

CONTENTS

Disaster risk and climate change in Africa	1
Peer learning in drought risk management	2
Managing vulnerability in urban Nigeria	3
Community-based flood risk strategies in Tanzania	4
What can communities do to reduce disaster risk in Botswana?	5
Using indigenous knowledge to predict rainfall in Kenya	6
Letters to the editor	7
Managing disaster risk in Mozambique through the media	8

About Joto Afrika

Joto Afrika is a series of printed briefings and online resources about adapting to climate change in sub-Saharan Africa. The series will help people understand the issues, constraints and opportunities that poor people face in adapting to climate change and escaping poverty.

Joto Afrika is Swahili; it can be loosely translated to mean 'Africa is feeling the heat'. Future issues will focus on: forestry and REDD; climate change and human health; and climate change and pastoralists.

Please tell us what you think about this third issue of *Joto Afrika* and what you would like to read about in future issues – contact details are on **page 8**.



Community members caught up in floods in Saretho area, Garissa, near Dadaab in Kenya.
© Susan Mwangi, 2008

Disaster risk and climate change in Africa

Editorial

Disaster risk and climate change – two of the greatest challenges currently facing humankind – adversely reinforce each other. In the coming decades, climate change is expected to increase the frequency and intensity of natural disasters such as droughts and floods. Climate change is also likely to increase people's vulnerability to already existing hazards in developing countries.

This is largely due to:

- socio-economic stresses
- ageing and inadequate physical infrastructure
- weak education and preparedness for disasters
- insufficient financial resources to carefully implement the preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery components of integrated disaster management.

Climate change – and the likely increase in related hazardous events – threatens to block people's efforts to escape poverty in Africa. Any increase in the number and scale of disasters will threaten development gains and hinder efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

Challenges for Africa

For African countries, climate-related risks come not only from direct exposure to natural hazards such as floods or droughts, but also from the vulnerability of social and economic systems to the effects of these hazards. Climate change is expected to intensify existing problems and create new combinations of risks, given the existing widespread poverty and dependence on the natural environment. Areas of particular concern include communities with vulnerable livelihoods; food and environmental insecurity; HIV and AIDS; gender inequalities; weak security and governance; the lack of infrastructure and education; and the lack of access to appropriate resources and capacities to deal with disasters.

Disaster risk management requires urgent action to reduce the impacts of extreme

events before, during and after they occur. A holistic management approach must include technical preventive measures, especially in the areas of infrastructure development, and aspects of socio-economic development designed to reduce human vulnerability to hazards, such as increased income and the diversification of livelihoods. It should also take into account indigenous knowledge. At the same time, the management of climate change impacts must consider how to reduce human vulnerability to changing levels of disaster risk.

Adaptation efforts must be prioritised in communities with the highest vulnerability and the greatest need for safety and resilience. It is at this level that lives and livelihoods can be protected, development promoted, and safety and resilience built.

Capacity building and capacity development are among the most urgent requirements for addressing climate risk, particularly at local levels. Developing the ability of communities to understand climate risk issues, effectively use available information, develop the necessary institutions and networks, and plan and build appropriate adaptation actions is essential for effective adaptation. Communities must also evaluate, and monitor these to learn from experience.

Education is crucial. Reducing risk and vulnerability to disasters requires people to understand how they can best protect themselves, their property and their livelihoods. Education provides a way for African communities to communicate with each other about risks and climate change, to motivate each other to adapt and respond, and to engage others in their efforts. Awareness of risks and learning about risks and dangers needs to start in early education, continuing through to adult education programmes about disasters and climate change.

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Peer learning in drought risk management

Case study

Practitioners from Ethiopia, Mozambique and Zambia visit a DRM project site in Mwingi District, Kenya, to learn from their Kenyan counterparts' drought-coping experiences. © UNDP DDC

Drought is one of the most serious natural disasters in Africa, in terms of its geographical range and socio-economic and environmental impacts. For example, drought causes severe shortfalls in agricultural production, contributing to long-term food and nutritional insecurity in many parts of the continent. Climate change has heightened the frequency and intensity of droughts.

Development practitioners and policy-makers are increasingly using drought risk management (DRM) as a systematic approach to reduce the adverse impacts of drought, through prevention, mitigation and preparedness.

