



ECOWAS COMMISSION
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ECOWAS DRR Activities in Particular (flood risk management strategy, early warning, hydromet and GECEAO)

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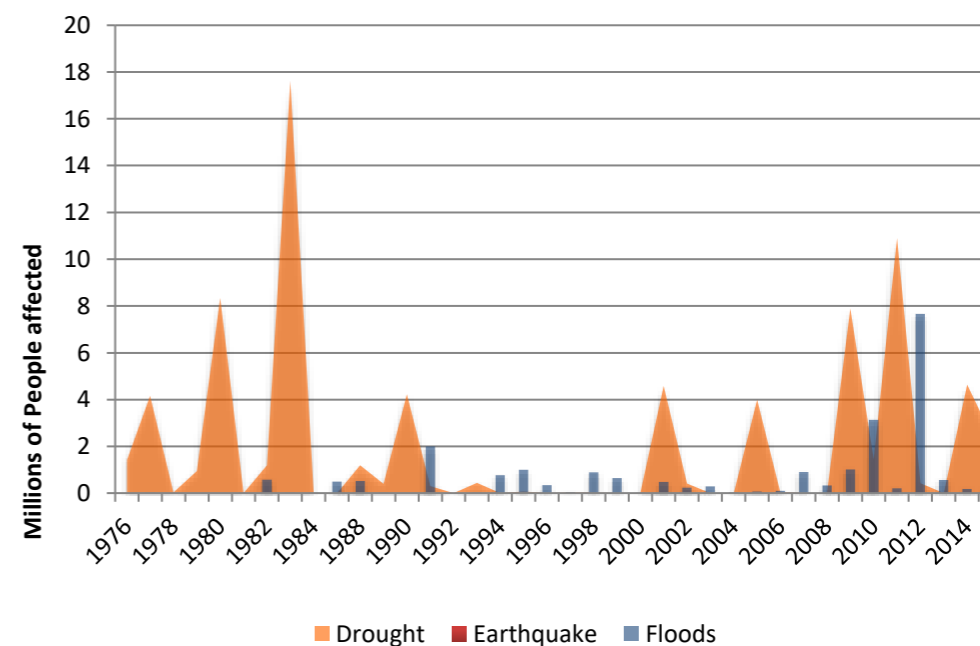
OUTLINE:

- ✓ Overview of Flood and Disaster Trends in West Africa.
- ✓ ECOWAS DRR Policy and Plan of Action.
- ✓ Investment in the Area of Flood Response Initiative.
- ✓ ECOWAS Regional Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- ✓ Regional Committee on Disaster Management in West Africa GECEAO.



Overview of Disaster Trends in West Africa

- ❖ In West Africa region, disasters have continued to be on the increase in last few decades, due to increasing vulnerability of population to natural and manmade Hazards,.
- ❖ On the average, number of affected people in the ECOWAS Region from 2010-2020, Flood=22.9m, Drought 77.4m (EM-DAT OFDA/CRED)
- ❖ 13 out of the 15 countries in West Africa (with more than 90% of all people) are classified as “low human development” by the UN 2020 Human Development Index Report
- ❖ More population are vulnerable to natural and manmade disasters such as floods, desertification, major erosion, oil pipeline explosions, fires, environmental degradation, climate change related disasters, mass accidents and conflict.
- ❖ These often resulted in Humanitarian Crises such as internal displacement of population and refugees.

