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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Unitar Online Catalogue

Regional Awareness Training on Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems (Training 1)

Cross-fertilizing Knowledge

Type:	Course
Location:	Lome, Togo
Date:	26 Aug 2019 to 28 Aug 2019
Duration:	3 Days
Programme Area:	Satellite Imagery and Analysis
Website:	http://www.unitar.org/unosat
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	luca.DELLORO@unitar.org
Partnership:	West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL)

BACKGROUND

The ECOWAS Commission and the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) entered into a four year “Grant” Agreement (2016-2019) to support ECOWAS in the development and implementation of programmes to strengthen disaster risk reduction coordination, planning and policy advisory capacity in West Africa.

The West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) led consortium of national, regional and international institutions experienced in research and capacity building have been contracted to support ECOWAS in the implementation of its Plan of Action (POA) and to facilitate the research and capacity building components of the POA.

Based on the results of the inventory of existing policies and legislations as well as the early warning/flood forecasting systems in ECOWAS member countries and region, WASCAL, together with consortium partners, developed a regional transboundary flood forecasting mechanism and recovery planning for implementation. Moreover, training needs assessment (TNA) was conducted through a tailor-made questionnaire shared with about 57 identified stakeholders/user groups among the 47 institutions / organizations / departments in the 15 ECOWAS member countries. Forty-three (43) institutions / organizations / departments provided responses to the questionnaire, which were subsequently analysed for the existing capacity along with the needs. The TNA report concludes with recommendations and proposed capacity building plans to be taken forward. To this end, ECOWAS has made a commitment to facilitate the training and capacity enhancement of the ECOWAS Commission and experts from member states related to a regional awareness and implementation of flood forecasting and Early Warning Systems.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

The key objectives and expected results of these learning events on Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems are to enhance the capacities in existing national/regional policy frameworks on DRR/M including Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems, understand and apply flood forecasting and hydrological modelling tools.

This training program and outline focuses on Training 1 'Regional Awareness Training on Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems' which will be delivered in Lomé, Togo in the period 26 – 28 August 2019.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of Training 1, participants should be able to:

- Improve their understanding of the existing national/regional policy frameworks on DRR(M) including Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems
- Improve their understanding of the concepts and terminology of DRR(M) as well as operational data requirements for implementation with a focus on flood forecasting system
- Recognize benefits and limitations of the use of GIT for DRR

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The aim of this training is to raise awareness about regional/national flood forecasting practices and Early Warning Systems in ECOWAS region. Workshop participants will also be taken through selected case studies to operational EWS services and GIT applications for DRR relevant to support operational decision making for enhanced flood management in ECOWAS region.

METHODOLOGY

3-days training event:

This is a full-time, face-to-face training workshop designed with the following 3 modules:

- Module 1: National/regional policy frameworks on DRR(M) and Early Warning System
- Module 2: Hydrological Modelling of Flood Forecast and Early Warning
- Module 3: The use of GIT for DRR(M) and EWS

Each module is structured into 4 sessions of 1.5 hours each. The average workload per module is likely to be around 6 hours. To ensure active learning by all participants, interactive sessions will be provided through the use of Power Point presentations, group discussions, live demos, videos and maps with the purpose of achieving learning objectives defined for this training workshop.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

The course is designed to accommodate participants from a variety of backgrounds and professional experiences:

- Early Career Permanent Technical Staff from Governmental Institutions:
- Hydro-meteorological services,
- ECOWAS member states DRR/M Services,
- ECOWAS Head Quarters in Abuja
- University Professors: mainstreaming DRR into education curricula

Technical Capacity requirement:

- Have academic and professional knowledge of hydromet application
- Have basic knowledge and GIS and Remote Sensing technology
- Have a background in numerical hydrometeorological forecast
- Portable computer required

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

English with simultaneous translation into French language.