# Implementing Impact-based Forecasting for Agricultural Resilience

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#### **Overview**

- Resources: Guidelines
- Why move to Impact-Based Forecasting?
- Understanding the Hazards across «Risk, Vulnerability, Exposure »
- Different types of Warning
- Risk matrix
- Agrometeorology: Always Focused on Impacts





### Guidelines

WMO No. 1150
WMO Guidelines on
Multi-Hazard ImpactBased Forecast and
Warning Services



WMO No. 1150 Part II
WMO Guidelines on Multi-Hazard

Impact-Based Forecast and Warning Services

Putting Multi-hazard IBFWS into Practice







## Why move to Impact-Based Forecasting??

Impact-Based Weather Forecasts Forecast and and Warnings Warning Services **Towards** Move from What the weather will be: What the weather will do: - 50mm in 24 hours - Roads flooded - 35 knot winds - Communities cut off Observations **Impacts** 





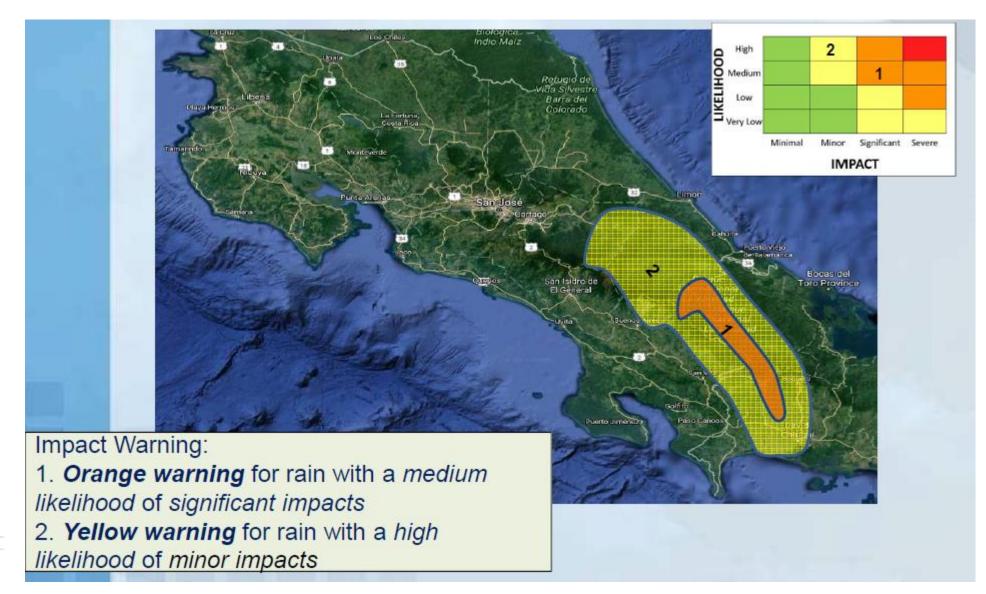
## The goal is to change from this type of forecast ...







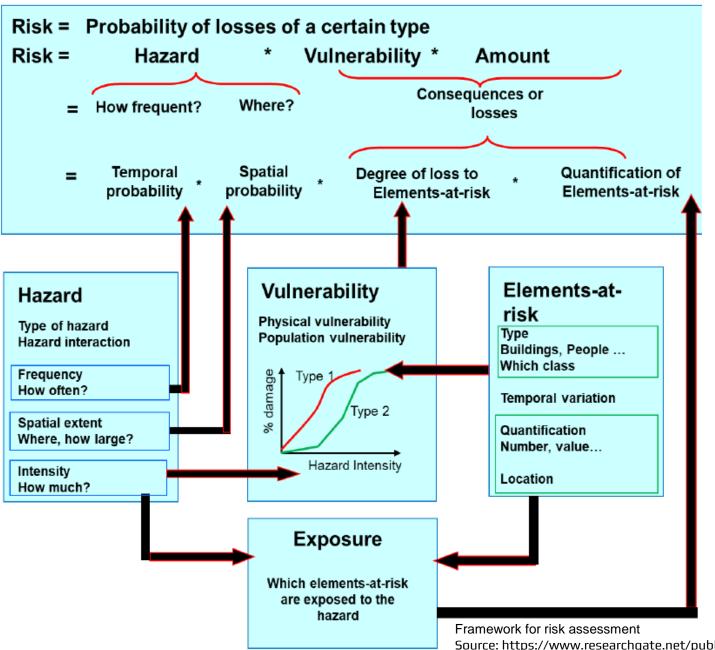
## To an Impact-based Early Warning Forecast System







