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Multi-Hazard Early Warning Technical Working Group Capacity Building Activity Summary Report

PRBC -ICPAC Activity Report



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Executive summary

During the current quarter (Q4 2025 and Q1 2026) of PRBP implementation, ICPAC has undertaken 4 key activities under the minor financial agreement for the period September 2025 to February 2026. **Three four-day** capacity strengthening workshops on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) were delivered in the Mandera Triangle cluster, Moyale–Moyale and Karamoja cross-border clusters. The training strengthened end-to-end early warning, promoted anticipatory action, and advanced cross-border coordination through the establishment/strengthening of cluster Technical Working Groups (TWGs).

- Three cross-border trainings delivered (12 training days): Moyale–Moyale (28–31 Oct 2025) Karamoja (24–27 Nov 2025) and Mandera Triangle cluster (10th -13th Feb 2026).
 - Competencies strengthened across the four pillars of MHEWS plus governance/institutionalization.
 - Hands-on sessions improved use of ICPAC tools (Hazards Watch, Drought Watch, GeoPortal) and production of draft drought bulletins/analytical outputs.
 - Cross-border coordination gaps and capacity needs captured to inform TWG workplans and technical backstopping.
 - Post-training feedback was positive, emphasizing relevance, interaction, and practical applicability.

• Project Overview and Background

IGAD cross-border areas particularly Karamoja, Moyale and Mandera, home to millions of people that rely on agro-pastoral rain-fed agriculture offer unique opportunities for trade, coordinated / effective management of transboundary natural resources, and investment in cross-border infrastructure connecting IGAD member countries. Despite this opportunity, cross-border areas remain marginalized and underdeveloped and offer poor access to social services like health, education, roads, and security. As a result, the areas have been characterized by low productivity and underdevelopment. Moreover, increasing losses from climate related disasters amidst limited access and uptake of climate and disaster risk early warning information for last-mile users, exacerbate resource scarcity and degradation of natural resources / environment. A limited number of interventions have been piloted on natural resource management and resilience with major gaps remaining in coordinated downscaled multi hazard early warning systems that reach last-mile users for decision making. ICPAC aims to strengthen cross-border early warning systems towards conflict prevention and mitigation through reinforced coordination of cross-border management, including local authority and IGAD to promote socio-economic development.

The current phase of the project under implementation (September 2025 – February 2026) by ICPAC aims to support communities with capacities on cross-border multi-hazard early warning system and disaster risk reduction.

Action Implications

Strengthening the effectiveness of cross-border early warning systems, disaster risk reduction and anticipatory actions is required in support of preparedness and response in order to minimize losses from disasters. Despite the challenges, downscaled and actionable information systems under



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development are necessary to support planning of resources, identify actions to be taken and prioritize financing and investments targeting the most vulnerable areas and communities. Building resilience through risk-informed decision making further enhances productivity of households and communities, ecosystem services, protection of life and property, and further boost incomes, social cohesion, and promote sustainable development

Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen cross-border multi-hazard risk early warning systems for effective conflict prevention and mitigation in cross-border communities of Karamoja, Moyale, and Mandera.

Outcomes

The main outcome targeted under the ICPAC project component is strengthened cross-border early warning systems effectively deployed to enable timely climate information provision and responses

Indicators

The performance of this intervention was measured based on indicator as follows;

Output Indicator 1.2 (c): Number of government and civil society representatives trained through EU-funded interventions who demonstrate improved knowledge of early warning systems [disaggregated by population group, training type, country, cluster, sex]

Output Indicator 1.2 (d): Number of conflict and early warning alerts issued and responded to through coordinated action [disaggregated by country, type of conflict, response type, and lead responding actor]

Activities and tasks accomplished during the period (September 2025 – February 2026)

ICPAC undertook several tasks under this FA as follows;

Task 1: Development of a capacity needs assessment, training manual / module

This activity involved conducting a targeted capacity needs assessment to identify gaps in knowledge and skills, infrastructure and data related to cross-border early warning systems and DRM among stakeholders in the cross-border clusters. The findings informed the development of tailored training manuals and modules that address identified needs, ensuring they are practical, context-specific, and aligned with regional and national disaster risk reduction frameworks. Focus was on the four pillars/components of EWS (risk knowledge, monitoring and prediction, dissemination and communication and preparedness and response capacities). Training also covered the disaster risk management cycle and relevant actors including practical examples on DRR processes, stakeholder engagement and monitoring and evaluation including post disaster needs assessments.

Task 2: Development of baseline data collection tools

To capture key baseline data and information on hazards, disasters, vulnerabilities, capacities, resources and gaps in the three cross-border areas, ICPAC has developed a robust data collection tool (See annex I) and administered to participants and local partners during the training workshops. These tools enabled the systematic collection of data on historical hazard events, exposure levels,



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and community coping capacities, thereby laying the groundwork for evidence-based planning, anticipatory action, and targeted early warning interventions as envisaged in the next phase of the project.

Taks 3: Delivered three modular technical trainings and technical backstopping on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Moyale-Moyale Karamoja cluster and Mandera triangle clusters.