African Drought Risk and Development Network

Numerous DRM initiatives exist in Africa, yet there are limited opportunities to share successful experiences, disseminate lessons and scale up innovative practices. In 2005, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) created the African Drought Risk and Development Network (ADDN). ADDN's aim is to provide a platform for exchanging information (such as innovative approaches, best practices and lessons learnt) to reduce the duplication of preventative actions

and to increase cost efficiency. ADDN now supports governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) engaged in DRM across Africa.

ADDN uses various approaches to get knowledge producers and users communicating and interacting:

- Regular **African Drought Adaptation Forums** bring together some 100 participants engaged in DRM at different levels; the last forum was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in September 2008. The next one is planned to take place in mid to late 2010.
- Monthly **ADDN e-newsletters** are circulated to more than 1500 interested governmental and non-governmental parties and individuals.
- **Online discussion forums** were established on an experimental basis in 2009, in collaboration with the USAID-supported **FRAMEweb** to respond to the increasing demand for sustained interaction, dialogue and reflection among those working in DRM.
- **Publications** draw on case studies, lessons, good practices, thematic information, policy approaches and community-scale knowledge provided by ADDN participants.

ADDN also facilitates exchange visits and study tours for members, to support the integration of innovative drought management options into actual policies and practices. In 2006, the network organised a study tour for Ethiopian parliamentarians to learn from Kenya's experiences in drylands development policy formulation and decentralised drought mitigation, preparedness and response mechanisms. Based on the tour, Ethiopian officials created a drought vulnerability map as a decision-support tool at both national and local levels.

ADDN is currently piloting the expansion of networking and knowledge sharing between Africa and Asia. This is in response to the growing demand for information, and the commonality of drought risk and

Eight steps to integrating Drought Risk Management

Drawing from numerous case studies, the ADDN has developed an eight-step approach to integrating DRM into development planning and practices:

1. Establish a consortium of government, civil society and development partners, with a focus on drought, and a mandate to ensure sustainability and impact of development plans.
2. Develop a common but multi-dimensional understanding of how drought risk affects a society/economy.
3. Identify the livelihood options of people most at risk.
4. Improve early-warning systems and link to budgeted early-response mechanisms.
5. Establish land users' access rights to natural resources to ensure sustainable land management.
6. Integrate environmental risk management principles into national and local planning processes, linked to food security, water, livestock and disaster policies.
7. Develop a long-term strategy of investments to diversify the economy away from climate-dependent sectors.
8. Throughout all of the above steps, maintain networking and peer learning with other practitioners on what works, why and how.

management across the two regions. For example, UNDP has provided technical support to China's International Center for Drought Risk Reduction using knowledge resources from ADDN. This demonstrates the inter-regional transferability of DRM tools and technologies.

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See also

FRAMEweb network
<http://bit.ly/doqBCd>

Climate Change in the African Drylands: Options and Opportunities for Adaptation and Mitigation, UNDP/UNGCDD/UNEP, 2009 (PDF)
<http://bit.ly/aE92ce>

Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management – a Primer, UNDP Drylands Development Centre, 2009 (PDF)
<http://bit.ly/cVyjxa>



Managing vulnerability in urban Nigeria

Research summary

Houses in Bariga are built on stilts over Lagos Lagoon due to regular floods
© D. Simon, 2007

Climate change has increased the frequency and intensity of disasters in many parts of Africa, and urban areas are often badly affected. The scale of devastation to urban populations and economies highlights their particular vulnerability to climate change.

Climate change in Nigeria is causing greater variability in rainfall and temperatures. The country is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change on many levels, due to its geography, climate, vegetation, soils, economic structure, population, energy demands and agricultural activities. The situation is worsened by the degradation of the country's environment and natural resources.

Urban vulnerability in Nigeria is caused by humans and their actions. The country's urban population has grown between 2

and 5 per cent per year since the 1990s. This growth is adding several thousand people each year to cities and towns. The environmental problems associated with uncontrolled expansion and poor management have increased the vulnerability of these cities to major disasters.

Government response

In response to the upsurge in natural disasters, the Federal Government of Nigeria took the following actions:

- A National Disaster Response Plan serves as the policy guideline for managing disasters in Nigeria.
- A public sector agency, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), was created in 1999 to coordinate emergency management.
- 21 out of 36 states now have a NEMA office.
- Zonal offices serve as focal points for NEMA to reach out easily to states, local governments and communities within their zones.
- The Nigeriasat-1 satellite is used to gather data on environmental conditions and natural resources.

