



Mid-Term Review 26th Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF)

“Early warning and early action: SADC region preparedness towards a ‘ready-set-go!’ approach”

5–7 December 2022, Johannesburg South Africa





BACKGROUND

SADC Climate Services Centre (CSC) is the specialised SADC regional climate institution and carries its mandate through development, generation and dissemination of hydro-meteorological products. These products make valuable contribution to the safety and well-being of the people and communities in the SADC region and support key socioeconomic sectors including agriculture, energy, water resources, health, among others. The products are also crucial for increasing resilience and adaptation to climate variability and change in the SADC region, which is prone to a wide range of hydrometeorology hazards such as flash floods, heatwaves, tropical cyclones and droughts.

The SADC Secretariat has been convening the Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF) meetings over the past 25 years. The Secretariat through its Climate Services Centre is convening the mid-term review of the twenty-sixth Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-26), which will be preceded by a Climate Experts Meeting aimed at building capacity of Climate Experts from Member States. The SARCOF-26 mid-term review is being supported through the European Union (EU) funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Application Programme. The Climate Experts Meeting will be held physically, and the SARCOF-26 mid-term Forum will be held in hybrid format, as follows:

- (i). Training workshop for the Climate Experts: 28 November to 4 December 2022, (Physical); and
- (ii). Climate Users Platform Forum and dissemination SARCOF 26 review products: 5 to 7 December 2022, (Hybrid).

The hybrid format for the Climate Users Platform Forum and dissemination SARCOF 26 review products will enable a wider range of stakeholders to participate in the review and benefit from the SARCOF products.

As presented in SARCOF'26 in August 2022, the SARCOF theme for this year is "Early warning and early action: SADC region preparedness towards a 'ready-set-go!' approach". SADC-CSC is taking the 'ready-set-go' approach for the current SARCOF. Along with issuing the seasonal forecast greater emphasis would be laid on the use of the forecast so that users incorporate the outlook in their respective contingency plans and accordingly update their preparedness plan ('Ready!') prior to and during the rain/cyclone season 2022/2023. This readiness approach will enable regional agencies and other stakeholders to mobilise resources to the region as time of a potential impact comes closer and local actors on the other hand may begin their initial preparations ('Set!'). Near to the time of the climate impact, actions can then be taken directly and appropriately ('Go!'), and greatly reduce the socio-economic impact on the local community and the cost of recovery.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SARCOF 26 REVIEW

The events aim at reviewing and updating the forecast made during the main forum in August 2022. It will give an overview of the changes that might have occurred with the main drivers during the initial phase of the rainfall season. This will improve the contribution of all the NMHSs to the early warning and disaster preparedness. It will also inform for the better management of hydro-graphical basin and power dams.

The specific objectives of the training workshop for the Climate Experts are:

- (i). To review and verify the ON2022 seasonal climate forecasts made in August 2022 for SADC region;
- (ii). To downscale the global climate output to regional and national level;
- (iii). To discuss the status of global climate drivers and their likely impacts on the climate sensitive sectors within SADC region;
- (iv). Update the regional consensus forecast for the JFM2023 rainfall season;
- (v). Extend the forecast to May 2023, and
- (vi). To continue the improvement of SARCOF and its processes through the introduction of the Objective Seasonal Forecast (OSF) and through lessons learned and enhancement needs identified through the SADC ClimSA programme.

The specific objectives of the Climate Users Forum are:

- (i). To review and develop climate services for supporting regional resilience;
- (ii). To review and discuss the impacts of the season's outlook to date on each sector;
- (iii). To discuss the current status of global climate drivers and on their likely impacts on the climate sensitive sectors within SADC region; and
- (iv). To preview the potential impacts of the coming season based on the updated consensus outlook and co-develop response guidance strategies for each sector.

PARTICIPANTS FOR THE SARCOF-26 REVIEW

Participants for SARCOF-26 review will include climate prediction experts from the National Meteorological/ Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the SADC region, climate scientists from universities, research institutions, as well as regional and international user's organisations. Various regional and international governmental and non-governmental organisations and development partners will also attend. Participants will include:

- (i). Climate Experts from the SADC Member States
- (ii). SADC Secretariat Directorate representatives, for example from DRR, FANR, Water, Energy, SHD, ORGAN, and PRU.
- (iii). National Users from different key socio-economic areas (e.g., agriculture, energy, water resources, health, disaster risk management, transport, and private sector)
- (iv). World Meteorological Organization
- (v). African Union Commission
- (vi). United Nation agencies and other partners
- (vii). Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) such as ACMAD and ICPAC
- (viii). RIMES
- (ix). IRI And UK Met Office



OBJECTIVES OF THE SARCOF 26 REVIEW

EXPECTED KEY RESULTS

- (i). Regional Climate outlook from the SARCOF-26 (OND2022 reviewed);
- (ii). Regional seasonal climate outlook for the overlapping three-monthly sub-seasons for DJF2022/23, JFM2023, FMA2023 and MAM2023 generated;
- (iii). Advisory and early warning bulletin generated and disseminated;

MEETING FORMAT

The training workshop for the Climate Experts will be conducted physically and Climate Users Platform Forum and dissemination SARCOF 26 review products will be conducted in hybrid format. Both events will be held in South Africa-Johannesburg from 28 November 2022 to 07 December 2022 as follow:

- (i). **Climate Experts Meeting: 28 November – 4 December 2022. (Physical)**
- (ii). **Climate Users Platform Forum and dissemination SARCOF 26 review products: 5 to 7 December 2022, (Hybrid).**



PROGRAMME

**THE TWENTY-SIXTH REVIEW SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL CLIMATE
OUTLOOK FORUM (SARCOF-26 REVIEW)**

