

Output Factsheet

Output title: LEARNING INTERACTION - Training of trainers for Drought User Service

Summary of the output (max. 2500 characters)

Training of trainers for Drought User Service (training) as Output 3.2 of WP3 “Drought User Service” was held on 5 October 2017 in Brno, Czech Republic, dedicated to experts in drought monitoring represented by the project consortium. The training was organised by WP3 leader (EODC) in cooperation with project lead partner (ARSO) and project partners from WP3 (TU Wien, SPACE-SI), WP4 (CzechGlobe) and WP5 (OMSZ, SZIU).

In the course of the training, the experts were presented the prototype of Drought User Service for drought monitoring and early warning (DUS) along with detailed presentation of all its functionalities and how to use them. Participants were presented also the following remote sensing datasets and their usage for drought monitoring and characterisation: Soil Water Index (SWI), Soil Water Balance (SWB), Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Relative Vegetation Condition 1 (crop and grassland) and 2 (all vegetation types). All mentioned datasets are available in DUS for entire Danube river catchment and can be helpful for specific end-users in agriculture and hydrology field.

In addition, special attention was given to connection of DUS with drought impact assessment through national reporting networks, and introduction of first protocol for drought risk assessment to training participants. Along with the presentations held, also the first versions of Training Manual and User Manual were handed to participants at the beginning of the training.

In a hands-on session, training participants tested DUS and all its features and asked questions in an interactive way. They provided valuable feedback which was later taken into account when improving the prototype and preparing final version of the manuals. With a view to the future, user feedback and remarks will be considered also in further development of DUS to produce a sustainable and applicable tool for improved drought monitoring.

Training helped project partners (training participants) as future trainers of their respective national community, to obtain the capacities for organisation of national trainings on DUS where targeted end-users such as national authorities and stakeholders will be trained on how to use DUS for improved preparedness to drought and thus for reducing impacts caused by drought. This way, Training of trainers on DUS (Output 3.2) presented a step towards achieving the goal of strengthening drought emergency response in participating countries.

Contribution to the project and Programme objectives (max. 1500 characters)

Through training the experts in drought monitoring from project institutions who will further train national authorities and stakeholders on use of innovative web-based drought monitoring service DUS, Output 3.2 builds capacity among stakeholders to monitor, forecast, evaluate and

respond sooner during drought development. This way, Output 3.2 Training of trainers for DUS along with planned national trainings of stakeholders for DUS directly contributes to:

- 1) project objectives: specific objective no. 1 “Improvement of drought monitoring by operational innovative service”;
- 2) DTP Priority Axis 2: Strengthen transnational water management and flood risk prevention; Improve preparedness for environmental risk management;
- 3) DTP Priority Axis 4: Improve institutional capacities to tackle major social challenges; Support to the governance and implementation of the EUSDR.

Transnational impact (max. 1500 characters)

The assembled training material can be used also in other regions – ARSO is mainly targeting southern Balkan countries, which are not part of the Danube region and are potential end-users of presented tool in the frame of other networks, such as Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe (DMCSEE). For example, experts also from Bulgaria benefitted from attending this training. Potentially, this material can be used for training also in other, remote regions and by institutions involved in Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP).

Contribution to EUSDR actions and/or targets (max. 1500 characters)

Through organising DriDanube event (Training of trainers) for experts in drought monitoring from project institutions who will further train national authorities and stakeholders on use of innovative web-based drought monitoring service DUS, Output 3.2 raises awareness on drought issues (need for improved monitoring, pro-active approach) and builds capacity among stakeholders to monitor, forecast, evaluate and respond sooner during drought development. Therefore, it has direct contribution to:

- 1) EUSDR Priority Area 4, Action 12: organisation of DriDanube events to strengthen general awareness;
- 2) EUSDR Priority Area 5, Action 4: to strengthen cooperation among drought response authorities (early warning system, management); comparable data/information system on extreme events integrated into the Drought User Service (also remote sensing datasets);

Performed testing, if applicable (max. 1000 characters)

Not applicable for this output.

Integration and use of the output by the target group (max. 2000 characters)

This output was intended as first step toward promotion of the tool that is still being developed (Drought User Service). The targeted audience at this stage were technical experts and drought experts from all DriDanube project partners who were trained on how to use DUS in order to train their national community, and to utilize DUS in their day-to-day work.

Train-the-trainer concept will be further applied in participating institutions (PPs) - it will have larger impact and broader outreach in next phase when trainers (PPs) will further train national authorities and stakeholders at national trainings on the use of presented tool.

Geographical coverage and transferability (max. 1500 characters)

The DUS and accompanied Training Manual and User Manual include data such as Soil Water Index (SWI), Soil Water Balance (SWB), Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Relative Vegetation Condition 1 (crop and grassland) and 2 (all vegetation types) that cover entire Danube river catchment. Regardless of the content of the supportive material, DUS and train-the-trainers approach can be used by any user independently of geographic borders.

Durability (max. 1500 characters)

Training manual along with User manual is a timeless document and can be used as a material for any kind of future learning interactions on DUS. Training-of-trainers approach can be a good practice of knowledge-transfer anytime.

Synergies with other projects/initiatives and/or alignment with current EU policies/directives/regulations, if applicable (max. 1500 characters)

Along with the “Training of trainers for the Drought User Service” as part of the DriDanube project, EODC and TU Wien capitalize with another project that deals with establishing a general regional earth observation platform for the Danube region (EOP-Danube).

Output integration in the current political/ economic/ social/ technological/ environmental/ legal/ regulatory framework (max. 2000 characters)

From social perspective, training-of-trainers approach can be a very good practice for both the trainer and trainee: trainee benefits in terms of better communication directly with the trainer, personal touch etc. while trainer benefits from trainee’s feedback collected directly on the spot.