

Stakeholders advice to policymakers

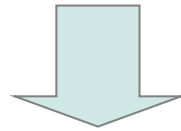
South Mediterranean experience in drought DRR

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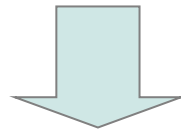
Water Research Institute – National Research Council

Why policy should be adapted?

Crisis management is still the standard approach



Drought is dealt with only when it is at its peak and the management options are very limited. Most of the options aim to reduce the damages due to drought impacts, instead of preventing those damages.



Several barriers are hampering the shift toward a more risk management oriented approach

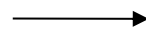
The main barriers to be overcome

- Lack of understanding of the complex web of drought impacts:
 - Neglecting the secondary drought effects
- Limited knowledge of the actual cause-effect chains affecting drought impacts
 - Oversimplification of cause-effect chains
 - Limited knowledge of system vulnerability to drought
- Drawbacks of drought monitoring
 - Anchored to the technical definition of drought
 - Information production/decision making process
- Communication barriers
 - Risk information does not reach the people at risk
 - Information is delivered not in time and it is not considered reliable
 - Strong barriers to information exchange.
- Stakeholders/decision makers mutual scepticism
 - Limited experiences in participatory drought management processes
 - Conflict between water users and decision makers

INEFFECTIVENESS OF DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES

How to overcome the barriers through capacity building actions

Complex web of drought impacts



Integrated and systemic approach to impact assessment

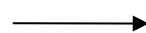
Understanding of the cause-effect chains

Communication barriers



Early warning system
Uncertainty communication
Integrated information management
Accessibility and understandability of risk information

Stakeholders/decision makers



Enhancing participation in drought risk management

Actors to be involved

- The recommendations should focus on the local level
 - Technical branches of the local public administration
 - Local policy makers
 - Information production and management
 - Water irrigation management consortia
 - Farmers

Restructuring funding program

- Funding programs should recognize the importance of inter-scale approach to drought DRR
- A mechanism to enhance the long term monitoring of the actual effectiveness of capacity building initiatives should be introduced in funding scheme.
- Adaptation of DRR/CCA strategy in case of ineffectiveness and/or side effects should be supported

Value of the stakeholder advice

Stakeholders are often better placed to critically analyse the actual effectiveness of drought risk management policy.

Their knowledge could support policymakers to identify potential barriers resulting in policy resistance.