

DFID DEWPOINT SUPPORT TO AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE ICID+18 CONFERENCE

1 Background

The Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Sustainable Development in semiarid regions (ICID +18) will be held in August 2010, at the Convention Center of Ceará in Fortaleza in Brazil.

The main event of ICID + 18 will be a meeting in August 2010, bringing together governments, civil society and experts to assess and articulate the needs and opportunities of the semiarid regions of the world. Comparative studies of policies and initiatives will be prepared in advance to the ICID, addressing four thematic areas (with suggested types of contributors):

- 1) ***Climate and Environment.*** Subthemes: information on variability and climate change and environmental concerns in regional and local level - forecast and scenarios; vulnerability, social, economic and environmental impacts, and adaptation to climate change. {E.g. Scientists, Met Offices}
- 2) ***Climate and Sustainable Development.*** Subthemes: human security, vulnerability reduction, welfare and development – modeling, measuring and addressing vulnerability, impacts and adaptation. {E.g. Scientists, NGOs, Government}
- 3) ***Governance and Sustainable Development.*** Subthemes: representation, rights, equity and justice in the face of climate variability and change - monitoring and improving governance patterns in arid and semi-arid lands. {E.g. Policy makers, Scientists, NGOs, Government}
- 4) ***Policy Processes and Institutions.*** Subthemes: public policy process - formulation, implementation, monitoring and performance of public policies for adaptation and sustainable development; lessons from experiences. {E.g. Policy makers, Scientists, NGOs, Government}

Preparatory events are expected to take place during 2009 and early 2010 in order to generate materials, presentations and studies to contribute to the various thematic areas identified.

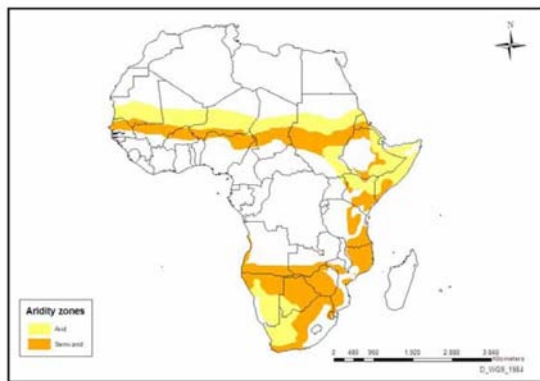
Following an approach by the Conference organisers, DFID has agreed in principle to provide support to ICID, focusing on the following areas:

- Support to preparatory events in Africa and participation by African researchers in those events;
- Support to other preparatory work, such as writing workshops, editing support etc;

2 Countries and Regions

The semi-arid regions of Africa are shown in the map below, although there are a broader range of countries bordering these zones that are likely to dry further under the scenarios of climate change and are currently less resilient. A loose definition of semi-arid countries will therefore be applied in the awareness-raising and selection processes.

Figure 1: African countries with semi-arid lands



West	East	South
Senegal (F)	Ethiopia	Zimbabwe
Mali (F)	Eritrea	Zambia
Burkina Faso (F)	Kenya	Botswana
Niger (F)	Tanzania	Angola (P)
Nigeria (northern)	Sudan	Namibia
Chad (F)		South Africa
Ghana (northern)		Swaziland
		Mozambique (P)

(F) = French speaking; (P) = Portuguese speaking (see contextual note) Map Source: the COMPETE project by the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), South Africa.

The semi-arid countries have been grouped into 3 regions (West, East and South) that will each be managed by a Regional Coordinator, within the overall DEW Point programme. In each region a similar process will apply:

- 1) Identification of potentially interested organisations and individuals,
- 2) Awareness raising in all relevant countries through media campaigns, remote communication and networking,
- 3) Providing helpdesk (or if necessary face-to-face) support to applicants,
- 4) Managing a competitive process whereby 20-30 participants are identified for attendance at a pre-conference event (involving a UK based evaluation committee),
- 5) Pre-conference events in Kenya, Niger and Zambia, at which subject matter will be decided and refined and a team of up to 10 delegates from each region will be selected;
- 6) Finally technical, presentational and administrative support to these teams of delegates to prepare them for the main conference.

The overall DEW Point programme of support will be coordinated from the U.K., including:

- 1) Managing main contract with DFID,
- 2) Liaison with conference organisers,
- 3) Preparing reference documentation,
- 4) Identifying and contracting sub-contractors,
- 5) Coordinating the competitive selection process,
- 6) Coordinating technical support to the pre-conference events,
- 7) Coordinating international travel for participants travelling to Fortaleza,
- 8) Coordinating production of a publication including all the papers,
- 9) Coordinating technical and financial reporting.

