

Uncertainty reduction in Models for Understanding development Applications – UMFULA project
IMPROVING CLIMATE INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING – UPDATE 5 (April 2018)
<http://futureclimateafrica.org/UMFULA>

UMFULA will generate higher quality, more useful information about the future climate and its impacts, and to make climate information more tailored and accessible to planners. The Malawi UMFULA team continues to research the demand for climate services and opportunities for using climate information in planning. In the last six months we have engaged partners in various events in country, and continued data analysis.

ACTIVITIES SINCE OCTOBER 2017

1. Held our project-wide team meeting in Malawi in early November, and engaged stakeholders in various events, including a panel discussion on “How climate information can build a resilient Malawi” in partnership with Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and the Civil Society Network on Climate Change.
2. Developed a “Water Evaluation and Planning” (WEAP) model to assess potential future changes in water availability and Lake Malawi water levels under changing climatic and non-climatic factors.
3. Ran a collaborative discussion forum on the Lake Malawi Shire River Basin with decision makers from agriculture, hydropower and environmental sectors to identify sectoral vulnerabilities, water requirements and adaptation strategies to develop WEAP model scenarios relevant to decision makers.
4. Two MSc dissertation projects by Malawian students completed-investigating how training can effectively build capacity to adapt to climate change, and the attribution of extreme flood events in the Shire river basin to climate change and land use/cover change.
5. Analysed survey data for an understanding of the workplace environment to investigate what constrains and enables staff capacity to act on climate change.
6. Undertaken political economy-informed analysis of the process of negotiating the National Resilience Strategy.
7. Provided inputs on the National Resilience Strategy draft Implementation Plan.
8. Provided inputs to the launch of a new GCRF AFRICAP project on “Agricultural & Food System Resilience: Increasing Capacity & Advising Policy” that will work in Malawi until March 2022, co-ordinated by CISA-Net & Leeds.
9. Engaged tea sector stakeholders through the Tea Association Malawi and the Ethical Tea Partnership to identify relevant climate metrics at Malawi Tea 2020 Annual Progress Meeting 2017.
10. Carried out a field visit and a questionnaire survey on decision-making, gender, climate information needs, livelihoods and food security among small-scale sugarcane farmers in an outgrower scheme in Chikwawa District
11. Maintained links with related projects and programmes (including the Global Framework for Climate Services) to ensure ongoing synergies & gained follow-on funding via GCRF-AFRICAP project (Leeds/LUANAR DARS).

PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS (all available at www.futureclimateafrica.org/UMFULA)

1. Paper-[Climate change adaptation and cross-sectoral policy coherence in southern Africa](#) by Matthew England et al
2. Paper-[Evaluating climate models with an African lens](#) by Rachel James et al
3. Blog-[How can we effectively build capacity to adapt to climate change in Malawi?](#) by Diana Mataya
4. Report-[How can climate information build a resilient Malawi? Report of a panel discussion](#)
5. Report-[Africa’s Climate](#) Series of fact sheets by members of the Future Climate For Africa consortium
6. Report-[Climate Risk and Vulnerability: A Handbook for Southern Africa](#) (second edition), edited by Claire Davis-Reddy and Katharine Vincent
7. Brief-[Future climate projections for Malawi](#) (executive summary and [annex](#) also available)
8. Brief-[Climate models: what they show us and how they can be used in planning](#)
9. Brief-[How to understand and interpret global climate model results](#)
10. Brief-[Gender, agriculture and climate change in Malawi](#)

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1. Project presentations submitted to the National Adaptation Symposium, Lilongwe (May 2018)
2. Various presentations on UMFULA research will be made at Adaptation Futures 2018 Conference in Cape Town (June 2018)
3. Discuss WEAP model results with decision makers and identify future analysis (June 2018)
4. Discuss results of future climate analysis with the tea sector stakeholders (June 2018)

