



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITHI YA BOKOHE-BOPHIRIMA
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT



AFRIKA SENTRUM VIR RAMPSTUDIES
AFRICAN CENTRE FOR DISASTER STUDIES



African Centre for Disaster Studies Bi-monthly Newsletter

June 2007

Content

1. Fezile Dabi District Municipality, Disaster Risk Management Plan
2. National Technical Advisory Committee for Disaster Risk Assessment.
3. Task team for the development of national guidelines and regulations
4. Report on the impact of drought on older people
5. New staff member
6. Call for papers
7. Training offered
8. Contribute to this newsletter

1. Fezile Dabi District Municipality, Disaster Risk Management Plan

The ACDS has been appointed to conduct a large scale consultancy project for the Fezile Dabi District Municipality in the Free State Province of South Africa.

The project will span over twelve months and will include a risk assessment, capacity building and the updating of the district's Level 1 Disaster Risk Management Plan (DRMP). In addition the project will entail a risk assessment and DRMP for the Vredefort Dome world heritage site. The disaster risk assessment will involve a number of community based research interventions, stakeholder consultation and capacity building. The completion of the project will enable the FDDM to develop a Level 2 Disaster Risk Management Plan as per the requirements of the National Disaster Management Framework.

2. National Technical Advisory Committee for Disaster Risk Assessment (NDRM TAC)

The South African National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) has recently established a national

technical advisory committee for disaster risk assessment. Dr. Dewald van Niekerk of the ACDS was asked to serve on this committee and was also tasked to refine the draft terms of reference of the committee. The purpose of the committee is to monitor, advice and make recommendations to the NDMC in terms of the following:

- uniform and robust methodologies and methods in order to conduct disaster risk assessments;
- scientifically robust risk assessments for disaster risk management planning and practice;
- technical support and advice to all spheres of government and to organs of state commissioning disaster risk assessments;
- processes, mechanisms and procedures for implement-ting a uniform approach to disaster risk assessments adhere to the minimum requirements; and
- establish processes, mechanisms and procedures for the NDRM TAC for implementing a uniform

approach for disaster risk assessment.

3. Task team for the development of national guidelines and regulations

Dr. Dewald van Niekerk of the ACDS, was co-opted to a national task team for the refinement and alignment of the set of national guidelines for disaster risk management which was developed by Ms. Pat Reid, an independent disaster risk management consultant and also alumni of NWU. These guidelines are a requirement of the Disaster Management Act No. 57 of 2002 as well as the National Disaster Management Framework. The first set of guidelines will be made available for public comment by the end of July 2007 and include the following:

- Scoping guideline for implementation process of levels 1-3 disaster risk management plans;
- Guidelines for establishing foundation institutional arrangements for disaster risk management;

- Guidelines and templates for Mutual Assistance Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding;
- Guidelines and generic templates for Disaster Risk Management Policy Frameworks;
- Guidelines to provide a planning framework for each level of disaster risk management plans for all spheres of government;
- Guidelines for disaster risk assessments;
- Guidelines, templates and pro forma for contingency plans;
- Guidelines for conducting impact assessments and for classification and declaration of states of disaster;
- Guidelines towards the development of regulations for the management of relief operations; and
- Guidelines towards the development of regulations for a multi-agency response management system (MARMS).

4. Report into the impact of drought on older people



In February 2007 the ACDS in conjunction with the department of psychology at North-West University was commissioned by Help the Aged (HtA) in London to conduct a study on the impact of drought on older people (above the age of 60) in South Africa's North-West Province. This study formed part of a larger study aimed at assessing the impact of various types of emergencies on older people across the globe. The study focussed both on the negative effects of drought on older people, as well as the role of older people as a community resource in times of drought. The final report can be accessed at http://acds.co.za/images/jamba/final_report_h ta_2007.pdf

5. New staff member

The ACDS welcome Mr. Willem Hoogstad who has been appointed as a researcher with the centre.



Mr. Hoogstad recently completed his honours degree in Philosophy at North-West University (Potchefstroom campus) in South Africa and is currently studying towards a master's degree in Political studies at the same institution. His research interest is ethics in disaster risk reduction.

6. Call for papers

The ACDS will publish two editions of its e-journal, *Jàmhá*, in 2007. The theme of the first edition is, "the multidisciplinary nature of disaster risk reduction". Papers on any theme in DRR are welcomed for the second edition. All interested academics, practitioners and students are invited to contribute papers. For information contact Gideon van Riet Gideon.Vanriet@nwu.ac.za or visit our website at www.acds.co.za.

7. Training offered

PLEASE NOTE: You are kindly requested **not to** contact the ACDS with queries on specific training activities displayed here. Please make use of the contact details provided under each advertisement.

South Africa

Southern Business School

SBS is registered with the Department of Education as a private higher distance education institution under the South African Higher Education Act, 1997. SBS offers the following registered programmes in Disaster Risk Reduction/Risk Management:

- Certificate in Management - Disaster Risk Reduction;
- Diploma in Management - Disaster Risk Reduction;
- A brand new Bachelor of Business Administration - Disaster Risk Management;
- Advanced Diploma in Management - Disaster Risk Reduction;
- A range of short courses in DRR.

For more information contact:
Jenny Coles at

jenny@sbsonline.co.za or on +27
(0) 82 889 7773.

8. Contribute to this newsletter

The ACDS Newsletter aims to provide relevant information to various stakeholders in the field of disaster risk management on the continent. This might for example include information on training opportunities, conferences and funding opportunities

for research. If you have any relevant information you would like us to include in this newsletter, please forward it to Gideon van Riet at [**Gideon.vanriet@nwu.ac.za**](mailto:Gideon.vanriet@nwu.ac.za). Please include contact details (e-mail, telephone numbers and internet links), but **keep details brief (no more than 120 words)**. The ACDS reserves the right to edit submissions.

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR DISASTER STUDIES

Research focus area 7.2: Sustainable Development

North-West University

Private Bag X6001

Potchefstroom

2520

Tel: +27 (0) 18 299 1620

Fax: +27 (0) 18 293 5266

E-mail: Gideon.vanriet@nwu.ac.za

Web: www.acds.co.za

