

Call for Proposals (Grants out)

2022 005 Call for Proposals (Grants out)

UNDRR is the United Nations' focal point for the coordination of disaster risk reduction, working with countries and a broad range of partners and stakeholders to support the implementation, monitoring and review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in coherence with the 2030 Agenda and other instruments, for the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development and the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses.

UNDRR issues grants, in line with UN Financial Regulations and Rules, to apolitical and not profit-making organisations to facilitate, implement, or carry out activities related to UNDRR's and the partner's mandates and work programmes.

To this end, UNDRR invites not profit-making organisations to submit grant proposals that focus on the project described below.

(Grant Proposal)

Grant title: Strengthening the Africa Network Excellence for DRR

A. Rationale:

The Nairobi Declaration¹ endorsed by the Ministers and Heads of Delegations responsible for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa met in Nairobi, Kenya on 19 November 2021 on the occasion of the Seventh High-Level Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction, which was preceded by the Eighth Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 16-18 November 2021 under the theme "Towards disaster risk-informed development for a resilient Africa in a COVID-19 Transformed World." Related to this grant the Nairobi Declaration calls for stakeholders to strengthen partnerships and cooperation through enhancing regional, sub-regional and national coordination mechanisms, as well as North-South, South-South, and Triangular cooperation in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Programme of Action at all levels, Appreciates the role of stakeholders, including Academia in supporting and implementing the Sendai Framework, as well as regional, sub-regional, national, and local disaster risk reduction programmes and plans.

Moreover, on the occasion of the World Meteorological Day, on 23 March 2022. The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres announced the United Nations will spearhead new action to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years.

A study by the African Union Commission, commissioned within the framework of the Sahel Resilience project and entitled "Comprehensive assessment of the status of multi-hazard early warning systems in Africa" led by UNDP, concluded that although most African countries have

¹ https://afrrp.undrr.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/ADOPTED-2021%20AFRRP_Nairobi%20Declaration_2.pdf

Early Warning Systems (EWS), none of the countries have impact-based multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS). The linkage of impact-based EWS to Early and anticipatory action is even weaker. Considering these findings and taking into account requests from diverse stakeholders, AUC, with technical guidance and support by UNDRR and other partners, developed an institutional framework for MHEWS, entitled *Africa Framework for Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems and Early Action (AMHEWS)*. The framework for MHEWS reflects ambitions voiced in a broad multi-stakeholder engagement and outlines the roles and the responsibilities of the African Union Commission (AUC), Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Member States and diverse national and international organisations. The AUC and UNDRR further embarked on the development and enhancement of situation rooms to support the continental EWS.²

The framework for *AHMEWS* was validated by Member States and by African experts during the Multi-Hazard Early Warning/Early Action Conference, which was convened from 20-22 October 2021 in Nairobi, Kenya.³ It was endorsed at the 8th Africa Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and at the 7th High-Level Meeting on DRR on 19th November 2021, in Nairobi, Kenya.

The framework for *AHMEWS* underlines that issuing early warning is a primary responsibility of the national government, with additional key roles for the AUC and RECs. As such, the capacities of Member States, RECs, AUC must be augmented with focus on strengthening risk knowledge and risk governance in support of the Early warning and early action efforts.

Furthermore, the African Union Commission and its Member States have repeatedly called for the creation of an African centre of excellence for Disaster Risk Reduction to undertake interdisciplinary policy and applied research in disaster risk reduction.⁴

B. Purpose:

Within this context, UNDRR aims to facilitate the creation of the above-mentioned triangular cooperation mechanism to facilitate the cooperation between academia and institutions, to provide technical-scientific knowledge and capacity building to inform decision making process and policy development. The initiative will establish a Network of Excellence (NOE), a cooperation framework between African and international expert centers that will jointly develop and deliver customized tools, services, products and training to those African institutions whose mandate is DRM/DRR. Of priority will be the strengthening of capacities of those operation centers, specialised agencies and technical service providers. Capacities of academic institutions should be particularly enhanced to expand the offer of services to operational and policy/planning bodies. increase their deliver services. In the current phase/present grant, priority will be given to weather and climate driven hazards and related impacts, including on water resource management, flood

² <https://globalplatform.undrr.org/conference-event/effective-multi-hazard-early-warning-system-africa-we-want>

³ <https://www.undrr.org/news/african-experts-validate-institutional-framework-multi-hazard-early-warning-systems-and-early>

⁴ Third Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment, 2019 <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20191021/3rd-ordinary-session-specialized-technical-committee-agriculture-rural>

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management, food security. In the current phase, priority will be given to capacity development in the domain of MHEWS for Early and Anticipatory Action.