#### Understanding the Hazards across «Risk, Vulnerability, Exposure »





Source: ESCAP <a href="https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/IBFWS%20Manual FINAL.pdf">https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/IBFWS%20Manual FINAL.pdf</a>

Source: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344172871\_ICT\_for\_Disaster\_Risk\_Management

#### **Hazard**

—Meteorological or hydrological element that poses a threat

#### **Forecast Uncertainty**

—The current state-of-the-art in weather forecasting defines the limit of predictability.

- A natural event that has the **potential to cause harm or loss** to people, human activity, property and environment
- Characteristics for hazard analysis
- > Magnitude of the hazard
- > Frequency/recurrence of the hazard









#### **Exposure**

—Who or what may be affected in an area where a hazard may occur

- The **situation** of people, infrastructure, housing, production capacities and other tangible human assets **located in hazard-prone areas**
- Exposure increases when urbanization places more people/assets in hazard-prone areas, and vulnerability increases when planning, infrastructure, or services are inadequate.







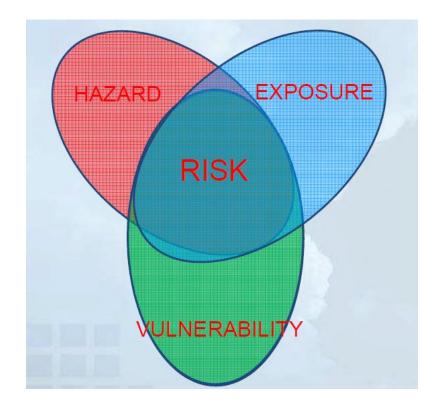
#### **Vulnerability**

—The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.

#### Risk

—The probability and magnitude of harm possible to humans, their livelihoods and assets because of exposure and vulnerability to a hazard

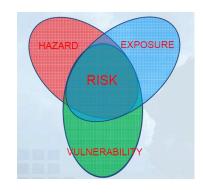


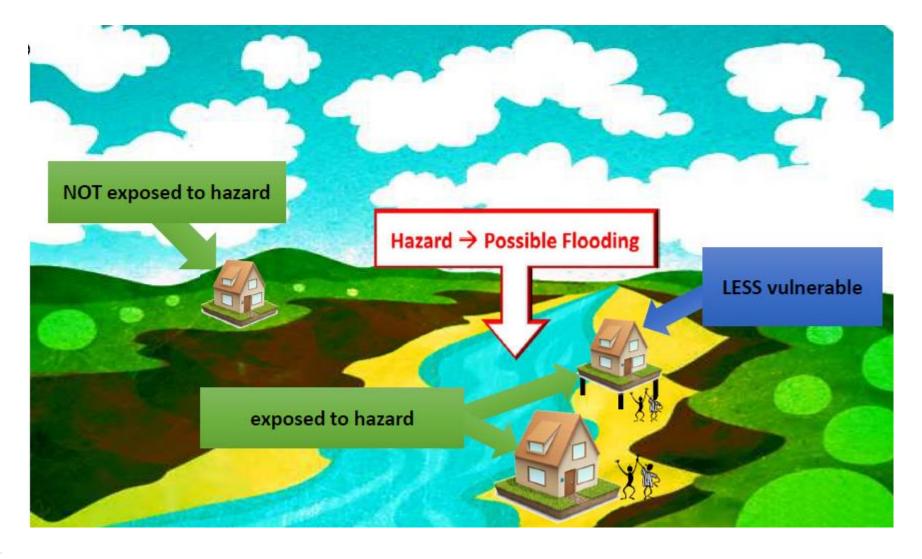






## Flood risk









#### **Weather Warning:**

—"Strong winds are expected tonight with wind speeds of 20m/s likely"

#### **Impact-based Warning:**

—"Strong winds are expected tonight which may result in delays or cancellation to ferry services and keep small fishing boats tied up"





1. Warnings with fixed thresholds.

2. Warnings with user-defined thresholds

3. Warnings with variable thresholds





1. Warnings with fixed thresholds.

Saffir-Simpson Scale for strength of Tropical Cyclones / Hurricanes

# Category Sustained winds 74–95 mph 64–82 kt 119–153 km/h





2. Warnings with user-defined thresholds.

Flash Flood Warning for City Authority

"50mm of rain expected during the next two hours which will cause problems with the street drainage system and lead to flooding on the roads"





