



AFRICA REGIONAL
PLATFORM FOR
DISASTER RISK
REDUCTION



NAMIBIA
21-24 OCTOBER
2024

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Early Warnings for All Multi-Stakeholder
Forum for Africa

Concept Note

Early Warnings for All Multi-Stakeholder Forum for Africa

Ninth Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Windhoek, Namibia
21 October 2024
9:00 – 18:00

Background

Africa is prone to various weather-related hazards, including floods, droughts, storms, and heatwaves. In recent years, the continent has experienced a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of weather- and climate-related disasters. These events have devastating impacts on communities, livelihoods, and infrastructure across the continent. Recognizing the urgent need to mitigate these risks and protect vulnerable populations, the concept of "Early Warnings for All" emerged as a proactive approach to disaster risk management in Africa. Early warning systems play a crucial role in mitigating disaster impacts, reducing vulnerability and increasing the resilience of communities to potential hazards. They provide timely and accurate information to individuals, communities, and decision-makers, enabling them to take appropriate actions before, during, and after a disaster. However, for an early warning system to be truly effective, it must be accessible and inclusive for all segments of society, leaving no one behind.

Globally, Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Multi-Stakeholder Forums (MSF) are opportunities to review key accomplishments, share skills, experience and expertise within the active network of Early Warning practitioners and institutions.

The 1st Africa EW4All Multi-Stakeholder Forum will be held on 21st October 2024, in Windhoek Namibia, on the sidelines of the [9th Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction](#). The proceedings of the Africa EW4All MSF will feed into the Global EW4All MSF that will take place in June 2025 in Geneva, on the sidelines of the Global Platform for DRR.

Recognizing the integral role of coordination and collaboration in ensuring inclusive, people-centered and end-to-end Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, the Africa EW4All Multi-Stakeholder Forum aims to bring together diverse actors and stakeholders from government institutions, UN and IGOs, and stakeholders from financial, academic, civil society, youth, persons with disabilities and the private sectors.

The EW4All MSF is a follow-up of the Multi-Hazard Early Warnings for All in Africa Action Plan 2023 – 2027 that was developed in response to the call of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The objective of the Action Plan is to bridge existing gaps and establish continent-wide early warning systems coverage by 2027 and build on ongoing regional early warning efforts and provide strategic direction for members and stakeholders in addressing weather, water, and climate service-related challenges and opportunities.

Objective



The 1st Africa Early EW4ALL MSF calls upon governments, regional organizations, meteorological agencies, disaster management authorities, civil society organizations, researchers, and development partners to collaboratively and holistically accelerate the adoption and implementation of Early Warning systems across the African continent. It urges stakeholders to commit to enhancing early warning systems in Africa by allocating resources, strengthening institutional capacities, promoting technology transfer, and fostering collaboration at all levels.

The Forum will focus on four main themes of the Early Warning value chain:

1. Inclusivity through an all-of-society approach
2. Science, policy, technology and innovation
3. Governance, policy and partnerships
4. Finance and resource mobilisation

Expected Outcomes:

The main outcomes of the Early Warnings for All Multi-Stakeholder Forum in Africa are to:

1. Accelerate the implementation of EW4All in African and African Action Plan and assess progress on early warning activities/initiatives on the continent
2. Share best practices, experiences, and lessons learned in early warning systems from different African countries and international partners;
3. Identify and address the challenges and gaps in early warning systems in Africa, including technological, institutional, and capacity-related issues;
4. Promote collaboration and partnerships among governments, meteorological agencies, disaster management authorities, civil society organizations, researchers, and development partners to enhance early warning systems; and
5. Mobilize resources needed to implement the roadmap and action plan developed for improving early warning systems at the national, regional, and continental levels in Africa, including strategies for capacity building, technology adoption, and data sharing.

