The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) is the United Nations’ focal point for the coordination of disaster risk reduction, working with countries and a broad range of partners and stakeholders to support the implementation, monitoring and review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in coherence with the 2030 Agenda and other instruments, for the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development and the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses. UNDRR issues grants, in line with UN Financial Regulations and Rules, to apolitical and not profit-making organizations to facilitate, implement, or carry out activities related to UNDRR’s and the partner’s mandates and work programmes. To this end, UNDRR invites not profit-making organizations to submit grant proposals that focus on the project described below.

(Grant Proposal)

Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building in Africa

A. Rationale:

This work will strengthen the technical capacity of the continental level situation rooms established at the African Union Commission (AUC) and African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and the sub-regional level situation rooms, which could include the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), and AGRHYMET to enhance the products they offer to their member states, with a specific focus on impact-based early warning and early and anticipatory action. It will also support the situation rooms to expand the hazard coverage of their early warnings to include drought, forest fires, and extreme heat, among others. The impact of the enhanced capacity at sub-regional level will translate into greater access to information to trigger early warnings at the national level and sub-regional organizations with the capacity to support their member states in taking coordinated early and anticipatory actions.

The programme will also strengthen governance and coordination mechanisms for early warning and early and anticipatory action on the continent aligned with the ambitions of the AUC’s AMHEWAS programme. The further expansion of AMHEWAS will enable the triggering of timely and coordinated early actions across the continent and support transboundary risk management. The establishment of common policies, standard operating procedures, and consistent legal and institutional frameworks across the continent will help identify roles and responsibilities of actors along the early warning chain and ensure relevant actors are held accountable for their role in anticipatory action.
The programme will support the establishment of new and strengthening of existing national situation rooms in three countries (Ethiopia, Niger and Tanzania) to be connected to the regional and continental systems. The expected impact of this approach will be that early warnings can reach the “last mile” at the local level. Activities will focus on building national capacity and establishing standard operating procedures, including for sharing of risk data and chains of command and responsibilities to ensure that early warnings lead to early and anticipatory action, thereby reducing disaster losses and humanitarian needs.

In the Sahel region, one of Africa’s most vulnerable regions where climate change and conflict are driving displacement and human mobility at unprecedented rates, this project is improving the availability and use of risk information and supporting the use of risk profiles to strengthen the understanding of disaster impacts relevant for the decision making in early warning and anticipatory action systems. This work builds national capacity for disaster risk assessment and on financing for anticipatory action with the ultimate aim of strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus. The enhanced work on national and transboundary risk assessment and vulnerability analysis in the Sahel region will contribute to addressing these long-standing and escalating challenges. The programme will enhance understanding of climate change and conflict nexus in the Sahel region and build capacity for solutions through anticipatory action and risk reduction.

A well-functioning and sustainable continent-wide early warning and early action system requires home-grown capacity and expertise to feed data and information into the system and effectively manage early and anticipatory action. Building on the achievements of phases 1 to 3 of the “Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building in Africa” project and the project “Strengthening the Africa Network of Excellence for Disaster Risk Reduction”, this programme will seek to support the technical capacity of AGRHYMET and establish links between the Network of Excellence and AGRHYMET and the continental and sub-regional situation rooms. This will allow the situation rooms, including the AMHEWAS programme and the Continental Watch, to benefit from the knowledge, services, and tools of AGRHYMET and for both to benefit from the expertise and training courses offered by the Network of Excellence.

The programme will leave a legacy of in-house capacity in Africa to effectively collect, exchange and analyze DRR data and information for impact-based early warning systems, early action, and transboundary risk management. The programme will build resident capacities at continental and sub-regional levels needed to ensure the established system is self-sufficient beyond the programme duration. It will focus on sustainability through regional and national ownership and building resident African capacity to take the programme forward.

This programme is a significant contribution to the achievement of Target G of the Sendai Framework for DRR to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030. It also contributes to the United Nations Secretary-General’s vision for everybody on Earth to be covered by early warning systems by the end of 2027 through his Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative.
B. **Purpose:**

To overall objective is to develop the capacity of regional and national institutions and stakeholders to establish and operate an effective impact-based early warning and early action system in Africa and to enhance governance and institutional framework and availability of risk knowledge for anticipatory action and risk reduction.

C. **Outcome:**

By building the capacities of and enhancing access to technology and risk information for sub-regional organizations and national authorities to issue timely impact-based early warnings that trigger to early and anticipatory action, African institutions become less dependent on international support to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to the disasters caused by hazards and the impacts of climate change.

D. **Output:**

**Output 1:** Impact-based monitoring and forecasting capabilities are strengthened, capacities for early and anticipatory action are developed, and availability of and access to multi-hazard risk knowledge are enhanced at the continental and sub-regional levels.

**Output 2:** National situation rooms with multi-hazard early warning systems are strengthened with equipment and capacity support in three countries (Ethiopia, Niger and Tanzania) and linked to the sub-regional and continental systems.