**CLIMATE SERVICES USER FORUM AND DISSEMINATION OF SARCOF-26
REVIEW PRODUCTS (HYBRID)**

(05-07 December 2022)

Venue: South Africa-Johannesburg

**Early warning and early action for SADC region's preparedness and response;
a Get-ready, Get-set-and Go initiative"**

DAY ONE: MONDAY 05 DECEMBER 2022

0900 – 0930hrs Logistics and internet connections SADC CSC, ICT

SESSION I: SETTING THE STAGE AND OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

0930 – 1030hrs Official opening ceremony of the forum (SEPARATE PROGRAMME)

1030 – 1100hrs Group photo and tea break

SESSION II: CLIMATE SERVICES FOR SUPPORTING REGIONAL RESILIENCE (PART 1)

1100 – 1130hrs Feedback from SARCOF-26 satisfaction survey
FACILITATOR: Lead by SADC ClimSA TA
MODERATOR: SADC-CSC

1130 – 1300hrs Defining the "aim and purpose" of the sectoral task working groups
FACILITATOR: Lead by SADC ClimSA TA
MODERATOR: SADC-CSC

1300 – 1400hrs Lunch break

SESSION III: PERFORMANCE OF RAINS IN OCT-NOV 2022 AND SECTOR FEEDBACK

1400 – 1415hrs Current state of global climate system and implications to SADC region's
2022/23 rainfall

1415 – 1430hrs Session on performance of 2022/23 mid-season rains and feedback of
stakeholders on impacts and mitigation measures
FACILITATOR: SADC CSC
MODERATOR:

- 1430 – 1530hrs Session on sectoral impacts over the region during Oct-Nov season 2022 (Parallel workshops for sector technical working groups)
- Agriculture, Livestock & Food Security
 - Water, Energy and Private sector
 - Conflict & Early Warning, Disaster Risk management and Health
 - Communication and Media
- FACILITATOR: Lead by SADC Unit/Sector
MODERATOR: SADC CSC
- 1530 – 1600hrs Health break
- 1600 – 1700hrs Sectoral impacts over the region during Oct-Nov season 2022 - session continued
- 1700hrs ADJOURN DAY ONE

DAY TWO: TUESDAY 06 DECEMBER 2022

SESSION IV: CONSENSUS CLIMATE OUTLOOK DECEMBER 2022 TO MAY 2023

- 0900 – 0915hrs Session on preparedness, and mitigation strategies for the upcoming season (DRR unit)
FACILITATOR: Led by SADC CSC
- 0915 – 0930hrs 2022/2023 SADC Consensus Climate Outlook: SADC-CSC
FACILITATOR: Led by SADC CSC

SESSION V: PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES DECEMBER 2022 TO MAY 2023

- 0930 – 1030hrs Sectoral analysis of implication and mitigation strategies for Dec 2022 to May 2023 (Parallel workshops for sector technical working groups): -
- Agriculture, Livestock & Food Security
 - Water, Energy and Private sector
 - Conflict & Early Warning, Disaster Risk management and Health
 - Communication and Media
- FACILITATOR:** Lead by SADC Unit/Sector
MODERATOR: SADC CSC
- 1030 – 1100hrs Health break
- 1100 – 1200hrs Sectoral analysis of implication and mitigation strategies - session continued.
- 1200 – 1300hrs Plenary reporting of (i) user feedback, sectoral implications, for Oct-Nov 2022 season, and (ii) preparedness and mitigation strategies for Dec 2022 to May 2023
- PANELIST:** Agriculture & Food Security; Disaster Risk Management; Health; Water, Energy and private sector; Conflict and Early Warning; Livestock and Communication and Media.
MODERATOR: SADC CSC

1300 – 1400hrs Lunch break

1400 – 1430hrs Plenary reporting continued.

SESSION VI: CLIMATE SERVICES FOR SUPPORTING REGIONAL RESILIENCE (PART 2)

1430 – 1500hrs Introduction to co-production in practice session

1500 – 1530hrs Health break

1530 – 1700hrs Co-production in practice - validating regional stakeholder climate services needs
Presentations and facilitated discussion
FACILITATOR: Led by SADC ClimSA TA

1700hrs ADJOURN DAY TWO

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY 07 DECEMBER 2022

SESSION VII: ADOPTION OF SARCOF-26 MSR STATEMENT

0900 – 0930hrs Presentation of SARCOF-26 MSR statement
FACILITATOR: Led by SADC CSC

0930 – 0945hrs Adoption of SARCOF-26 MSR statement

SESSION VIII: CLIMATE SERVICES FOR SUPPORTING REGIONAL RESILIENCE (PART 3)

0945 – 1030hrs Plenary reporting: Co-production in practice - validating regional climate services needs
FACILITATOR: Lead by SADC ClimSA TA
MODERATOR: SADC-CSC

1030 – 1100hrs Health Break

1100 – 1300hrs Co-production of climate services in practice
Enhancement of sectoral seasonal advisory products
FACILITATOR: Lead by SADC ClimSA TA
MODERATOR: SADC-CSC

1300 – 1400hrs LUNCH BREAK

1400 – 1530hrs Exploring the need for a regional climate change forum in Southern Africa
Panel discussion
MODERATOR: SADC ClimSA TA

1530 – 1600hrs Health break

SESSION IX: SECTORAL ADVISORY RELEASE

1600 – 1615hrs Presentation of Early Warning Advisory Note

1615 – 1630hrs Release of SARCOF 26 MSR Official Statement and Early Warning Advisory Note – SADC CSC

1630 – 1645hrs SARCOF 26 Review user satisfaction and feedback survey
FACILITATOR: SADC ClimSA TA

SESSION X: CLOSURE

1645 – 1700hrs Closing of the Forum and Press Release