The government also established Disaster Response Units, a Nigerian Mission Control Centre (Cospas-Sarsat), Emergency Response Teams, and an Early Warning Unit that uses a geographic information system, a remote sensing laboratory and a data bank to predict climate events.

Recommendations

Successful adaptation to climate change in urban areas needs the participation of households and community organisations with the knowledge and capacity to act. It also requires the right knowledge, competencies and resources within local governments, and a willingness to work with lower-income groups. The Government should:

- study the vulnerability to climate change of each city in Nigeria, under the auspices of NEMA, and design appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures accordingly
- protect and enact appropriate legislation to back up the various environmental protection conventions it has signed
- ensure greater coordination among the different agencies involved with the environment at local levels, such as town planning authorities
- increase people's ability to respond and prepare for climate variability and disasters by providing seasonal forecasts
- provide longer-term climate prediction data to ensure that strategies to reduce vulnerability reflect the underlying climate trends.

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See also

'Urban Vulnerability to Climate Change and Natural Hazards in Nigeria', by A.S. Gbadegesin, F.B. Olorunfemi and U.A. Raheem, in *Coping with Global Environmental Change, Disasters and Security - Threats, Challenges, Vulnerabilities and Risks*, by H. Günter Brauch et al (Eds.), Hexagon Book Series, Vol. 5, Springer-Verlag, 2010

Climate Change, Urban Flooding and the Rights of the Urban Poor in Africa: Key Findings from Six African Cities, Action Aid International, London: Action Aid International, 2006 (PDF)
<http://bit.ly/cOPbmo>

National Emergency Management Agency
<http://bit.ly/co1jIU>



Community-based flood risk strategies in Tanzania

Research summary

Every year, rains cause serious flooding in some areas of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. © Riziki Shem Doe

Msimbazi Valley in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, floods yearly. Despite this frequent flooding, many people still live in the valley in makeshift settlements. This exposes them to life-threatening floods and flood-related health hazards such as cholera and dysentery.

Between 2005 and 2006, researchers from Ardhi University (the then University College of Lands and Architectural Studies of the University of Dar es Salaam) set up focus groups and interviews with residents and local officials to learn why people live in this flood-prone region. The respondents identified the following reasons: low-cost housing; residents' low level of education; the proximity to the centre of Dar es Salaam city; and easy access to unregulated farming and building plots.

Adaptive strategies

Msimbazi Valley residents have a wide range of community-based strategies to reduce flood risk, which may provide insights as to how climate change adaptation can be incorporated into flood management strategies. These include:

- temporarily relocating during floods to public institutions present in the neighbourhoods
- cleaning canals to release flood water into the Msimbazi River
- using local methods for communicating flood-warning information to others
- constructing houses with strong foundations to withstand floods, and building landfills along house walls to raise the level of walls and windows
- planting trees to prevent soil erosion.

However, these strategies are insufficiently robust to protect life, shelter and livelihoods against serious flooding. The researchers concluded that Msimbazi residents need to permanently relocate in order to protect their lives and property.

This is not easy. The limited financial resources and few or no alternative livelihood options in a new location are the main barriers to people moving to safer places. Msimbazi Valley residents will need convincing in order to move away from their hazardous homes.

When planning and implementing disaster risk reduction programmes, decision makers, leaders and activists must understand why people are compelled to live in disaster-prone areas, and the barriers that prevent them from permanently relocating. The researchers make recommendations for different groups involved in disaster risk reduction in Msimbazi Valley:

Policymakers

- Bring together stakeholders – residents, local government officials, the media, and NGOs – and develop programmes using a participatory approach that addresses disaster risks in the region.
- Establish and implement laws that prohibit more house construction in flood-prone areas, and ban the selling of land for house construction in high-risk areas.
- Provide incentives to residents who are willing to move, for example providing suitable plots for houses and the initial costs required to establish residence in the new area.
- Focus on raising awareness of flood risks and the need for relocation through community workshops and use of the media.

Non-governmental organisations and development partners

- Initiate public awareness programmes to educate residents about flood dangers and encourage relocation.

- Involve community leaders to help people acknowledge the limits of local adaptive strategies, and to encourage relocation to non-flood prone areas.
- Provide incentives and compensation to citizens willing to move, based on the investments they have made in their homes.
- Form early-warning groups with people who continue to reside permanently in the area.
- Provide training on flood-rescue skills, which are lacking in the community and could save lives.

