

# Unveiling the Drought Impact Tracker: A prototype for crowdsourcing drought impact data in Africa

December 9, 2024, 18:00-19:30, in MET-05

## Topic

Technology that enables geolocated reports facilitates crowdsourcing, providing an opportunity for people in diverse and remote locations to report on conditions that affect their livelihoods and surrounding ecosystems.

## Detail

Supported by the UNCCD, the U.S. National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) and the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) began tailoring the NDMC's "Condition Monitoring Observer Report" system for use in Africa. The Esri-based system makes it possible to collect and display geographically dispersed reports and photos. Observers can use Esri's Survey123 application to submit information, using a mobile device or a laptop, with no membership or login required. A host organization such as OSS can then use a variety of Esri mapping and analysis tools to aggregate and display the information. The pilot system currently includes a survey form and dashboard, and is ready for testing and stakeholder feedback, at <<[go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker](http://go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker)>> The U.S. system has seen increased use as the interests of various observer networks align with national and sub-national drought monitoring efforts, particularly as they are connected with various forms of drought relief. A key next step in deploying such a system in Africa will be identifying information needs and partner networks, and gathering feedback from stakeholders. This technology has the potential to increase the number and spatial distribution of people providing "on the ground" information to decision-makers.

We invite you  
to submit a test  
report



and to find it on  
the map:



**Scan me**

**Visit**

Link to The Drought Impact Tracker  
[go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker](http://go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker)

## Panel



**Dr. Kelly Helm SMITH,**  
Assistant Director,  
U.S. National Drought  
Mitigation Center



**Mr. Mustapha MIMOUNI,**  
Head of the Geographic  
Information System and  
Remote Sensing Division,  
OSS



**Dr. Daniel TSEGAI,**  
Programme Office,  
UNCCD



**Dr. Gergana MAJERCAKOVA,**  
Senior Learning Specialist,  
Global Water Partnership

## Moderator



**Dr. Mark SVOBODA,**  
Director,  
U.S. National  
Drought Mitigation  
Center



[www.oss-online.org](http://www.oss-online.org)

-  @OSS\_Comms
-  @osscommunity
-  @company/osscommunity
-  @DroughtCenter
-  [Drought.unl.edu](http://Drought.unl.edu)
-  [ndmc@unl.edu](mailto:ndmc@unl.edu)

▶▶ [Link to The Drought Impact Tracker](http://Link to The Drought Impact Tracker)  
[go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker](http://go.unl.edu/droughtimpacttracker)