3. Warnings with variable thresholds.

## High Temperature Warning

Minimum temperature (°C)						
Osijek	20.1	21.2	22.9			
Zagreb	20.2	21.3	22.9			
Karlovac	20.0	21.1	22.7			
Gospić	17.0	18.0	19.6			
Rijeka	22.7	23.7	25.1			
Knin	20.5	21.6	23.1			
Split	25.8	26.8	28.2			
Dubrovnik	25.4	26.3	27.6			

Maximum temperature (°C)							
Osijek	35.2	36.7	38.8				
Zagreb	33.7	35.1	37.1				
Karlovac	34.5	35.9	38.0				
Gospić	32.1	33.4	35.4				
Rijeka	32.7	33.9	35.5				
Knin	35.5	36.9	39.0				
Split	33.9	35.1	36.7				
Dubrovnik	32.3	33.2	34.7				





Warnings with fixed thresholds	Rainfall accumulations of 30 mm to 40 mm expected tomorrow between 1400 and 2300.	Hazard
Warnings with user- defined thresholds	Heavy rain expected tomorrow afternoon with rainfall intensities of 3 mm/10 mins possible, leading to overflow in the drainage system.	Hazard + Vulnerability Hazard
Warnings with		
variable thresholds	15 mm to 20 mm expected tomorrow	+
(time to time)	afternoon during rush hour.	Vulnerability
Impact Warning	Expect journey times on the A11 Highway to be lengthened by an hour because of significant traffic disruption in the south-	Hazard + Vulnerability
	east tomorrow afternoon due to localized	+
	flooding which is expected to follow a heavy rain event.	Exposure





## Risk matrix

Weather Warnings have always had a focus on **SEVERITY** 

Now also need to look at **UNCERTAINTY** 

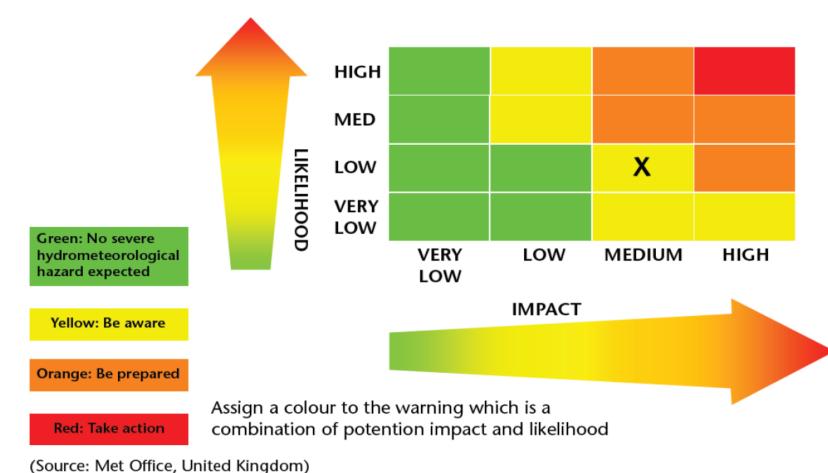






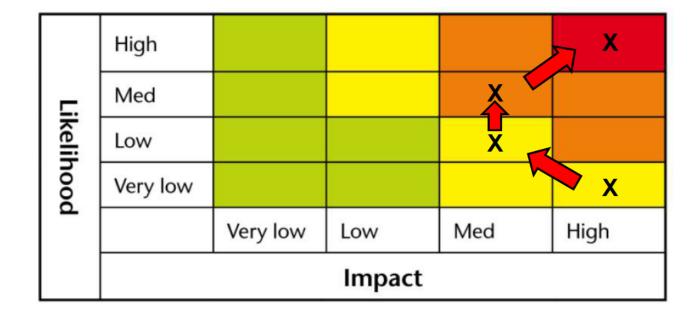
Figure 2. Risk matrix

## Why should we use the risk matrix??

□ We can now have an earlier expression of potential impact, well before a significant hydrometeorological event.

□ We can from day to day show the changing expectation of risk, depending on changing exposure, vulnerability and hydrometeorological likelihood.

