Progress of the Southern Africa Development Community on the implementation of HFA and Africa Regional Strategy on DRR
Outline

- Overview of SADC
- Current Status of SADC Disaster Risk Management
- SADC Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Plan
- SADC Activities aligned with DRR
Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)
SADC Overview: History + Vision

- Founded in 1980 as SADCC with 9 countries, became a Development Community in 1992
- **Vision:**
  - “The SADC vision is one of a common future, within a regional community that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice; peace and security for the peoples of Southern Africa.”
Disaster management at sub-regional level was traditionally reactive.

Strategy had to be revised to align with the HFA and the ARSDRR.

The SADC Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Plan was produced in 2005-2006.

This SADC DRR Plan has since been sent out to Member States.

It is expected to be approved by the Ministerial Committee of the Organ this year.
Current Status of SADC DR Management

- Ministerial Committee of the Organ comprises:
  - Ministers of Foreign Affairs
  - Ministers of Defence
  - Ministers of State Security
  - Ministers of Public Safety

- Alongside these functions, there are other DRR-related functions comprising early warning, meteorology, hydrology, agriculture, health, among others
All SADC Member States have Disaster Management structures.

These national Disaster Management Structures undertake their national activities:
- Sometimes with assistance from international organizations.

The heads of the national Disaster Management Units, together with their technical experts, comprise the SADC Disaster Management Technical Committee (DMTC).
The SADC DMTC is scheduled to meet bi-annually to share experiences and exchange information, pre-season and mid-season. This has not always been possible due to financial constraints.
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The heads of the national Disaster Management Units, together with their technical experts, comprise the SADC Disaster Management Technical Unit.
On recommendation of the DMTC, the SADC Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Plan was produced in 2005-2006.

It basically aligns SADC DRR strategy with the HFA and the Africa Regional Strategy for DRR.

These similarities are highlighted in the indicative objectives and activities of the plan:
The indicative objectives and activities of the plan are:

- Strengthen governance, legal and institutional framework at all levels of DRR
- Facilitate identification, assessment and monitoring of disaster risks and support enhancement of EWS at all levels
- Promote usage and management of info & knowledge, innovation & education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels in the SADC region
- Ensure that disaster risk reduction becomes a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation
- Integration of preparedness and emergency response into disaster risk reduction interventions
Among others, the SADC DRR Strategic Plan recommends the setting up of a regional Disaster Management Unit. Due to delays in the approval, this has led to delays in the formalization of the structure at a regional level. There have also been talks between SADC and the EU, to assist with the establishment of the regional DMU.
While the Regional DM office is being formalized, an Officer for secondment is currently being selected.

A consultant has been selected to draft ToR for the Officer and the DM Structure

It is expected that by September the seconded officer will be at Secretariat to

- Build up the process of establishing regional DM structure
- Coordinate with national DMUs in the region
- Link the SADC DRR Plan with national and regional processes in alignment with HFA and ARSDRR
Several activities are already currently underway or planned which are in line with the HFA, ARSDRR and SADC DRRSP

These include the following:
SADC Activities aligned with DRR

  - Led to the SADC Declaration on Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development
  - Conference recognized the need for SADC region “to develop adaptation and mitigation measures and ... strengthen its early warning and disaster preparedness mechanisms”, and further that
  - “SADC must develop a comprehensive “Regional Social Protection mechanism to facilitate the achievement of MDGs...”
SADC Activities aligned with DRR

- SADC intends to establish a mechanism for operating a “Regional Food Reserve Facility” as an effective buffer for food supply in the region.
- A study was commissioned in 2006, study report produced in 2007, and in-country consultations with Member States carried out in 2008-2009.
SADC has several regional programmes and projects for coordinating activities related to DRR. These include, among others:

- Drought Monitoring Centre
- Water Programmes
- Agricultural Information Management System
- Natural Resources Management Programme
- Regional Remote Sensing Unit
- Regional Vulnerability Analysis and Assessment Program Management Unit

SADC has also worked with, and is continuing to work with International Organizations and ICP in DRR related matters.

These relevant programmes, projects, and activities will all function to provide technical capacity and initiatives for the implementation of the SADC DRR SP, in collaboration with the to-be-established Regional DMU.
Thank You