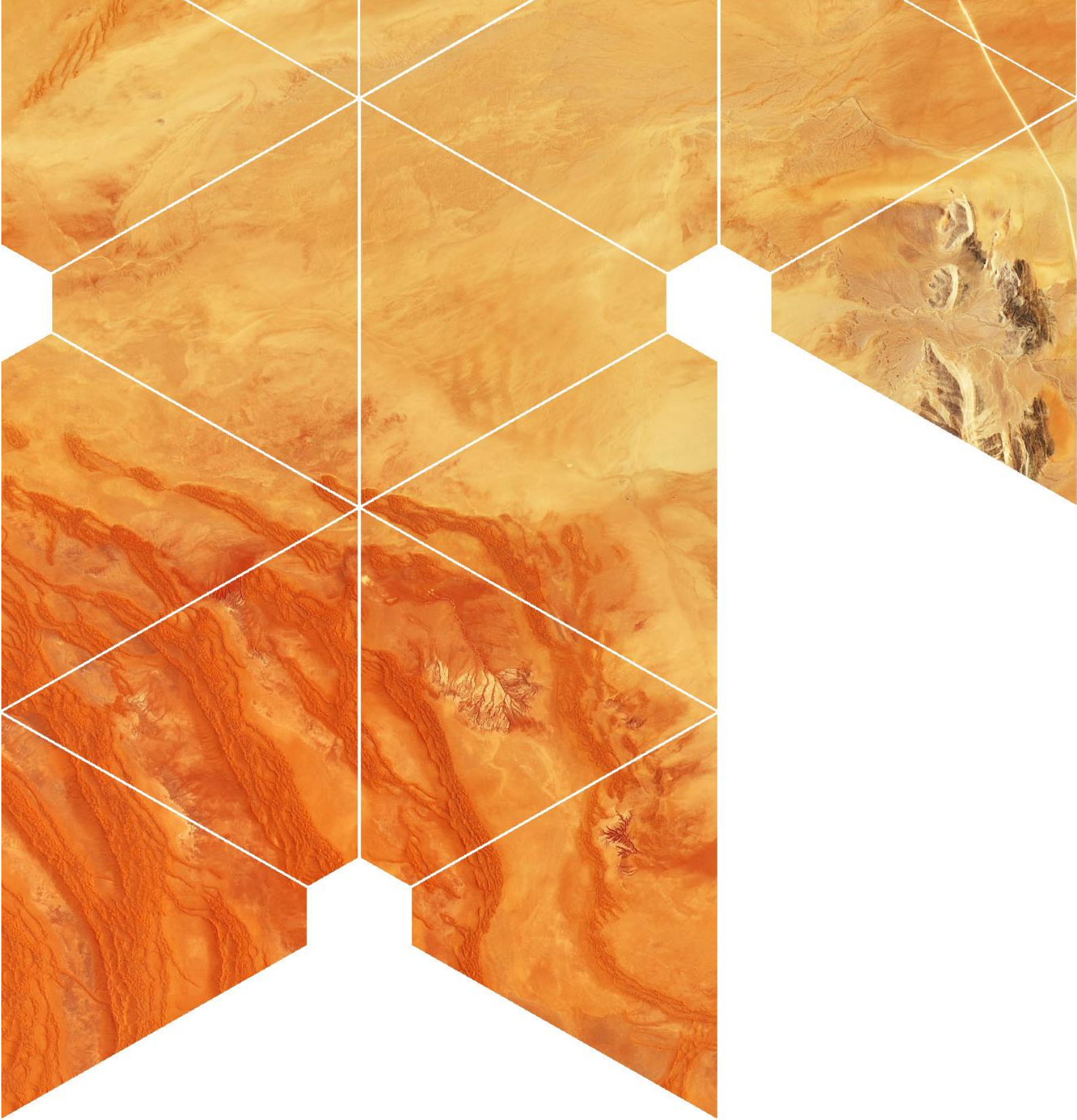


Agenda

Time	Topics
08:00-09:00	Registration and welcome
09:00-9:30	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kamal Kishore, Special Representative of UN Secretary General, UNDRR • Ms. Ko Barrett WMO, Deputy Secretary General, • H.E. Harnold Bundu Saffa, Ambassador, Chair of the PRC Subcommittee on Environmental Issues, AUC • Mr. Anderson Banda, Director, SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Coordination Centre • H. E. John Mutorwa - Deputy Prime Minister of Namibia <p>Moderator: Ms. Hellen Likando, Director of Directorate Disaster Risk Management, Office Prime Minister, Namibia</p>
09:30-10:30	<p>EW4ALL in Africa: State of play</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Harsen Nyambe, Director Sebe, African Union Commission, AUC 2. Dr. Agnes Lawrence Kijazi, Director, Regional Office for Africa, WMO 3. Mr Amjad Abbashar, Director Regional Office for Africa, UNDRR 4. Ms. Halima Letamo, ITU Area Representative for Southern Africa 5. Mr. Kopano Masilo – IFRC Head of Delegation, Pretoria, IFRC <p>Moderator: Mr. Marco Massabo and Ms. Phoebe Shikuku, UNDRR</p>
10:30-10:45	Tea Break

10:45 - 12:00	<p>Voice of Stakeholders on the impacts extreme weather events, and on inclusivity and collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mark Tadross - University of Cape Town South Africa - Academia • Ms. Nihan Erdogan, Deputy Regional Director for Operations IOM Regional Office for East and Southern Africa • Ms. Worship Councilor Queen Omagano Kamati Mayor of Windhoek - Namibia • Ms. Nelly Maonde, Start Network's DRF Coordinator for Zimbabwe/Start Fund Regional Advisor-E&SA • Mr Onengiyeofori Fyनेface, Africa Broadcasting Union • Ms. Adeyinka Badejo, Deputy Regional Director in Southern Africa, WFP <p>Moderator: Ms. Erica Allis (WMO)</p>