**Example: Path of Risk over many days** 







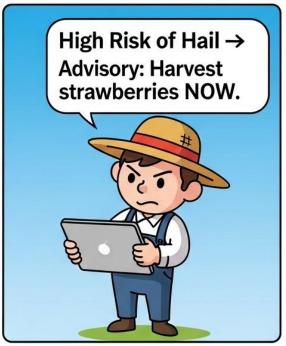
## Agrometeorology: Always Focused on Impacts

Agrometeorology has never just been about forecasting weather

It's about understanding what the weather *does* to the **agricultural sector.** 

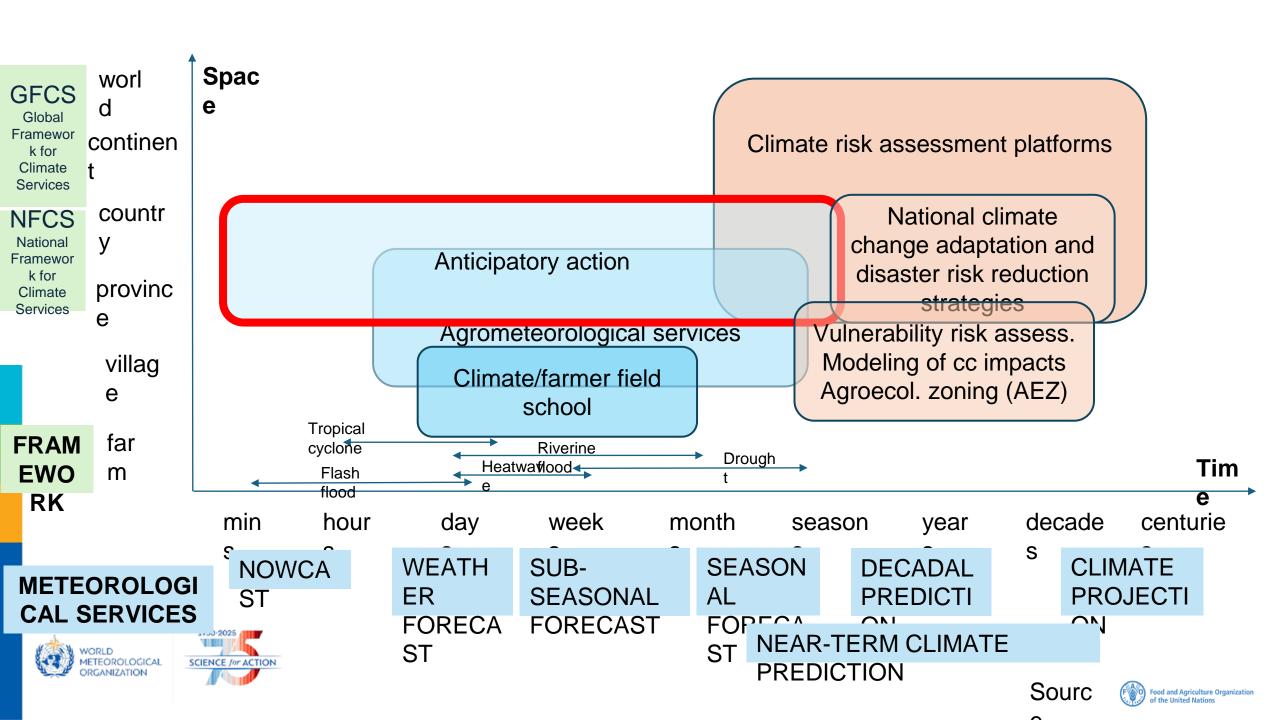
Modern IBF systems make this process more precise, actionable, and scalable.











Impact reduction & anticipatory action



Robust **forecast** 



Established action plan



Pre-agreed **financing** 



Anticipatory Action



Traditional response

Source: UNOCHA





## Examples of Anticipatory Actions

- Ahead of a warning of a severe winter season in Mongolia, **destocking-for-cash and health kits** were provided to herders to keep their animals alive and healthy
- **Before a peak** of drought in Afghanistan provide drought-tolerant seeds, cash and livestock health kits/feed to protect livelihoods
- On a flood trigger warning in Bangladesh, distribute cash, water proof drums, animal feed and dignity kits to safeguard food security, livelihoods and vulnerable women and girls

