



WISER newsletter - April 2021



Welcome!

Welcome to the latest 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

WISER learning event

The 31 March 2021 brought the closure of all but one of the remaining WISER projects. As we reach this critical point, Fund Management wanted to bring all partners together to participate in an interactive Learning Event. The event was an opportunity for projects to gather, network and learn from each other, with a focus on celebrating their successes and drawing learning from project to programme as well as creating an opportunity for WISER partners to co-create recommendations that will influence the design of future Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS) programmes. Over 70 attendees from across all projects attended the event and there were lively debates and sharing of knowledge throughout the sessions.

The main learning event took place virtually between Monday 26 – Wednesday 28 April 2021, hosted by the TRANSFORM project. On Thursday 29 April 2021 there was an external learning session where recommendations from the event were discussed with donors and implementers of WCIS. The outputs of the event will include videos, briefing documents, guidance notes as well as an event report, and will be shared via WISER channels shortly.

Weather and climate information user personas

As part of the co-production resources available from WISER, we have started producing a series of weather and climate information user personas, designed to be a starting point for user engagement and co-production. The first personas we have produced are those for a **farmer**, a **fisherman** and a **journalist** in East Africa and they also include links to video case studies. Over the next few months, we will be developing this series further.



WISER
Weather and Climate Information Service for Africa

Profile: Weather and climate information user

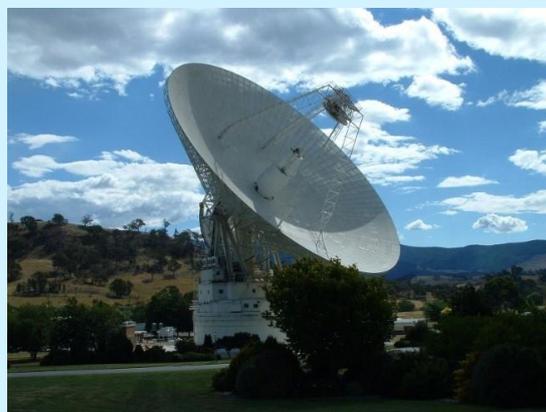
Name: Kabaale
Gender: Female
Occupation: Arable and livestock farmer
Location: Central Kenya

The image shows a profile card for a user named Kabaale, a female arable and livestock farmer from Central Kenya. It includes the WISER logo and a circular icon with a white lightning bolt on an orange background. To the right is a portrait of a woman wearing a blue patterned headscarf.

Socio-economic benefits

As we near the end of WISER, focus has been on consolidating the evidence to demonstrate progress towards the programme's impact indicators. WISER's first impact indicator has a target to achieve £190m of avoided losses through using climate information to inform decision making. To measure this critical result, we are taking a socio-economic benefit (SEB) approach and reviewing each project within WISER to understand their contribution. As shared during the WISER Learning Event, £150m of losses have already been realised, with the analysis of three East Africa projects remaining. We are optimistic that the target will be reached. Later in the year WISER will be publishing a summary of findings and recommendations on SEB to support future project and programme design.

WISER PEEC



ACPC launches consultations on the design of a regional CIS knowledge platform

Climate information services (CIS) stakeholders in Africa gathered in Saly, Senegal in 2017 where a roadmap for strengthening climate information services (CIS) coordination in Africa was produced. One of the four intervention areas in the roadmap is a 'Regional Knowledge Management Platform (KMP): A go-to place for information on who is doing what, Analysis and Decision Support for Action on Weather, Water and Climate Services in Africa', a decision support tool that can be used by donors, planners, practitioners, amongst others to plan their activities.

The platform will build on and complement existing ACPC, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and other regional initiatives such as WISER, BRACED and Future Climate for Africa (FCFA) work. A partnership of WMO, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD) is overseeing its implementation.

Recently, ACPC commissioned consultations with regional partners on the design of the platform, in preparation for its implementation. The KMP is expected to function as a tool to enhance the enabling environment for uptake and use of weather and CIS, to support sustainable development and strengthen CIS coordination in region. The Saly workshop CIS coordination outcome document is available [here](#).

First cohort of CR4D researchers to present their research outcomes

Twenty-one postdoc researchers (12 females and 9 males) who received grants from the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) in 2019 are set to unveil the outcomes of their 18 months research work at an event scheduled for May 2021. These grantees were selected from 180 applicants through competitive, transparent, independent and objective research commissioning process with the aim of addressing climate change challenges in Africa.

The CR4D has been piloting a small but potentially scalable grant management facility in order to advance African climate knowledge frontiers for mainstreaming climate information into policy, practices and decision-making processes.

This first cycle of the CR4D research grants were financially supported by the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) through the WISER programme. Each grantee received up to £100,000.

The African Academy of Sciences (AAS) was selected through a competitive process to manage the WISER-funded research grants on behalf of the CR4D Secretariat while the CR4D secretariat focuses on managing the research processes through its various arms and partners. Further information on CR4D is available [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 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)

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:



Focused on creating an enabling environment and stimulating demand for climate information service uptake and investments at the highest level of policy making.

Fund manager:



Contact us

Email: [Met Office and ACPC](#)

Web: [Met Office and ACPC](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[#UKaidWISER](#)