Research institutes

- Investigate the involvement of the private sector in addressing flood vulnerability in Msimbazi Valley.
- Calculate the exact costs and benefits of relocating residents to other areas.

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Contribute to Joto Afrika

Do you want to tell people how your community is adapting to climate change? Are you involved in a programme, project or research that is helping people to find practical solutions to cope with the effects of climate change? We want your contributions for Joto Afrika!

We are looking for research work, community case studies, videos, audio clips and photo essays about climate change adaptation across sub-Saharan Africa. The case studies need to be short (no more than 600 words), easy to understand and provide practical information for other people facing these problems.

If you would like to contribute, please contact the editor at jotoafrica@alin.net. We welcome contributions in French and English.

See also

ProVention Consortium
<http://bit.ly/b8IHUK>

Risk RED
<http://bit.ly/bZy3g3>



What can communities do to reduce disaster risk in Botswana?

Research summary

A hut in Shadi Shadi, Botswana, destroyed by heavy rainfall. Community members rely on natural resources to build their huts but due to climate change, these resources have become depleted, making it difficult for community members to rebuild their houses. © Kgosietsile Maripe

Botswana is prone to many disasters: periodic droughts, floods and windstorms, veld fires, and animal- and human-related diseases. A landlocked country, it is also seriously affected by cross-border floods and diseases from South Africa, Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia. Many of these problems are increasing due to changes in the climate.

In response to the challenges presented by these disasters, the Government of Botswana developed a long-term vision towards prosperity for all citizens by 2016. Part of this vision aims to establish functional, efficient and effective risk-reduction systems against the various threats that have increased due to the ever-changing climate.

What must local authorities do?

The Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction recommends that nations and communities must integrate disaster risk reduction into development assistance frameworks and poverty reduction strategies. For example, hazard preparedness needs to be considered and incorporated into land-use planning and annual budgeting. This requires the involvement of local authorities, who have a variety of roles to play in coping with disasters and must be equipped with sufficient knowledge, skills and techniques to do this. These roles include:

- conducting vulnerability assessments
- developing contingency plans
- designing an institutional framework for risk reduction, preparedness and response
- establishing locally relevant early-warning systems and recovery mechanisms.

But disasters defy simple approaches. A government ministry cannot deal with disasters alone, because of the multiple factors involved. Top-down approaches to disaster management fail to address local needs, ignore the potential of indigenous resources and capacities, and increase people's vulnerability. The best way to reduce the risk of disasters is from the bottom up. Successful interventions depend on the readiness and involvement of locals – before, during and after a disaster.

Community approaches

A community-based approach ensures that appropriate and effective actions are taken during emergencies. These include setting up early-warning systems, managing evacuations and emergency operations, raising public awareness and stockpiling resources. Communities will need to be prepared to respond to floods, mobilise local relief materials such as food, kitchen utensils and blankets, activate a volunteer-response mechanism and keep community members informed.

Communities must participate in disaster risk reduction to reverse the worldwide trend of increased disasters, and greater losses from small- and medium-scale disasters. Recommendations to increase community resilience in Botswana include:

- Train, educate and raise awareness within the whole community to promote the benefits of collaboration and collective efforts to reduce risk.
- Identify the greatest hazards through a risk and resource mapping, which can then be used by local governments units for land-use planning.
- Create partnerships between communities, municipal and provincial government units; collaboration with and between local authorities is important to ground the preparedness concept firmly in local planning, as well as to gain technical and financial support for mitigation measures.
- Set up and train disaster action teams

to reduce the risk to community resources, which include livestock, food, land, vegetation, water sources, as well as the residents and business community in the locality.

To be successful, these processes should follow democratic ideals with defined roles and responsibilities for all members of the community.

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See also

'Natural Disasters and Development in Botswana: What can Communities do to Cushion Themselves Against the Adverse Effects of Floods?', by Kgosietsile Maripe and Tapologo Maundeni, 2009 (PDF)
<http://bit.ly/avBbSN>

Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, UNDP, 2008
<http://bit.ly/a6DIV7>



Using indigenous knowledge to predict rainfall in Kenya

Case study

One of the Nganyi's methods of forecasting weather is blowing into a pot and observing bubbles. © ICPAC

Many communities have no knowledge of current climate science about natural disasters. Instead, they rely on indigenous knowledge (IK) inherited from their ancestors to reduce risks and survive the effects of these hazards. Many climate scientists and disaster risk managers consider IK as outdated and at odds with modern-day science. Merging these information sources may improve climate risk management.