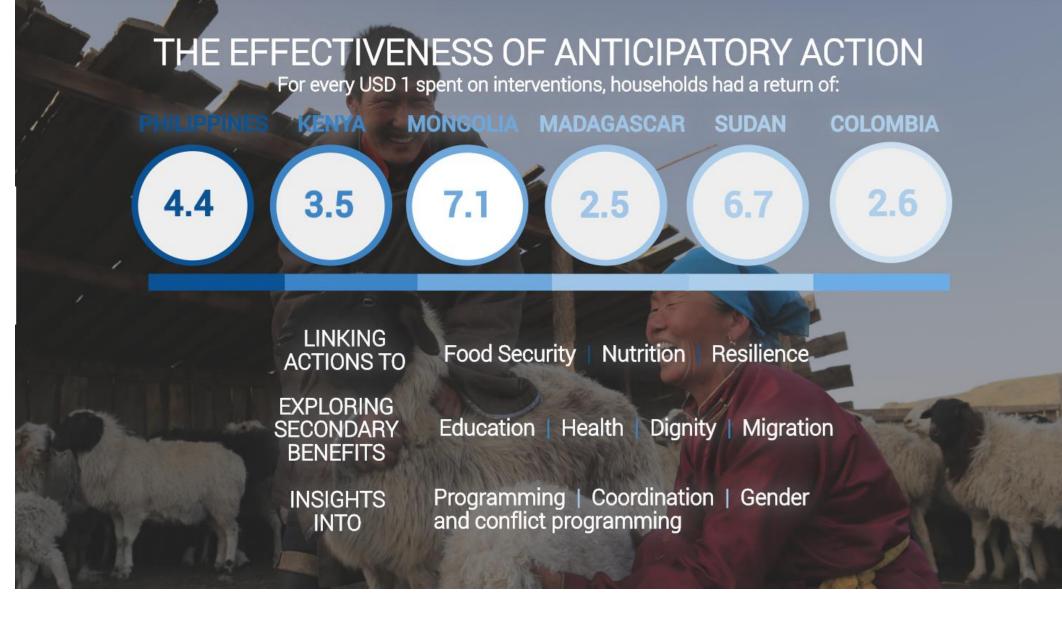


Source: FAORAP





## EVIDENC E & LEARNIN G



Source: FAORAP





## Series of general steps that can be followed to establish an effective and robust trigger mechanism for hazard outlined as follows:

- 1. Set up a multi-stakeholder hazard (flood, drought, landslide, frost, Dzud etc) AA trigger development working group
- 2. Define a theoretical framework for the AA trigger mechanism
- 3. Build a crisis timeline
- 4. Select and normalize the indicators
- 5. Weight and aggregate the indicators
- 6. Monitor and evaluate the AA trigger mechanism





#### **Anticipatory Action system**

Risk information, forecasting, and early warning systems with a clear triggering methodology and thresholds

Flow chart of developin g the AA system for agricultur al drought (a) Collecting and performing quality control of historical hydrometeorologi cal and loss & damage data.

**(b)** Analyzing coverage of the current operational hydrometeorologi cal observation network.

(c) Choosing the accurate remote sensing (RS) derived data sources for covering monitoring gap zones.

(d) Conducting cross-correlation analysis with main atmospheric and ocean processes that influence the weather in target regions.

(e) Using the identified correlated atmospheric processes, hydrometeorologi cal in-situ observations, and the most accurate seasonal forecast models to train machine learning (ML) algorithms for bias

corrections.

(f) Identifying the most accurate RSderived drought monitoring indices, such as soil moisture, VHI, VCI, NDVI, etc.

(h) Verifying and (g) Depending on the identified calculating the skill score for monitoring indices and thresholds of forecasting indices, calculate retrospective CDI to set up

thresholds using

loss and damage

data.

identified

CDI.

(i) Testing the CDI in operational practice and further development using the latest innovations.

**PNG** example: ht tps://doi.o rg/10.3390 /w1614200

2) Planning, operations, and delivery with appropriate activities that can be executed promptly:

(a) Develop a crisis timeline. This process maps historical occurrences of hazards, seasonality trends and identifies assets likely to be affected and when. While recognizing the uniqueness of each shock and acknowledging uncertainties, these timelines aid actors in determining appropriate timing of early warnings and adapting AA activities to the specific needs of the local context.

(b) Through community consultation, identify the list of vulnerable people and determine what kind of AA should be taken depending on socio-economic factors and the cropping season. This process requires a strong protective, gender-transformative and inclusivity lens. In conflict situations, such sensitives need to also be considered in targeting and AA planning.

