



## WISER newsletter - April 2020



### 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

#### ASPIRE project conclusion

The [ASPIRE](#) (Adaptive Social Protection: Information for enhanced REsilience) project successfully concluded in March 2020. The project has been running for the last three years and was a collaborative effort between the Met Office, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Walker Institute at the University of Reading, and consultants. The project has supported the World Bank Adaptive Social Protection Programme in the Sahel. ASPIRE aimed to integrate climate and livelihoods information into social protection programmes, enabling a move away from expensive post-disaster emergency aid towards anticipatory action. Social protection systems help individuals and families cope with crises and shocks. ASPIRE has raised awareness amongst climate and social protection

stakeholders in the Sahel of the importance of working collaboratively, combining respective knowledge to inform ASP systems. For further information, please take a look at the project summary [here](#) and an impact case study [here](#).

### Uganda national project conclusion

The [Uganda national project](#) has been working to improve the availability and relevance of weather and climate information in the country. The project was led by World Vision UK, working in partnership with the Met Office, OPM-NECOC (Office of the Prime Minister - National Emergency Co-ordination and Operations Centre), World Vision Uganda, the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and WIMEA-ICT (Improving East Africa's Weather Information Management through the application of suitable Information and Communications Technology, from Makerere University). You can learn more about some of the work of the project in our new impact case study [here](#).

### Technological advances

You may also be interested in another new impact case study on how the WISER East Africa programme has been [supporting technological development](#) to help improve weather and climate services. This work was highlighted further in a recent [press release](#) relating to the locust outbreak in Africa.

### User Infographic

The WISER programme is user-led, designed to ensure that the needs of the users of weather and climate information are at the forefront of the development and improvement of services. Our new infographic provides an overview of the different groups of people and organisations impacted by the work of the WISER programme. View the infographic [here](#).



### WISER PEEC



### **Training of Uganda MPs on Utilisation of Climate Information**

Under the auspices of WISER, the training of Uganda's Legislators and End-Users on use of Climate Information Services (CI/S) in development planning was conducted by the Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change-Uganda (PFCC-U) in partnership with the Parliament of Uganda and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The objective was to strengthen oversight of climate change planning, decision making and implementation of relevant interventions in Uganda and engaging with relevant stakeholders including the constituents, government institutions, the private sector, civil society organisations (CSOs), academia and development partners for updates on emerging climate change trends to inform Uganda's climate change and related legislation.

Outcomes of the training called for:

- Members of Parliament and other policy makers to prioritise funding for climate change including climate information services in the country;
- The Cabinet and line ministries to explore mechanisms for providing climate incentives and motivation on climate actions;
- Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) to develop climate and weather information services and predictability for the country;
- The Media to join UNMA weather forecasts WhatsApp Group to receive and disseminate forecasts; and



### **Climate Research for Development in Africa (CR4D) Research and its Application in Development**

Following the establishment of the CR4D governing bodies (i.e. the Oversight Board (OB), the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Institutional Collaboration Platform (ICP)), the ECA-ACPC partnered with the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and DFID under the WISER programme to implement and manage small but potentially scalable research grant mechanisms. Consequently, the CR4D initiative has matured to a level where it granted the first cohort of 21 post-doctoral research grantees from Benin, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Madagascar, Namibia, Uganda, Kenya, Senegal and Zimbabwe in June 2019 under the foundational climate science, climate change impacts and policy/advocacy knowledge frontiers.

Through its research programme, CR4D is mobilising African climate researchers around a unified climate research agenda to address priority needs of policy makers and vulnerable communities in Africa; and building the capacity of African climate scientists through cross-regional exchanges, fellowship and secondments.

At the recent 6th Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, CR4D hosted a side-event where three researchers who received grants shared the findings emerging from their research on the health impacts of climate change, alternative ammonium nitrate production techniques to reduce emissions, and down-scaling of climate data to inform southern Africa specific climate modelling.

- End-Users and stakeholders (academia, researchers and climate change practitioners) to build capacities of young people in climate science for sustainability.

### 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:**



### Contact us

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