



# CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

## EARLY DROUGHT WARNING SYSTEM (EDWS) FOR PAKISTAN

Date: Friday, June 9, 2023

Timings (PKT): 08:30 - 13:30

Venue: Kehkashan Hall, Ramada Hotel, Islamabad



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**WATER RESOURCE ACCOUNTABILITY IN  
PAKISTAN (WRAP) PROGRAMME  
COMPONENT 1: CLIMATE RESILIENT  
SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING WATER  
GOVERNANCE (CRS-IWAG)**

To join the workshop online, [click here.](#)



## BACKGROUND



**Droughts are ranked among costly disasters and have a wide range of impacts on society, particularly on agriculture, water resources, human health, energy, economics, and ecosystem services. Pakistan is a water stressed country and the increased frequency and duration of droughts in recent years has aggravated water scarcity across the country. Pakistan has reported drought incidents at least once every three years in the last five decades. The consequences of droughts along with poor water management practices have been devastating for Pakistan's food security. Real-time drought monitoring and Early Drought Warning Systems (EDWS) are vital to respond to the increasing frequency and intensity of prevailing and future drought events.**

The National Water Policy 2018 (NWP-18) and National Climate Change Policy 2021 (NCCP-21) highlight the dire need to manage climate-induced hazards (floods and droughts) in the Indus Basin. The NCCP-21 emphasizes the need to develop and strengthen an EDWS to minimise the risks arising from extreme weather events, and an effective Disaster Risk Management (DRM) system, including crop insurance, to safeguard against crop failures. Through EDWS, information regarding key drought severity indicators can be collected and integrated to highlight the extent and impact of droughts in different regions. In general, drought indices are used to monitor and assess the severity or spatial-temporal spread of droughts. It also helps to assess the impact of droughts on various sectors and strengthen drought preparedness and mitigation strategies to manage its effects.

Presently, this kind of climate risk information is not available in a near real-time environment at the farm scale in Pakistan. The South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS) has been developed and implemented by International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in India. SADMS provides customized tools and models that use satellite technology to accurately and scientifically monitor and plan for droughts. Weekly spatial maps of drought conditions are shared with agriculture and irrigation departments as a drought bulletin for farmers. The developed tool is being used by government agencies, insurance industry, and NGOs, as a decision support tool for drought mitigation efforts across India. The SADMS drought tool can provide near real-time drought characteristics, impacts, and management plans at a national, sub-national, and regional level.

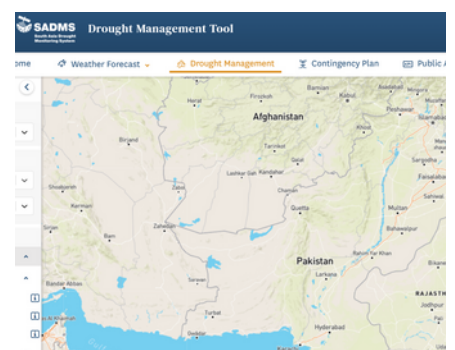
IWMI Pakistan is implementing the UK Aid-funded Water Resource Accountability in Pakistan (WRAP) Programme Component 1: Climate Resilient Solutions for Improving Water Governance (CRS-IWaG) to strengthen capacities to manage water resources at federal, provincial, and district levels.



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## ABOUT THE EVENT



IWMI Pakistan is organising a workshop to explore how the SADMS tool can be developed and adapted for Pakistan's agricultural context. The workshop will outline the benefits of EDWS for the agriculture and water sector through developing evidence-based mitigation strategies and discussing mechanisms to build a national capacity programme on drought management systems in Pakistan.

### OBJECTIVES

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To develop SADMS in the context of the agriculture sector in Pakistan.

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Build a national capacity programme on drought management systems in Pakistan.

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Selection of drought indices based on stakeholder recommendations for decision support mechanism.





© Daniel Bodansky - Ejil: Talk!

## Contact Us

For more information about WRAP Programme Component 1: CRS-IWaG, please contact:

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