**Output 3:** Resident capacity for early warning and early and anticipatory action is strengthened through the Africa Network of Excellence for DRR

**Output 4:** Countries in the Sahel have advanced analysis of the vulnerability data and identification of user needs to enable more effective early and anticipatory action by Governmental authorities, civil society organizations, and international partners.

E. **Suggested activities:**

Key activities to be undertaken under this grant will include the following:

**Output 1 (Max Budget – US$ 105,000)**

- Technical support and capacity development of continental and sub-regional situation rooms, including diversification of early warning tools and bulletins to expand the product range and coverage of hazards and harmonization of early warning systems, early action thresholds and triggers, data sharing protocols and standard operating procedures.

- Development and implementation of tools and training materials on impact-based early warning and anticipatory action and work on disaster displacement.
• Development of communication and visibility products for the AMHEWS programme.

Output 2: (Max Budget – US$ 425,000)

• Set up and provision of technical assistance for two national situation rooms, including establishing and institutionalization of early warning and early action coordination cell, training on use of MyDewetra, development of standard operating procedures, and the adoption of a harmonized system of warnings.

• In three national situation rooms, conduct legal and institutional reviews to identify roles and responsibility of stakeholders in relation to impact-based early warning systems and early and anticipatory action to establish a legal and institutional framework and standard operating procedures and protocols to ensure seamless coordination, collaboration, and communication between various institutions involved in early warning and early action.

• In three national situation rooms, conduct a tabletop exercise to test an early warning and early action system from national to sub-regional to continental level bringing together all relevant actors and experts involved.

Output 3 (Max Budget – US$ 90,000)

• Technical and capacity support to AGRHYMET to address their identified early warning and early action needs and establish links with the sub-regional and continental early warning and early action systems.

Output 4 (Max Budget – US$ 275,000)

• Development of and delivery of capacity support for national risk profiles and application in anticipatory action in selected countries in the Sahel.

F. Resources: Maximum US$ 895,000

G. Elements specific to the project that the grantee should know:

• The grantee must have a proven track record in building capacity of government institutions and partners in Africa, both at the national and local levels in disaster risk reduction, capacity, early warning, and risk knowledge. [Mandatory]

• The grantee is required to provide and maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property, any equipment used for the implementation of the project, workmen’s compensation, liability, or equivalents. Such insurance policies must indicate UNDRR as additional insured. [Mandatory].

• For all training, workshops, consultative meetings, etc., grantee must provide a summary outcome of the events, list of participants with disaggregate information including names, affiliation, gender, email address, city, and country of
UNDRR

representation. All events must be accompanied by relevant reports with photos as proof of evidence. [Mandatory].

- The grantee shall acknowledge the financing support from UNDRR in the execution of all project activities and deliverables. [Mandatory].
- Applicants are required to register on the UN Partner Portal - Where UN Agencies and Civil Society Partners Connect. [Mandatory]

H. Budget and administrative-related aspects:

The duration of the proposed project cannot exceed 12 months. The maximum amount requested from UNDRR for the implementation of this project cannot exceed US$ 895,000. The project proposal must not exceed 10 pages (attachments such as scanned copies of entity’s registration, CVs of staff etc. do not count).

For this purpose, please fill in duly all the sections of the application form, include the required documents (scanned copy of NGO/IGO’s registration certificate, CVs of staff etc.) and budget excel sheets, and send the complete application package (application form, budget excel sheets, entity registration certificate, CVs of staff, etc.) to the following email address: undrrgrantproposal@un.org cc: huw.beynon@un.org and asha.sitati@un.org

The subject of the e-mail should be: “CfP 2024 002 for Proposals – Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building in Africa

Deadline for applications: 5 April 2024 midnight New York, USA EST (Eastern Standard Time). Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.

Projects’ activities can include, amongst others, the following:
- seminars, workshops, trainings;
- capacity building activities;
- institutional strengthening activities and
- advocacy

The following types of activity will not be covered:
- capital expenditure, e.g., land, buildings, equipment and vehicles;
- individual scholarships for studies or training courses;
- supporting political parties; and
- sub-contracting

Due to the number of applications, only short-listed applicants will be notified.

Please note that the grant payment schedule will be determined with the selected grantee when finalizing the agreement. UNDRR standard practice is: not to exceed 40% of the requested amount upon signature of the grant agreement; remaining payments made based on a schedule of payments linked to production of project milestones and the final
payment, 20%, will be paid after the end of the project, once final documents have been received, verified and approved by UNDRR.

Refund of grants: UNDRR may request organizations to refund, either in part or in whole any amounts paid in respect of a grant when:

- the project was not implemented in full or in part;
- the grant was spent for ineligible expenditures other than those mentioned in the budget proposal submitted to, and approved by UNDRR;
- no narrative, financial or audit report was submitted within the deadline established by the grant agreement;
- a narrative report and/or a financial report submitted was determined to be unsatisfactory;
- a negative evaluation of the project by UNDRR;
- any other valid reason provided by the UNDRR.