Technical-scientific centres, research centres, universities will develop and deliver distinct operational tools and services to African institutions.

Technical scientific centres, research centres, universities will deliver training required to ensure the quality of services provided by the *AHMEWS*.

C. **Outcome:**

Establish the Network of African and international centers that will provide sustained technical-scientific assistance to African DRR and DRM institutions at the level of AUC, RECs and Member States strengthening their capacities for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management (DRM), including trans-boundary risk management. The network, will enhance efforts of DRR/DRM institutions on the continent to mitigate, prevent and build resilience of African states to natural hazards. In the current phase, priority will be given to capacity development in the domain of MHEWS for Early and Anticipatory Action for most recurring and devastating hazards, including flood, cyclones, drought, forest fires.

Centers to be initially involve in the network will be identified among those featured in a preliminary analysis performed by UNDRR-ROA. Among potential African and international institutions should also be considered: GMES partners (e.g. CSE Senegal, IGAD-ICPAC, OSS, RCMRD, SASSCAL, University of Ghana), CLIMSA beneficiaries and Copernicus partners within the African continent and globally; key African DRR actors such as the African Risk Capacity (ARC), PeriperiU, African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in English (ARCSSTE-E); European DRR centres among which count Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), European Union-Joint Research Centre (JRS), UK Met Office, CIMA Research Foundation, VU Amsterdam, Global Earthquake Model (GEM); international organizations, including NGOs and UN entities (e.g. WMO, WFP, FAO, OCHA, as well as IFRC).

D. **Output:**

Establish a collaborative network the aim of which is the consolidation of the technical and managerial capacity of the African expert centers.

The NOE will enable collaboration across diverse organisations with specific expertise, providing opportunities for collaboration among scientific and operational expertise from African and non-African institutions.

The NOE will enable structured exchange of scientific and technological expertise, for the benefit of improved coordination and for the promotion of a multi-hazard approach. The nature of the NOE will be multi-hazard and multi-impact.

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Lessons will be applied to establish a strong basis for south-south cooperation, aiming to deliver operational services, tools and capacity building for African Institutions, both in anglophone and francophone countries.

The NOE will provide a structured framework for capacity development and for training – aiming to buttress existing and *ad-hoc* training initiatives.

The NOE will foster long-term formal agreements between international and African centres, providing diverse training modalities: structured training curricula, job shadowing, and training of trainers.

The overall objective of the network of African and international centres is strengthen the broadest use of technical-scientific knowledge and evidence to inform and support policy and operational decisions of African authorities. The NOE will develop and provide customized **operational** tools, products, and services to African institutions working, among other on DRR/DRM, climate change adaptation, land use planning, energy, economic development. The Grantee should ensure that any publications or reports drafted in the context of the activities are developed and designed following UNDRR's editorial, branding and publication guidelines. The Grantee will ensure that all reports, publications, graphic design, and other written products are of high quality and that they are edited by an English editor before they are sent to UNDRR.

E. Suggested activities:

Activity block 1	Output
<p>Identification of priority institutions to be involved in the NOE, specifically in the below activities and according to criteria agreed with UNDRR.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping methodology • Mapping (within prioritization of institutions pre-identified through the UNDRR-ROA analysis) • Identification of contact/focal points • Initial contact • Inception meeting with prospective partners • Promotion of the network
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope for and design a concept for a structured networking among the selected institutions • Scope for and design a concept for a training programme • Hold consultations with key stakeholders on the proposed training programme (1 virtual and 1 in person) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept for the network • Concept note for the network's training programme • Overall programme proposal for the NOE • Consultations with priority stakeholders on the proposed training programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 1 virtual consultation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 1 in person consultation with priority stakeholders
Activity block 1	Output
<p>Analyse existing DRR/DR services and training/teaching curricula offered by established DRR/DRM programmes in pre-identified universities, research and vocational training institutions on the African continent and internationally.</p> <p>Design a DRR training programme for technical staff in the key continental, regional, national institutions with DRR mandates and responsibilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodological proposal • Stakeholder engagement • Analysis report • Training agenda and background material with differentiated focus reflecting a specific target audience and to account for diverse hazards (initially to focus on hydrometeorological hazards - drought, floods, cyclones, forest fires, heatwaves – and focus on related impacts - e.g. water resource management, flood management, food security.
Roll out a training of trainers (ToT) and training of technical staff at AUC and REC level aimed at providing support to national operational bodies with contributions from identified African and international institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 training of trainers delivered
Roll out a training of technical staff from key continental, regional and national operational institutions with contributions from identified African and international identified universities and research institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 training of technical staff delivered
Activity block 3	Output
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a structure and the requirements for job shadowing and training-on-the-job programme allowing for secondment of national experts in the regional and continental situation rooms links to the AMHEWS. • Develop a detailed proposal for the financial and contractual arrangements of the secondment programme; provide support to AUC, RECs and UNDRR to validate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of the structure and contents of a job shadowing / secondment programme • Elaboration of the contractual and financial requirements for a job shadowing / secondment programme design of the structure and contents of a job shadowing / secondment programme • Elaboration of the contractual and financial requirements for a job shadowing / secondment