Researchers from the InterGovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), Kenya, are working with the Nganyi clan in Bunyore, western Kenya, to integrate IK into scientific climate forecasts for the local region. These forecasts are then used to enhance the resilience of communities vulnerable to climate change.

Predicting rainfall

The Nganyi clan is known for its powers in predicting rain. They have three shrines where, for over 100 years, they have worshipped and communicated with their ancestors and gods to monitor and predict rainfall. The clan have perfected this art by observing vegetation, trees, reptiles, birds and insects in the shrines. The surrounding communities depend more on weather advice from the Nganyi clan than from the meteorological department. The communities, who mostly farm maize, use the clan's information to make decisions, such as when to start preparing the land for planting. It has also been used in making decisions about whether or when to mix maize with beans and millet, to plant cassava and potatoes;

to send livestock to friends and relatives living near a lake, and to dry and store food for use during drought periods. Local communities even believe that the clan can make or stop rains, lightning and hailstorms, and give them a share of their harvest at the end of each season.

Using indigenous knowledge

The ICPAC research with the Nganyi clan has had many benefits:

- The information obtained is used to develop seasonal climate forecasts that incorporate both IK and modern-day science.
- These integrated seasonal forecasts are disseminated through provincial administration structures and age-old traditional structures.
- There is now a good level of trust between the IK providers and climate scientists, demonstrated through the free sharing of knowledge and information without suspicion.
- There is a growing acceptance and recognition of the role of IK among climate scientists.

The survey results were also used to start a capacity building programme in the community. This aims to strengthen local social structures to conserve IK, support the preservation and storage of food, and increase the participation of women and young people in post-project activities.

Recommendations

This case study demonstrates that IK can be used in climate predictions and be a powerful asset for disaster management. Further efforts should be made to integrate IK systems with modern science:

- It is important to conduct an intellectual property audit to protect the community's IK, and establish appropriate laws to safeguard intellectual property rights.
- Strong dissemination strategies are vital as many people complain that they do not receive weather-related information.
- Communities need to be empowered and encouraged to use their IK positively.
- IK should be incorporated into national development plans and school curriculums.
- It is important to establish IK databanks and networks to share lessons.

Ouma Gilbert

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See also

Watch a video documentary of indigenous knowledge from the Nganyi clan:
<http://bit.ly/bfkMm6>

Letters to the editor

We welcome your feedback on this third issue of *Joto Afrika*. Please send us your thoughts using the contact details on **page 8**. Please include your full contact address or email. A selection of letters will be printed in the fourth issue.



Dear Editor,

It is with pleasure that I received the second issue of *Joto Afrika*. Having read it thoroughly, I found it to be very informative and educational to the reader.

The article that I found most informative was the case study from Uganda, 'Adapting to changing rainfall patterns in Lukwanga'. This article communicates well how a farmer can go on changing activities as rainfall patterns keep on changing. I therefore appreciated the second issue of *Joto Afrika*.

Thank you,
Kirya George Willy
Nawansaso Kamuli,
Uganda

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your initiative to create awareness on climate change in Africa. I received the first issue and the magazine is quite useful, as it will curb a lot of ignorance in our society.

I look forward to receiving more copies of this magazine in future.

Yours,
Francis Wung Kum
Bamenda,
Cameroon

ALIN Videos

Watch various ALIN videos on climate change at <http://bit.ly/bJE1dG>. The videos show how various communities are adapting to climate change.

Join the *Joto Afrika* debate online

Joto Afrika Eldis Community Group:
<http://bit.ly/bM3ESo>

Joto Afrika Facebook Group:
<http://bit.ly/aMNLth>



Dear Editor,

Thinking comprehensively, I predict that the *Joto Afrika* series will be very educative. Readers will benefit a lot from its information and the series will enable them to deal with climate change adaptation at different levels, understanding and taking positive steps when faced with problems disastrous to humans.

I would like to read more about water resources, human health and pastoralists. I hope to pass the knowledge gained to my dear colleagues, who will do the same to help others. The information can work promptly, on and on down the road!!

Yours,
Abdoun P. Chande
Maheza, Tanga, **Tanzania**

From the Editor:
Thank you for your thoughts, Abdoun; we are planning issues on human health and pastoralism. Readers, please let us know what other issues you would like *Joto Afrika* to cover.

