

## BACK TO OFFICE REPORT

<b>Place</b>	<b>Ankara, Turkey</b>
<b>Dates</b>	4-5 March 2014
<b>Event</b>	International workshop on drought management
<b>Participants</b>	<b>Sabina Bokal</b> , IDMP Programme Manager, GWP CEE

### 1. Purpose of the trip

The workshop was a follow-up of the High Level Meeting of the Drought Management Policies ([HMNDP](#)) which was organized in March 2013 in Geneva. The focus of the workshop was on the development of integrated drought policies at national level; as such, the meeting was fully organized by Turkish State Meteorological Service, with WMO providing support with international experts to provide additional know-how and facilitate exchange of best practices.

Most of the participants (around 150) were from Turkey (State Meteorological Service, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, General Directorate of the Water Management, participants from Universities, etc.) and some of them from international organizations (USAID, WMO, FAO, National Drought Mitigation Centre (NDMC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)).

GWP CEE was presented by Sabina Bokal, Programme Manager of the IDMP CEE Programme. The main aim of participation at this event was to present IDMP CEE and identify synergies with Turkey institutions for potential involvement.

### 2. Programme

#### Day one, 4 March 2014

After some opening speeches the program was divided into two sections:

#### ➤ Session 2: Drought and its sectorial impacts:

Different Turkish ministries and other state organizations (General Directorate of Water Management, Turkish State Meteorological Service, General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology) presented their view on drought and its impacts in different sectors in Turkey.

#### ➤ Session 3: The importance of National Drought Policies – requirements and main problems:

First Jose Camacho (WMO) presented the outcomes of the HMNDP with a focus on [declaration](#) which was adopted by all countries presented at this event. Next was Giacomo Teruggi (WMO) with the presentation of the Global Integrated Drought Management Programme.

These two presentations were followed by concrete examples from international organizations, from different projects and countries:

- *Mexico's National Drought Management Programme* ([PRONACOSE](#)) was presented by Mario Lopez. They have started with the programme at the beginning of 2013 and already prepared 26 basins management programmes (1<sup>st</sup> versions). After devastating drought in 2012 (2/3 of the area was affected by drought) their plan has very high political support. Their management plan is divided into three sections: 1) Drought

monitoring (early warning); 2) General Agreements at the beginning and at the end of the drought; 3) Programmes (to prevent, mitigate). 26 basins organizations developed very good cooperation with 12 universities from all over Mexico. They are not working with private companies but universities (research institutes) and on this way also help to encourage capacity building in the region.

- *Development of a Regional Drought Management Centre: the experience of South Eastern Europe* was presented by Andreja Susnik (DMCSEE) – development and current news from DMCSEE. A special focus was put on the role of Turkey in the Centre (they are also one of the country involved).
- *Environmental needs in drought management* (presentation of the IDMP CEE); focus on demonstration projects and current development of the activities.
- *Drought management in France* (Atika Ben Maid; French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy); very well developed system of prioritization of water in France.
- *Towards drought risk management in Europe and Central Asia* (Ines Beernaerts; FAO Central Asia Sub-Regional Office);

### **Day two, 5 March 2014**

Day two was divided into three sessions:

#### ➤ Session 4: Current situations and gaps in drought management in Turkey

In four presentations current situation of drought management in Turkey was presented:

- Current situation on Drought Management in Turkey (General Directorate of Water Management)
- Agricultural Drought Action Plan of Turkey (Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock)
- Drought Monitoring activities in Turkey (Turkish State Meteorological Service)
- Disaster Management (Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency)

#### ➤ Session 5: Drought monitoring and forecasting

Focus of this session was on already existing monitoring systems, early warning systems, etc.

- Mark Svoboda from National Drought Mitigation Centre (University of Nebraska – Lincoln) presented their already established and fully working drought monitoring which is one of the main components of the national drought policy.
- Jose Camacho from WMO presented overview on drought monitoring systems and plans in support of national drought policies.
- Wassili Thiaw from National oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) presented monitoring and predicting drought in the Mediterranean Basin.
- Roger Pulwarty from NOAA presented the main components of development of early warning system and its applicability in Turkey.

### **3. Conclusions**

#### ➤ New contacts established:

- FAO (Ines Beernaerts; FAO Central Asia Sub-Regional Office) – Collaboration opportunities: common activities in Central Asia, interest into IDMP CEE demonstration projects (soil retention measures, forest case study, etc.) especially those developing in Moldova, Romania, Ukraine; [Global Soil Partnership](http://www.gwpcee.org)).
- Mario Lopez Perez (Mexico's National Drought Management Programme) – example of a success story of collaboration between river basins, universities and policy level on establishing drought management.

➤ Suggestions for further activities

- Joint workshop with DMCSEE in September 2014 together with the capacity building workshop.
- Cooperation with FAO; invitation to our partners to join Global Soil Partnership; exchange contact of GWP and FAO representatives in Moldova, Ukraine and Central Asia and define common interest, possibility for further cooperation on drought management activities.

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