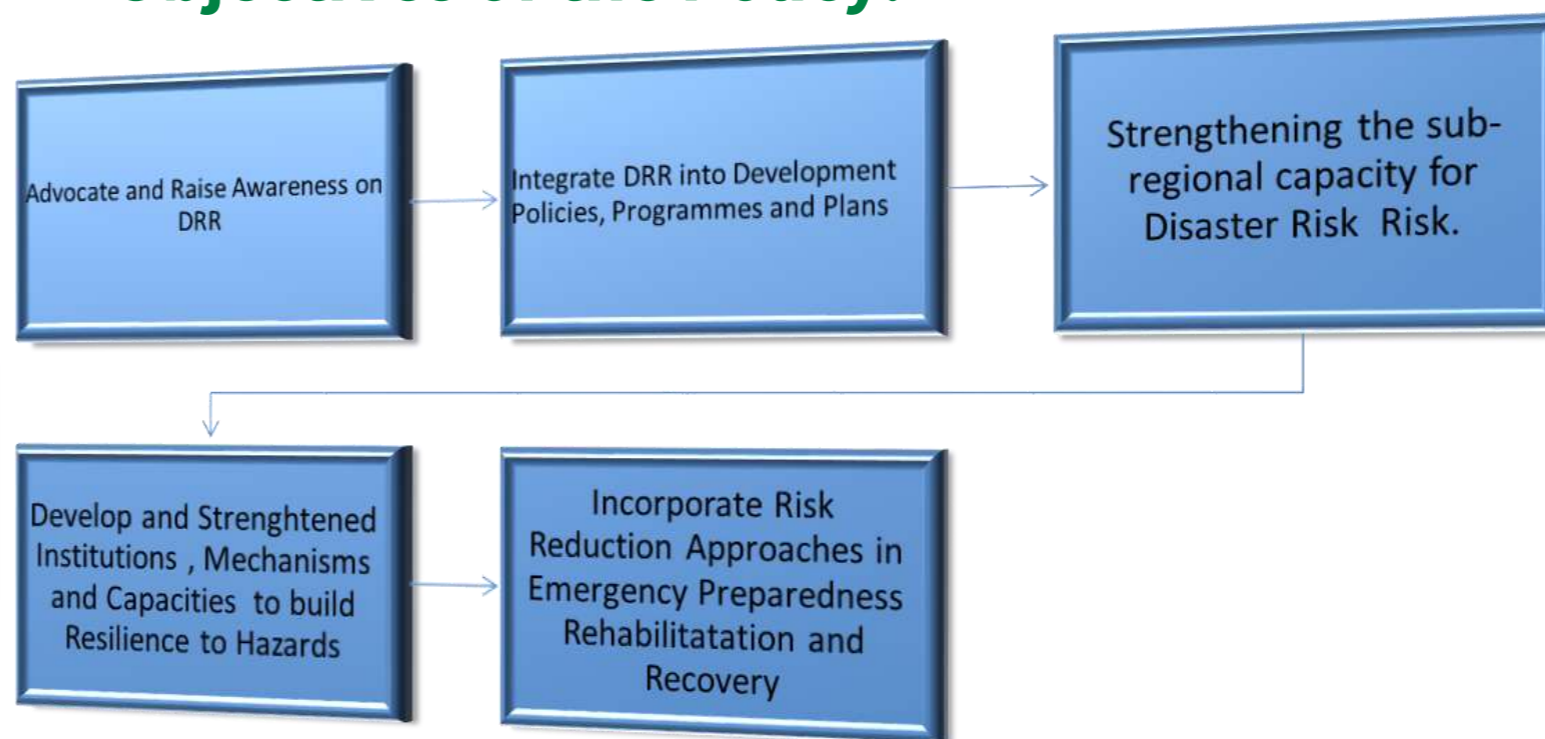




ECOWAS DRR Policy Adopted by ECOWAS Head of State Summit held in Ouagadougou au Burkina Faso, February 17, 2007

The Policy focuses on reducing disaster risks through development interventions by looking at managing disaster risks as a development challenge.

Objectives of the Policy:



ECOWAS Policy Priorities for Action

Priorities for action under the Policy include:

supporting development and sub-regional networking of **national platforms for disaster reduction.**

promoting **expansion of the various early warning systems** in operation and facilitating their coordination and harmonization.

supporting public **awareness and advocacy of disaster reduction,**

integrating disaster risk reduction principles in the harmonization programme and Agriculture Policy of ECOWAS and **in national development policies.**



ECOWAS DRR Plan of Action (2015–2030)

- The ECOWAS DRR Plan of Action (2015–2030) supports the implementation of the ECOWAS Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction for the 15-year period from 2015 to 2030.
- It thereby considers the 2015 agreed new global framework for disaster risk reduction—the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction—as well as ECOWAS’ regional programs and policies.

Goals and Objectives:

- The overall goal of the Programme of Action is to reduce the occurrence and the general impacts of disasters on the West African population through appropriate advocacy, awareness raising, capacity building and DRR mainstreaming into sector development programmes.
- In line with the recent Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the following intervention areas are prioritized to build resilience in the ECOWAS member states and communities.

ECOWAS Key Major Activities in Relation to the Priority Areas of the Plan of Action:

Priority 1. Understanding Disaster Risk

Develop the capacity and framework to conduct Risk Assessments as decision support tool for planning and DRM in member states through train the trainer's workshops and simulation exercises.