(c) Conduct simulation exercises to train and identify weaknesses across the system and further AA refinement. This includes ensuring the early warnings are delivered in a timely manner and understood by end-users. Furthermore, ensuring the delivery of support can be conducted within the windows of opportunity presented between the early warning trigger and impact.

3) Pre-arranged financing with sufficient funds available when needed, which are flexible and agile





## Algorithm for triggering the agricultural drought in PNG

PNG example: https://doi.org/10.3390/w16142009





#### 1st week of every month calculating the CDI

Input parameters to train ML:

- 3 month total Rainfall observation
- IOD monthly
- ENSO3.4 monthly
- ECMWF 3 month total rainfall forecast

Xgboost Regressor (XgbR) algorithm with Hyperparameter Tuning (HPT)



Input for operational Bias-correction:

- IOD monthly
- ENSO3.4 monthly
- ECMWF 3 month total rainfall forecast



- SMAPI
- VHI
- SPI1

Bias-corrected 3 month rainfall forecast



#### CDI classes and used indices

CDI	No drought	Mild drought	Moderate drought	Severe drought	Extreme drought
SPI3	≥0.00	< 0.00	≤-1.00	≤-1.00	≤-1.5
SPI1	≥0.00	< 0.00	< 0.00	≤-1.00	≤-1.00
<b>SMAPI</b>	≥0.00	< 0.00	≤-0.05	≤-0.15	≤-0.30
VHI	>0.40	0.40 to 0.50	0.40 to 0.50	< 0.40	< 0.40

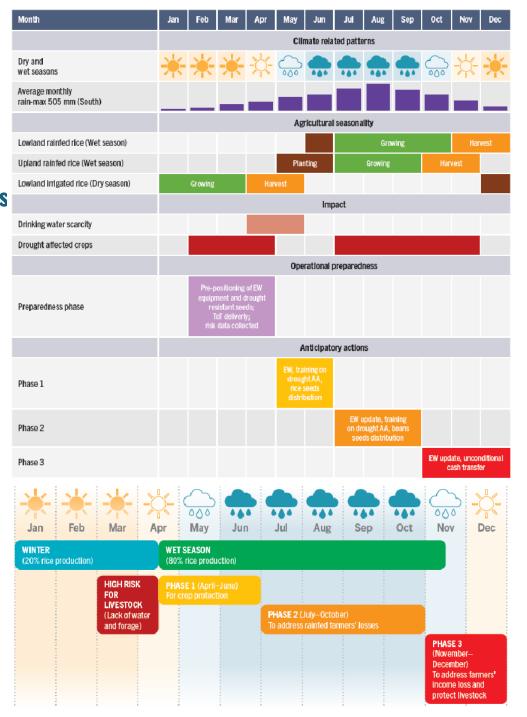
*If* **CDI** => *Moderate drought* 

2<sup>nd</sup> step of triggering: Field validation in 3-4 days local qualitative and quantitative observational data : soil moisture, rainfall, crop situations, water levels

If ground truthing proofed Remote Sensing monitoring data

#### **Activation of AA**

## **Drought anticipatory action crisis timeline for LAO PDR**



Source: Application of artificial intelligence in anticipatory action: Drought and flood case study in the Lao People's Democratic Republic,FAO, https://doi.org/10.4060/cd2277en





#### **IBFWS** resources

- WMO Guideline on IBFWS version 1
  - Risk equation
  - Risk matrix, impact & response tables
  - Partnerships
- WMO Guideline on IBFWS version 2
  - Risk and media charts
  - Show Case
- Manual for operationalizing IBFWS
- IBFWS self-directed eCourse





Introductory online eCourse IBFWS

 An IBFWS quiz to win a souvenir at Cg-19 EW4All booth, while stocks last





## **E-Learning**



#### **Communicating agrometeorological information**



Welcome! This course is designed to show you how you can enhance agrometeorological communications. Effective communication is key to ensuring that agrometeorological information is used appropriately in the agricultural sector. Communication is not an add-on or negligible element of agrometeorological services, but rather it stands as an indispensable core. The deficiency of a robust communication strategy can lead to late information receipt, misunderstanding of received information, misinformation, inadequate information and ultimately limited use of available information.

https://etrp.wmo.int/course/view.php?id=416





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## Thank

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