information.

Farmers had time to engage with the agricultural officers on improving climate services. Livestock farmers managed to get answers from livestock officers during the climate cafe.

The climate café was very vibrant as there were short spells of quiz on the weather and climate information.

Dunstan Laurian, a horticulturist based in Dar-es-Salaam, picked key points to take back at his farm.

"I have learnt something. Climate change issues will help me know about these things we talked about, what to plant and what not to plant through the seasons. So yes, the session has helped."

Safina Harun Msemu said she had acquired new knowledge relevant to her daily activities.

"As a Finance graduate, doing small-scale agriculture, I have connected what I need to do and need to know from this climate cafe, especially when and where, helping me in making decisive steps towards my watermelon farming."







6.0 Recommendation and way forward

During the café, participants made the following recommendations

1. This being the first ever climate café to be held in Tanzania, the need for other cafés to be organized in other parts of the country, outside Dar es Salaam was made
2. Need for funds for field stories on weather and climate information.
3. Continuous interaction among climate experts, communicators and actual end users of climate and weather information. This would benefit people engaged in various sectors. Journalists were requested to share as much climate information as possible through radios, TVs, Magazines and schools.