Support member states to infuse DRR and CCA Principles into their primary and secondary schools' curricula.

ECOWAS to engage in the compilation of DRR information and knowledge sharing.

ECOWAS Commission to support member states to develop a systematic framework and support for member states to embark on data gathering and preservation of complementary DRR and CCA related Indigenous Knowledge principles in the sub region.

ECOWAS Key Major Activities in Relation to the Priority Areas of the Plan of Action:

Priority 2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Review of the ECOWAS DRR policy and New POA every 5-years.

Support/strengthen the capacities of member states to mainstream and develop DRR focused development policies and strategies as well as DRM operational guidelines.

Strengthen the human resource and technical capacities of ECOWAS Commission and other Sub-regional development agencies to mainstream DRR into their departmental programs and activities.

Collaboration with specialized sub-regional development agencies to develop new and strengthen existing hydro meteorological data sharing protocol among member states and to operationalize a data sharing protocol to improve access to and exchange of DRR/DRM and CCA related data and information.

ECOWAS Key Major Activities in Relation to the Priority Areas of the Plan of Action:

Priority 3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for building of sub-regional and national resilience.

Advocacy with relevant MDAs and professional bodies to review existing town planning regulations, building codes and environmental standards at the national and subnational levels..

support member states to develop social protection mechanism with risk sharing and transfer for hazard risks mitigation with awareness raising and public education component.

Conduct of advocacy and awareness fora to encourage the establishment of public - private partnerships investment in DRR towards sub-regional and national resilience building .

Prepare a Sub-regional Plan and strengthen national disaster preparedness and contingency plans with respective joint simulations for transnational and national management of floods, drought and other hazard risks in the sub region...

ECOWAS Key Major Activities in Relation to the Priority Areas of the Plan of Action:

Priority 4. **Investing in disaster risk reduction for building of sub-regional and national resilience.**

ECOWAS to **Establish sub-regional and strengthen national multi hazard early warning communications system** with indigenous traditional knowledge considerations.

Embark on awareness raising, orientation and capacity building to **build back better after disasters through the incorporation of DRR into disaster recovery processes** among member states....



As of 2020, flooding has affected around 1.2 million people in West Africa, with many Member States recording excess rainfalls. The impact in 2020 is particularly severe. This resulted in the destruction of houses, goods, crops and fields, and land degradation are threatening the livelihoods of communities whose majority rely on agriculture..

According to the assessments conducted by the volunteers of the Red Cross, Civil Protection services and Emergency Management Agencies across the ECOWAS region show that damages have been recorded in several sectors. The needs identified are expressed in terms of shelter, household items, water, hygiene and sanitation, health and livelihood and basic needs – food and non-food items.

Many of the affected regions are already struggling with insecurity, high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, and climate change. Floods also risk increasing the incidence of water-borne diseases, impact hygiene and sanitation, and reduce the capacity to put in place effective preventive measures against COVID-19.

Burkina Faso:

over 160,000 affected, damages and losses were estimated at CFA 45,859,000,000;

Niger:

about 516,000 affected damages and losses were estimated at USD 257 million);

Ghana:

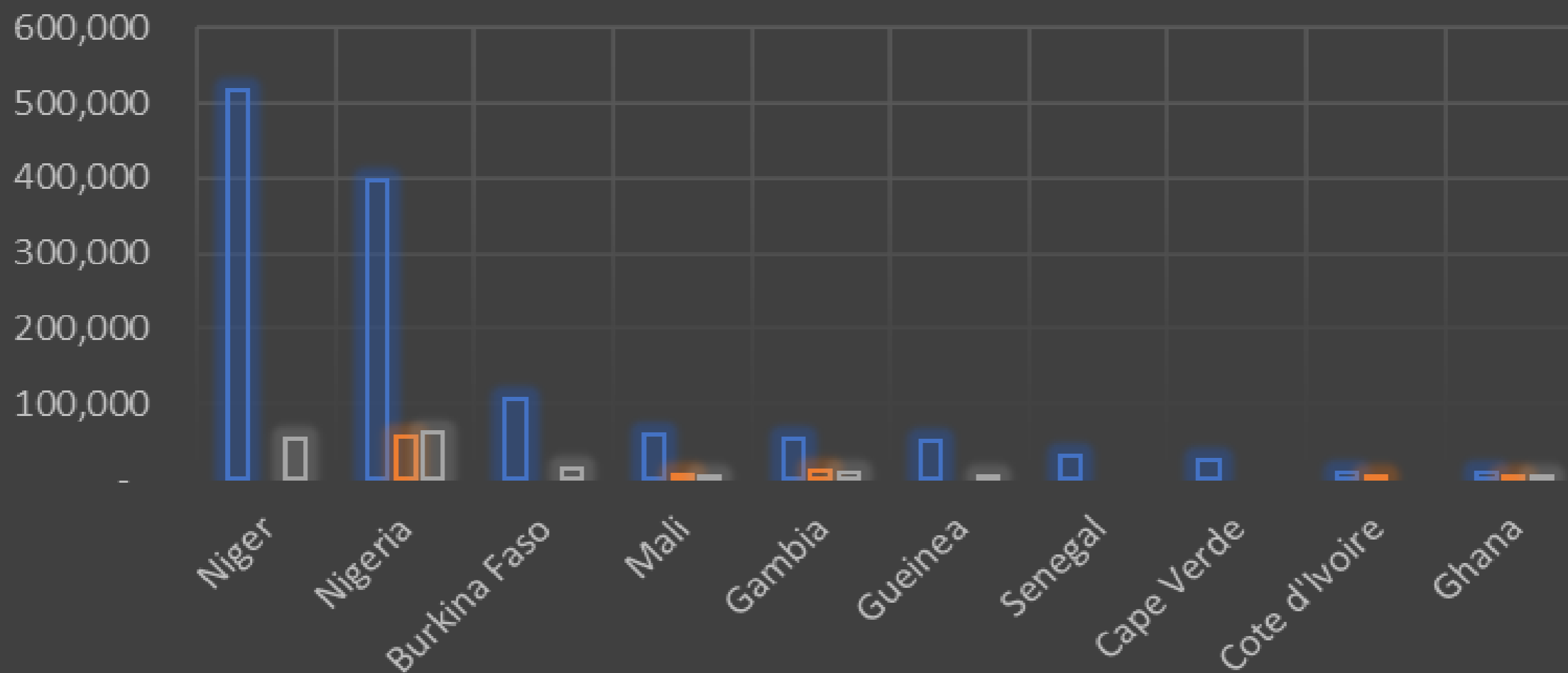
over 8,000 affected economic losses were estimated at over USD 108,200,000;

Nigeria in more recent years 2011 and 2012 appears to be the worse incident of flooding. No fewer than 25m pple displaced, over 256 LG out of 774 affected . More than 398,000 affected in 2020.