the programme and prepare for a pilot implementation.	<p>programme n of the structure and contents of a job shadowing / secondment programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of the contractual and financial requirements for a job shadowing / secondment programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a detailed proposal for the financial and contractual arrangements for the on-the-job training programme; provide support to AUC, RECs and UNDRR to validate the programme and prepare for a pilot implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of the structure and contents of on-the-job training programme for students • Elaboration of the contractual and financial requirements for an on-the-job training programme for students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a sustainable workplan and financial plan for the operationalization of the network over the next 5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Sustainable Workplan and financial plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of hardware <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 laptops equipped with the myDewetra platform, and locally installed database with case studies, for offline simulation training - 2 portable projectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of technical specifics of the laptop and of the projectors • Equipment procured • Installation of the myDewetra and other required software and utility programmes • Definition of the case studies to be uploaded • Uploading of the case studies

F. **Resources: USD750,000**

G. **Elements specific to the project that the grantee should know:**

- Applicants are required to indicate a plan for implementation, taking into consideration challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

H. **Budget and administrative-related aspects:**

The duration of the proposed project cannot exceed **20th February 2023**. The maximum amount requested from UNDRR for the implementation of this project cannot exceed **USD750,000**. The project proposal must not exceed 10 pages (attachments such as scanned copies of entity's registration, CVs of staff etc. do not count).

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For this purpose, please fill in duly **all the sections of the application form, include the required documents** (scanned copy of NGO/IGO's registration certificate, CVs of staff etc.) and **budget excel sheets**, and send **the complete application package** (application form, budget excel sheets, entity registration certificate, CVs of staff, etc.) to the following email address:

undrrgrantproposal@un.org

cc: Katarina.mouakkidsoltesova@un.org

Reference: 2022 005 Call for Proposals – Strengthening the Africa Network Excellence for DRR

Deadline for applications: 2 August 2022, midnight New York, USA EST (Eastern Standard Time).
Incomplete and/or late applications **will not be considered**.

Projects' activities can include, amongst others, the following:

- seminars, workshops, trainings;
- capacity building activities;
- institutional strengthening activities
- advocacy and
- procurement of small training equipment

The following types of activity will not be covered:

- capital expenditure, e.g. land, buildings, equipment and vehicles;
- individual scholarships for studies or training courses;
- supporting political parties; and
- sub-contracting

Due to the number of applications, **only short-listed applicants will be notified**.

Please note that the grant payment schedule will be determined with the selected grantee when finalizing the agreement. UNDRR standard practice is: not to exceed 40% of the requested amount upon signature of the grant agreement; remaining payments made based on a schedule of payments linked to production of project milestones and the final payment, 20%, will be paid after the end of the project, once final documents have been received, verified and approved by UNDRR.

Refund of grants: UNDRR may request organizations to refund, either in part or in whole any amounts paid in respect of a grant when:

- the project was not implemented in full or in part;
- the grant was spent for ineligible expenditures other than those mentioned in the budget proposal submitted to, and approved by UNDRR;
- no narrative, financial or audit report was submitted within the deadline established by the grant agreement;
- a narrative report and/or a financial report submitted was determined to be unsatisfactory;

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- a negative evaluation of the project by UNDRR;
- any other valid reason provided by the UNDRR.