

UCAR Africa Initiative Seminar

Problems, Challenges, and Opportunities in Implementing Early Warning Systems for Africa

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Location: Remote (online)

Webcast: <https://operations.ucar.edu/live-africa-initiative>

ABSTRACT

Timely weather information impacts many parts of information especially as it is related to natural hazards and Early Warning systems (EWS). The value chain starting with monitoring and observations, modeling and forecasting, to communicating this information to appropriate sectors of the population and economy, and ultimately the user decision making, and responses are essential components of an early warning system. All these components have to work seamlessly together to provide timely warnings.

Carbon Brief analysis of the EM-DAT database finds that extreme weather events in Africa have killed at least 5,000 people and affected a further 19 million since the start of 2022 (<https://www.carbonbrief.org>). Monitoring and warning services are to a large extent in its infancy in most African countries with large data gaps and deteriorating monitoring systems throughout the continent.

The seminar will focus on discussing the challenges and explore opportunities in supporting the United Nations and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) vision to implement EWS systems for Africa in the next five years.

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