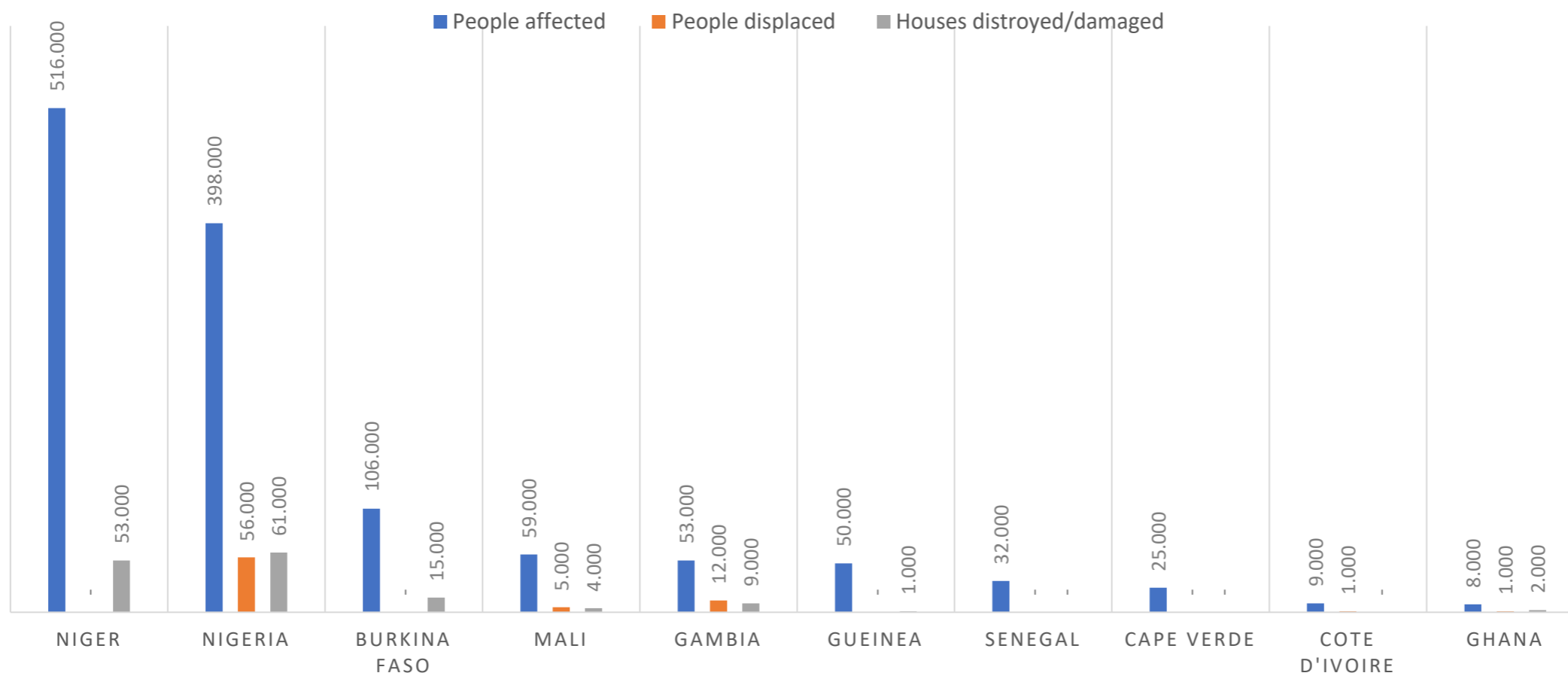
Chart Title

People affected People displaced Houses destroyed/damaged





FLOOD REPORT IN WEST AFRICA (2020)





ECOWAS Member State Challenges in Flood Risk Management:

- Poor coordination between intergovernmental institutions supporting their respective Member States in terms of flood management (ECOWAS, CILSS/AGRHYMET, River Basin Authorities, etc.)
- Lack of cooperation between the hydrological and meteorological services in charge of floods in the various countries, lack of harmonisation between the various ministries/institutions in charge of flood risk management in Member States, and lack of human resources.
- Weak early warning and flood forecasting systems in ECOWAS Member States.
- Inadequate skills and resources of sectoral institutions (water, health, agriculture, land use planning, etc.) to effectively take flood risks into account in the planning and sizing of infrastructure.
- Economic, social and political status make women more vulnerable during disasters. This situation is exacerbated by the high poverty rate among women and the cultural constraints they face.



ECOWAS Response/Activities to Member States Affected by Flood in 2020 :

- The overall justification for response was based on the number of population affected in the each Member State. There are other factors such as number of houses destroyed, number of deaths etc. However, the number of affected population is central to reach all persons of concern in humanitarian interventions.
- Food non-food distribution form the core of the intervention based on severe humanitarian realities in affected countries currently worsened by conflict, perennial natural disasters and the COVID -19 pandemic. The food for the targeted population was calculated based of the Sphere Standard of 6 - 11 Servings of grain product per day.
- Though Member States and humanitarian partners have been providing relief materials to the affected population during the flood disaster, huge gaps have been recorded in this sector. Hunger and malnutrition have been on the rise making food the major priority of the affected populations. Non- food items were also in high demand based on the losses of household items recorded during the disaster which are yet to be fully restored. Shelter is another rubric that is of paramount importance given the serious damages to houses as a result of the floods.



Member state	No of affected population	Actions	Budget expenditure	Total Amount per MBS
NIGER	516,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	300,000	500,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	100,000	
		Shelter	97,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
NIGERIA	398,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	300,000	493,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	100,000	
		Shelter	90,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
BURKINA FASO	106,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	150,000	304,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	80,000	
		Shelter	71,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
MALI	59,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	100,000	351,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	80,000	
		Shelter	68,000	
		Monitoring and evaluation, Visibility and press	3,000	
GAMBIA	53,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	100,000	230,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	70,000	
		Shelter	57,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	



Member state	No of affected population	Actions	Budget expenditure	Total Amount per MBS
GUINEE	50,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	100,000	220,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	70,000	
		Shelter	47,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
SENEGAL	32,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	90,000	179,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	50,000	
		Shelter	36,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
CAPE VERDE	25,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	90,000	169,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	46,000	
		Shelter	30,000	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	
COTE D'IVOIRE	9,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	70,000	131,000
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	30,000	
		Shelter	28,000	
		Monitoring and evaluation, Visibility and press	3,000	
GHANA	8,000	Basic Needs - food and non-food & house hold items	60,000	122, 193
		Water, hygiene and sanitation	40,000	
		Shelter	19, 193	
		Coordination, Visibility & Logistics	3,000	



STRATEGICALLY:

The strategy thus responds to the gaps in knowledge management and governance in flood risk reduction at national and regional levels.