12:00 - 13:00	<p>Scaling up Early Warning and Early Action in Fragile, Conflict Affected and Violent Context: Handbook Launch and Panel Discussion on FCV context</p> <p>Keynote speakers and panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief of Branch (UNDRR) • Dr. Agnes Lawrence Kijazi, Director, Regional Office for Africa, WMO • Mr. Banak Joshua Dei Wal, Director-General of Disaster Management, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management, Republic of South Sudan • Ms. Brenda Lazarus, Food Security and Early Warning Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization • Mr. Katiellou Gaptia Lawan – Niger Meteorological Agency • Mr. Alain Mboko IYETI, Secretary General, Ministry of Humanitarian Action, (DRC) <p>Moderator: Mr. Muliro Mashauri (UNDRR)</p>
13:00-13:45	<p>Lunch Break</p>

13:45- 16:00	Breakout groups Ms. Lorraine Youds, Policy Coordinator, REAP Secretariat			
	Group 1 Science policy, Technology and Innovation Moderator: Mr. Ernest Afiesimama (WMO)	Group 2 Governance and Partnership Moderator: Ms. Viola Otieno (AUC)	Group 3 All-Society Approach Moderator: Mr. Muliro Mashauri (UNDRR)	Group 4 Funding and Resource Mobilization Moderator: Mr. John Harding (CREWS Secretariat)
16:00 – 16:45	Integrating Insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate discussion for integration of Group insights and collect additional inputs from the audience Moderator: Ms. Lorraine Youds, Policy Coordinator, REAP Secretariat			
16:45 – 17:45	From dialogue to commitment- scaling up EWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Harding, Chief of CREWS Secretariat, WMO Marcel Maglo, Principal Institutional Capacity Development Officer, AfDB Gatkuoth Kai, Regional Coordinator for Africa, Resilience Hub Africa, UNDP Paulo Tomas, Director of the Division for the Development of Arid and Simi-Arid Areas, INGD, Mozambique Mohammed Ibrahim, Head of Humanitarian Affairs and DRR, ECOWAS Moderator: Teresa Pinto, DRR Coordinator, African Union Commission (AUC)			
17:45 -18:00	Closing session Closing remarks from key stakeholders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Harsen Nyambe, Director, Sebe, African Union Commission, AUC Dr. Agnes Lawrence Kijazi, Director, Regional Office for Africa, WMO Mr Amjad Abbashar, Director, Regional Office for Africa, UNDRR 			
18:00-	Informal Networking and Departure			



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