3 Approach

The approach presented in the original proposal to DFID has evolved during the inception phase and regional differences may emerge. For these reasons, whilst the Regional Coordinators will have to achieve the outputs and account against the lines in their budgets, they may interpret the steps in slightly different ways.

Phase 1 (Activities to be completed by end March)

IN EACH REGION:

1.1 Identification of potentially interested organisations and individuals

During March 2009 relevant individuals, organisations, networks and media channels will be identified.

1.2 Awareness raising in all relevant countries through media campaigns, remote communication and networking,

These individuals and organisations will then be contacted to raise awareness of the events and launch a competitive process for application and selection: Scientists, civil society, policy makers/parliamentarians and met officers will be invited to submit abstracts of papers against *any* of the four conference themes.

1.3. Providing support to applicants

This will primarily be in the form of remote helpdesk support by phone or e-mail, however one or two meetings or presentations may possibly be involved, although there are no funds for African participants to attend such events.

1.4 Administer evaluation of abstracts to qualify for pre-conference events.

All submissions will be submitted to an evaluation committee made up a representative of the Conference Organisers, DFID, Consultants, and selected relevant technical specialists. The committee will evaluate the proposals against criteria of: quality and relevance and also assessed in relation to the most suitable spread of submissions against regions and themes. 20 – 30 will be selected for each regional pre-conference event.

Phase 2 (Activities between April and contract finish date)

2.1 Invitations to regional pre-conference events:

Successful submissions will be invited to one of the three pre-conference events. These events will introduce fully the ICID conference; include a process for selecting the best papers to be presented in Brazil and mentor delegates around the development of their presentations.

2.2 Set up and run the regional preparatory events/workshops:

One pre-conference event will be held in each of east, west and southern Africa, including managing the administration of travel and accommodation for participants; in May 2010 to select and develop initial work to present at the main ICID+18 event in Brazil.

A final selection of the best papers at the pre-conference events will see a maximum of 10 delegates supported to attend ICID from each region of which at least 5 would be expected to present, whilst others may be significant figures who would be required to run an Africa panel session or join other significant international panels at ICID.

2.3 Linking with preparatory events mounted by Portuguese and French speaking groups (ONLY WHERE APPLICABLE):

DFID's main focus will be support to Anglophone African countries with efforts to link also with francophone countries in west Africa (the West African pre-conference event in Ghana will be bilingual). We understand IRD (will be supporting francophone African participants and we will be sharing our process with IRD for their information). The Community of Countries of Portuguese Language in Africa is reported to be planning /sponsoring some events in Africa but there is currently no information from them on what this might be.

2.4 Providing technical, presentational and administrative support to this team of delegates to prepare them for the main conference:

This will involve establishing and implementing a process for selecting work/participants for further assistance. This can include writing workshops, mentoring or similar, and help with refinement of presentations, etc.

2.5 Publish outputs: book

Regional Coordinators will contribute, where appropriate, in the collation of papers for a book that will be published ahead of the conference containing the DFID contribution to ICID, introducing the process, the papers and a chapter highlighting their relevance and role within the conference.

2.6 Final reporting. Regional Coordinators will contribute to a short final report (not more than 20 pages total) to be submitted by the end of October 2010, summarising the outputs of the preparatory process and abstracting the final presentations to the main event.

4. Outputs

- 1) List of potentially interested organisations and individuals with email contacts
- 2) Awareness raising materials sent to all interested parties
- 3) 'Helpdesk' support on email and telephone for interested parties
- 4) Abstracts and proposals from the three regions received and evaluated by the evaluation committee
- 5) Selected participants invited to one of three pre-conference events
- 6) West, East and southern African pre-conference events set up and run
- 7) Links made to other initiatives by language groups if appropriate
- 8) Technical and administrative support given to the selected delegates for Brazil conference
- 9) Collation of inputs for book from DFID funded African contributors
- 10) Collation of inputs to report from West, East and southern Africa

5. Generic Consortium DEW Point Oversight and regional sub-contractors

DEW Point will be the overall Project Managers of the contract and as such the DEW Point Resource Centre Manager (Jim Parker and in his absence Bruce Mead/ Simon Mercer) will be the first point of contact for DFID regarding overall contract management. Graham Haylor of NR International will manage the assignment and will coordinate team member inputs.

Regional sub-contractors are as follows: East Africa: Rachel Shibalira, NR International Nairobi, Kenya; West Africa: Sabine Dissirama Attama, Reseau Nigerien des Journalistes pour l'Education et le Développement, Niamey, Niger and Southern Africa: Jill Kent, PMTC Zambia Limited.