This strategy provides guidance to intergovernmental organisations, Member States and their national bodies and river basin authorities on flood risk management in order to reduce the associated potential negative impacts with the aim of achieving sustainable management of flood-prone areas **and the establishment of reliable forecasting and warning systems, adapted to the needs of end users.**



4 Strategic Objectives



I
Improve collaboration and development of synergy among the various institutions involved in flood risk management

II
Harmonise the flood risk management approaches of the ECOWAS Member States

III
Establish and/ or strengthen the flood warning system and information dissemination on climate risk in Member States and the region

IV
Integrate flood risk in development planning in Member States



2020-2025 ACTION PLAN OF THE STRATEGY

- ❖ In order to address the challenges of flood risk management in the region, intergovernmental organisations, Member States, national bodies and river basin authorities are proposing to implement activities of action plan to attain the set objectives.
- ❖ The strategy's Action Plan outlines priority activities alongside specific, measurable, achievable and realistic time-bound indicators that align with the expected outcomes of each stage of the process.



			ACTIVITIES		
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I	Number of priority activity : 4	Budget estimate : 260,000 (US \$)	Compile a comprehensive list of national and regional institutions and agencies working in the area of floods, and specify their mandates.	National and regional dimensions	Gender sensitive
			Develop a plan for strengthening collaboration among regional and national institutions.		
			Strengthen inter-agency cooperation by promoting an integrated and consistent system for data collection, processing, exchange, analysis, forecasting and communication		
			Establish advisory groups to evaluate and refocus flood risk management approaches at national and regional levels.		



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II

Number of priority activity : 5

Budget estimate : 3, 300,00 (US \$)

ACTIVITIES

Identify the focal point within the institution or body designated by the national authorities;

Conduct a flood risk assessment at the local, national and regional level

Support Member States in the development and/or update of flood risk management plans at the local and national level

Support Member States in post-disaster assessments as well as in the development and implementation of recovery plans;

Support Member States in the establishment of a single disaster management structure or body

National and regional dimensions

Gender sensitive



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE III (next)

Number of priority activity : 12

Budget estimate : 40, 235,000 (US \$)

ACTIVITIES

Strengthen the spatial coverage of national hydrological and meteorological monitoring networks

Operationalise and leverage hydrological and meteorological observation networks;

Mainstream flood management and gender into harmonised national and regional policies for integrated water resources management

Strengthen collaboration in the management of cross-border floods by emphasising the role of River Basin Authorities and their relations with national and regional institutions

Develop a sensitisation and communication strategy at various levels of flood risks and threats

Integrate flood risk awareness into school textbooks

National and regional dimensions

Gender sensitive



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE IV (next)

Number of priority activity : 9

Budget estimate : 2,520,000 (US \$)

ACTIVITIES

Develop an awareness plan for a better understanding of the importance of rainwater drainage by the population

Develop a guide for best practices and actions for prevention, intervention and restoration of environmental health for national public health directorates in the event of floods;

Develop and adapt ICT systems to the early warning system and train women and girls on how to use them

Develop a good guide for best practices, taking into account prevention, response and recovery

National and regional dimensions

Gender sensitive



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2020-2025 ACTION PLAN

❖ At the national level

Member States will oversee the attainment of objectives and outcomes at the national level. They will prepare periodic summary reports on the status of flood risk reduction and specify measures to address the gaps and challenges.

❖ At the regional level

ECOWAS will provide strategic guidance to Member States, as well as facilitate and coordinate implementation of the Action Plan. ECOWAS will initiate and coordinate financial resource mobilisation, support for risk evaluation in Member States, and capacity building of experts from Member States.



❖ Partnership for implementation

ECOWAS will coordinate and facilitate implementation of the Action Plan in partnership with Member States, specialised institutions and international partners. Member States are the primary beneficiaries of the flood risk management Action Plan. The specialised institutions shall play a major role in providing flood forecasts, setting up of warning systems, and building capacity of national experts in hydrology and meteorology.

