



Capacity building for proactive drought management: Developing communication tools

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The experiences in the development of agriculture, land and water management plans highlight the success and challenges of educating stakeholders for coping with drought risk in many regions. Most of the successful experiences emphasize that education and social awareness of potential vulnerability and possible collective management actions is critical to mitigate the impacts associated with drought. Based on these experiences we have developed Drought Management Guidelines that are presented in a range of education products within the framework of the Meda Water project Medroplan.

The Guidelines are designed to appeal to a broad audience and specially oriented to appeal policy making. Each component of the Guidelines includes information that can be understood by a non-technical user. The Guidelines link academic and technical issues with operational aspects therefore linking scientific and policy communities. The document has been published in 6 languages; Arabic, English, French, Greek, Italian and Spanish and are followed by examples of drought management plans in the 6 countries participating in the Medroplan consortium, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia.

The Medroplan website that contains all the information contained in the two documents mentioned previously also provides a tutorial that guides the user to find and select the relevant information in the different aspects of developing a drought management plan, and provides examples of use of the methods and models available and applied in the examples of application. (<http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/medroplan>).