ICPAC has conducted three hands-on trainings for technical and operational officers for early warning and DRR focal points in two cross-border areas on Moyale-Moyale (**28-31 October 2025**), Karamoja (**24 – 27 November 2025**) and Mandera Triangle Clusters (**10-13 February 2026**), on cross border early warning systems and disaster risk monitoring.

The Moyale–Moyale workshop strengthened cross-border coordination between Kenyan and Ethiopian institutions where communities share livelihoods and resources across an administrative border. Leadership and partner remarks emphasized joint planning and early action in response to recurrent droughts, floods, and related shocks.



• **Fig. Moyale Training Participants**

The Mandera triangle cluster convened a total of twenty-six (26- 12 male, 5 female) participants drawn from Kenya, Ethiopia and Somali. The training emphasized the importance of enhanced cross-border coordination on climate information towards anticipatory actions that would improve resilience against climate shocks and improve early warning response.



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Fig. Mendera triangle cluster Training Participants

The Karamoja workshop convened 25 technical officers from Kenya, Ethiopia, and South Sudan to strengthen early warning and DRM coordination across the Kenya–South Sudan–Ethiopia border region, emphasizing shared analysis and joint action for transboundary hazards.



Fig. Karamoja Training participants

A pre-training survey indicated higher familiarity in warning dissemination and disaster risk knowledge, with lower familiarity in hazard monitoring/forecasting and East Africa Drought Watch use. A Capacity Needs Assessment (41 respondents) highlighted strengths in community engagement and response, but major gaps in data sharing, financing anticipatory action, and formal cross-border coordination frameworks.

During the two workshops, participants had a chance to practice using tools and datasets to generate and interpret cross-border disaster risk and also taken through the process of developing appropriate



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response plans and actions tailored to their contexts. A step-by-step manual/module on concepts and practical aspects was provided to all participants for their operational and day-to-day work after the training. In addition, after the training, follow-up support is provided from ICPAC staff through regular interactions and technical backstopping using Whatsapp group platform created. This follow-up support is expected to help local teams apply early warning tools in real-time scenarios and strengthen their analytical skills and products for early warning and DRR.

The trainings engaged national and sub-national government representatives, disaster management actors, and partners from the target cross-border clusters, working alongside ICPAC and GIZ. The workshops reinforced multi-sector coordination (meteorology, DRM, agriculture, water, and local administrations) and emphasized community structures as critical last-mile channels for warning dissemination and feedback.

Participants received practical orientation to East Africa Drought Watch, Hazards Watch, and the ICPAC GeoPortal, including interpretation of rainfall anomalies, vegetation condition, and soil moisture. Group exercises translated indicators into drought bulletins and short analytical products for Turkana and the wider cluster.

A session introduced the Husika platform as a role-based, multilingual dissemination and feedback system, with pathways for CAP-aligned alerting workflows and multi-channel outreach.

Common outcomes across both trainings

- Improved end-to-end early warning understanding and clearer pathways to link forecasts to anticipatory action.
- Increased confidence in using regional monitoring tools and packaging results into user-oriented messages.
- Recurring bottlenecks identified: inconsistent data sharing, limited resources for preparedness, connectivity constraints, and uneven institutional mandates.
- Commitment reinforced to formalize cluster coordination through TWGs for routine joint analysis, planning, and learning.

Outputs, results, and lessons

- Improved capacity of 76 cluster **technical officers (57 male and 19 female)** on MHEWS and DRR to use ICPAC monitoring and geospatial tools and to produce localized early warning bulletins.
- Documented institutional capacity needs and coordination gaps to inform future technical backstopping and investment priorities.
- Groundwork for the Moyale–Moyale and Karamoja Cross-Border TWG, including agreement on purpose, composition, and the need for regular joint analysis and communication channels.
- Connectivity and data-access limitations, and strong demand for follow-up mentoring and integration of indigenous knowledge and trusted local structures.

Outputs and feedback

- Enhanced technical knowledge on MHEWS pillars and impact-based early warning approaches.
- Improved ability to use ICPAC tools and develop drought bulletins/analytical outputs.
- Better understanding of coordination strengths and gaps to guide institutionalization efforts.



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- Strengthened relationships and trust among cross-border actors; feedback highlighted high relevance and strong interaction.

Key challenges and mitigation measures

- Connectivity and data-access constraints during practical sessions: mitigated through guided group work, offline discussion of workflows, and agreed follow-up virtual meetings.
- Need for predictable resources to sustain preparedness actions and TWG operations: highlighted as a priority for cluster planning and partner engagement.
- Institutional fragmentation and uneven mandates: addressed through TWG design discussions (clear membership, roles, and communication channels) and alignment to existing governance structures.

Recommended follow-up actions

- Finalize TWG establishment and seek endorsement; schedule the first quarterly TWG meetings.
- Provide targeted mentorship on Drought Watch/Hazards Watch/ GeoPortal and drought bulletin development.
- Pilot one joint early warning product per cluster and an information-sharing channel with feedback loops.
- Finalized analysis and report on historical hazard, exposure vulnerability, and coping capacity data
- Document and prioritize investments addressing constraints (connectivity, data access, communication infrastructure, and anticipatory action resources).