❖ Resources mobilisation

Resources required to implement and sustain efforts under the strategy will be mobilised from the internal budget allocations of ECOWAS and Member States, and from project opportunities and ongoing initiatives in the countries. Additional resources may be mobilised through technical cooperation with development partners.

❖ MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The progress will be evaluated based on the programme result indicators outlined in the ECOWAS Annual Work Programme. The Member States responsible for compilation of the annual reports will provide updates on financial and operational activities. The rating scale (not achieved, partially achieved and achieved) will be used systematically at the end of the year.



ECOWAS Investment in the area of Hydro met and Early warning of populations;

- ❑ As part of the ACP-EU funded project dedicated to “Strengthening the Capacities of African Regional Economic Communities and member states in Coordination, Planning and Policy Advisory Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction”.
- ❑ The ECOWAS HYDROMET FORUM AND DRR PLATFORM was convened in Abidjan Cote d’Ivoire in 2018 and Banjul, The Gambia in 2021 under the leadership of the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS) in partnership with the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire and The Gambia, AMCOMET, WMO, CREWS, EUMETSAT, UNISDR, CILSS, WASCAL, World Bank / GFDRR, African Development Bank, AFD, UNDP and WFP. The forum was organized in close coordination with the AMCOMET technical meetings, the EUMETSAT user forum and the ECOWAS sub-regional platform for disaster risk reduction.
- ❑ The West Africa Hydro-met Forum and DRR Sub-Regional Platform was a good initiative which create a platform to strengthen and support the meteorological, Hydrological and disaster management services, regional initiatives and programs in the region.
- ❑ ECOWAS reaffirms its collective commitment to support the sustainable and reliable development of meteorological, hydrological and climatic services as well as their provision to end-users in West Africa; taking full account of national development priorities, regional and global weather strategies and other relevant frameworks.



OUTCOMES:

- ✓ A forum created for climate service provider and users to identify potential solution and mechanisms to build and strengthen network through exchange of knowledge, sharing of information and ideas.
- ✓ A platform created for governments, regional organizations, donors, private sector, civil society, academia, technical community, youth and gender groups to discuss and design the future course of hydromet service modernization and disaster risk management.
- ✓ Opportunity created for development partners to understand the needs of various sectors and user groups to customize programs and investments in climate services and disaster risk management.
- ✓ Consensus and awareness created among stakeholders about the benefits of investments in weather, water and climate services, early warning systems and early response.



Regional Committee on Disaster Management in West Africa (GECEAO)

- In the framework of improving preparedness related to disasters and to strengthen the capacity of governments to respond effectively, the ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for West and Central Africa (OCHA ROWCA) convened the Regional Consultation of the Regional Committee for Disaster Management in West Africa (GECEAO).
- Since 2006 to 2021, The GECEAO has served as an influential forum for engaging actors that are involved in disaster preparedness and disaster management in the region. It has annually brought together the Civil Protection and Disaster Management Officials of the ECOWAS Member States, UN agencies, IFRC, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and other actors involved in disaster management and response to address critical issues.
- The objective of these consultations is to develop technical exchanges and share lessons-learned that will improve the capacities of national Civil Protection and Disaster Management Agencies to undertake effective response to disaster in the region.
- The consultation is an action-driven event and, it generates concrete steps for implementation of recommendations, with clear accountability of responsible actors and expected deadlines



2019=Cape Verde:

- Discussed the flood monitoring system in place at the regional level and make recommendations;
- Validated the ECOWAS Humanitarian Reporting Template;
- Discussed Strengthening the Civil-Military Coordination at the regional level;
- Discussed development of a Regional Humanitarian/Disaster Response Plan
- Discussed Strengthening of Early Warning systems through collaboration with ECOWAS Early Warning Mechanism.

2018=Mali

- Validated the ECOWAS Operational Humanitarian Action Plan (2018 - 2022);
- Validated the Initial Rapid Assessment Tool and methodology for NDMA's.
- Discussed the flood monitoring system in place at the regional level and make recommendations;
- Discussed Strengthening civil-military coordination at the regional level;
- Discussed Strengthening the ECOWAS emergency response roster;

2021=Niger

- The consultation was divided into the following sessions:
- An overview and trends in disaster risk in West Africa for 2021
- Elements of Improvement of Disaster Management at the National Level
- Disaster Response in Conflict Situations: Civil-Military Coordination
- Strengthening of regional emergency preparedness and response capacity
- The Action Plan for 2021-2022.



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Thank you