Dear Editor,

Thank you and the editorial team for the great information in the magazine. I heard about the magazine from my friends. I have studied Community Development and leadership and I also come from a developing country. This has made me realise that climate change and food security is one of the burning issues in Africa. *Joto Afrika* has addressed this in the first issue and from this information, people will be able to cope with these problems and alleviate poverty.

In my opinion, *Joto Afrika* is a great magazine which should be read carefully. Readers will become informed on issues around climate change.

With best regards,
Dejene Alemu
Ethiopia

Join the AfricaAdapt network

AfricaAdapt is an independent network in French and English, focused exclusively on Africa. The aim is to facilitate the flow of climate change adaptation knowledge for sustainable livelihoods between researchers, policymakers, civil society organisations, and communities who are vulnerable to climate variability and change across the continent.
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You can subscribe by sending an email to jotoafrica@alin.net. Please include your organisation and your full postal address. You can also subscribe and send feedback via SMS, to **+254717032322** and start with the word **Joto**.

Future issues will focus on: Forestry with a REDD component; pastoralists; gender; energy.

Please tell us what you think about this third issue of *Joto Afrika* and what you would like to read in the future issues – contact details are on **page 8**.



Managing disaster risk in Mozambique through the media

Case study

The cast of *Bravo do Zambeze* during a recording session. © Daniel Walter

The *Bravos do Zambeze* – meaning Zambezi Braves – project in Mozambique conveys information about disaster risk reduction through a high-quality radio drama and training for community radio journalists.

Radio continues to be the most accessible medium of communication in Mozambique, especially in rural areas where many people are illiterate and speak local African languages. According to the Scan ICT report produced by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the country's radio network covers approximately 60 to 70 percent of the population, while the national TV broadcaster serves only 15 to 17 percent of the population. Working with local radio for disaster awareness also means information can be localised to the community.

Bravos do Zambeze, a two-season drama split into 26 episodes, communicates information around natural disasters and strategies to reduce their devastating consequences. The story focuses on Jose, a village football team captain, and his girlfriend Suzanne. It is written in Portuguese and Sena, the main local language in the target area of the Zambezi floodplain.

In season one, Jose's village is hit by a terrible flood for which the community is totally unprepared. The episodes cover issues around displacement, what can happen if people are not prepared for disasters, and the importance of a community sticking together.

Season two deals with the rebuilding process and the importance of adapting to increasingly frequent and severe weather

events. The aim is to communicate specific information about longer-term disaster management and planning, including farming and building techniques that are more disaster resistant, and how to prepare an evacuation plan for future emergencies.

s of case studies among residents of Ndambuenda, a resettlement neighbourhood in Zambezia Province, where residents were forced to leave their home villages because of several flooding events over

The drama was produced by Community Media for Development (CMFD) Productions for the International Organisation for Migration's Disaster Risk Reduction Project, part of the United Nations' joint programme, 'Delivering as One in Mozambique'. CMFD conducted a series the past few years.

Respondents were asked to recount what happened during the floods, how they were affected, what they salvaged, how they felt now, and what they would do differently next time. The feedback informed the key themes in the drama.

Response

To evaluate the project's impact, CMFD held focus group discussions and conducted anonymous surveys with Mozambican listeners, radio presenters, and the community-based actors. Both focus group participants and actors felt they could identify with the characters, relating several of them to people they knew who had gone through similar situations. 'People who hear the drama will learn something, and will know how to help those who are in danger,' said one participant. Another said 'I [learned that] every time there is an emergency situation, we shouldn't wait around until it gets worse'. The feedback given indicates that the radio drama will help people affected by floods to cope with their situation and adapt to future floods.

Deborah Walter

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Training radio journalists

As part of the *Bravos do Zambeze* project, CMFD organised a five-day workshop with six community radio stations in the Zambezi River region. The aim was to encourage them to use the drama for discussion, take the message beyond the drama, and ensure that during an emergency they are prepared to provide much-needed information to communities.

The workshop included presentations from organisations working on disaster risk reduction in the area, as well as practical training on creating radio features. They were also given copies of *Bravos do Zambeze* to play on their stations, along with a guide booklet to help them develop call-in shows, talk shows and reports based on the drama.

See also

Scan ICT Mozambique
<http://bit.ly/bGvssX>

Joto Afrika is produced four times a year by ALIN in partnership with Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and AfricaAdapt. The series is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) through the IDS knowledge services and the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) research and capacity development programme, which is jointly funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and DFID.

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