



WISER newsletter - July 2019



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



High Impact Weather Lake System (HIGHWAY) project

The purpose of the HIGHWAY project, led by the World Meteorological Organization, is to deliver the provision of regular weather forecasts and severe weather warnings for fishing boats and small transport vessels on Lake Victoria.

A [video](#) is available providing an overview of the project and an article has also been published on the project's progress. Twice-daily weather forecasts are now being issued for the fishing community on Lake Victoria. Read more [here](#).

Weather Wise project

From 1-5 July 2019, BBC Media Action successfully held its 3rd residential training workshop in Tanga, Tanzania, bringing together journalists, climate and sector experts from Tanzania and the larger East African region with the aim of creating new partnerships and networks to co-produce high quality climate change content in media. This was done with the support of BBC Media Action's Tanzania office. BBC Media Action has now delivered three such workshops – with the first having been held in February 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya and the second in May 2019 in Entebbe, Uganda.



During the workshop, journalists were trained on climate information and how to accurately and responsibly report on climate science and climate change impacts. Climate and sector experts on the other hand, were trained on how to engage with the media as well as how to communicate weather and climate information to public audiences in a way they can understand and use that information to make decisions in their daily lives. By the end of the workshop, many lessons had been learnt:

"I found the workshop very insightful. I have learnt that I not only need to do stories highlighting the impact of climate change but that I need to go a step further (incorporating advice from experts) to provide my listeners with practical solutions they can easily apply to deal with the challenges brought about by climate change," Radio Journalist

“In the past, I was not very open to speaking to the media because I was afraid they would distort the information I gave them. I like that the workshop had interactive group sessions where both of us worked together to produce media content. I now feel more confident and ready to provide my advice whenever needed,” Agricultural Expert

The workshop was held in partnership with the Network of Climate Journalists of the Greater Horn of Africa (NECJOGHA) and Future Climate for Africa.

WISER PEEC



The WISER-funded Climate Research for Development (CR4D) research programme is now fully operational following the grant award to 21 young African scientists from Benin, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Namibia, Uganda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. These grantees were selected through a rigorous competitive process taking into consideration gender parity and geographical distribution. It is exciting to see that majority of these grantees are young African women who in the past were less interested or involved in science and climate disciplines.

This first cohort of 21 grantees, who will receive up to £100,000 each, is the beginning of a potentially scalable research grant management programme that will grow and enable Africa to develop a large pool of young scientists who are able to conduct research that can provide evidence to support development policy and planning for climate smart economy to ensure sustainability. They will conduct demand-driven research in the areas of foundation climate science, application and engagement with policy, development and decision communities in the next 18 months. These grants will help to fill important research gaps in the understanding of African climate unique challenges and opportunities that will help in developing adaptation and mitigation strategies and policies to reduce Africa's vulnerability to the vagaries of severe weather and extreme climate events. And, ultimately help address the dearth of African scientists in climate change and development.

Other WISER news

The WISER programme YouTube playlist contains a number of videos about the programme including an overview of WISER, interviews and a webinar on co-production.

View the playlist [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

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:



WISER Policy & Enabling Environment Component (PEEC)

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:



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